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Digital Storytelling in Online Mandarin Heritage Language Education for Bi/Multilingual Elementary Learners

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Digital storytelling has transformed my understanding of language education through self-reflection on my teaching, learning, and living experiences in Canada, fueling my research in Mandarin heritage language education. Witnessing students' reluctance to embrace their home languages, I aim to shift their perceptions from viewing these languages as burdens to recognizing them as enriching assets. My project employs digital storytelling to empower bi/multilingual students by validating and celebrating their identities. It enhances language skills through digital literacy practices and fosters a positive self-concept and community connectivity. As part of my submission, I will share a digital story that captures my narrative and highlights the transformative potential of digital media in language education. This story exemplifies how digital technologies can reshape language learning experiences and inspire learners to appreciate their multifaceted identities, thus contributing to a more inclusive and dynamic educational experience.