SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION

STORY CIRCLE SYNOPSIS

In the great African savanna, Rafiki, the wise old mandrill, calls together the animals of the Pridelands to welcome the king Mufasa's newborn cub, Simba. Show me how Rafiki feels. Under the rule of Mufasa, the Pridelands were a happy and prosperous place. However, there was one who was discontent. The king's brother had darkness in his soul, and the news of the lion cub's birth made him terribly jealous. Show me how Scar feels.

Time passes, and Simba tells his uncle Scar that he will one day be king. Show me how Scar feels. Show me how Simba feels. The cunning Scar encourages the young cub to disobey his father, and so, Simba and his friend Nala sneak into the dark Elephant Graveyard, where they encounter three hungry hyenas that want to eat the cubs for lunch. Show me how Nala feels. Luckily, Mufasa arrives just in time to save them, scaring the cackling hyenas away. Show me how Mufasa feels. Show me how the hyenas feel.

Later, Scar leaves Simba alone in the gorge and signals the hyenas to start a stampede. Hundreds of wildebeest head right toward Simba! Show me how Simba feels. Scar tells Mufasa that Simba is in danger. Show me how Mufasa feels. Mufasa saves his son, but is trampled to death by wildebeests when Scar pushes him from a ledge. Show me how Scar feels. Distraught by his father's death, Simba is convinced by Scar that he is guilty and must leave the Pridelands forever. Show me how Simba feels. This is the saddest day the Pridelands has ever seen. The deceitful Scar is now king. Show me how Scar feels.

Timon and Pumbaa discover Simba in the desert and, offering him their friendship, help Simba to leave his troubled past behind him. Show me how Timon and Pumbaa feel. Show me how Simba feels.

As Simba grows up happily in the jungle with Timon and Pumbaa, the Pridelands fall into decay. The lionesses are forced to overhunt, while the hyenas eat more than their fair share. Show me how the hyenas feel. Show me how the lionesses feel.

When Nala leaves the Pridelands to find help, she discovers Simba in the jungle, and the two are joyously reunited. **Show me how Nala feels.** Nala urges Simba to take his rightful place as king of the Pridelands. Rafiki then appears, helping Simba to see his father inside of himself. With newfound courage, Simba agrees to return home. **Show me how Simba feels.**

When they arrive in the Pridelands, Timon and Pumbaa distract the hyenas while Simba confronts Scar, forcing Scar to admit to everyone that he was responsible for Mufasa's death. Show me how Simba feels. Simba banishes Scar from the Pridelands for good. Show me how Scar feels. With peace restored, the Pridelands return to their original state of beauty and prosperity. Simba takes his rightful place as king with Nala, and their newborn cub, by his side. Show me how Simba feels. THE END.

