

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music



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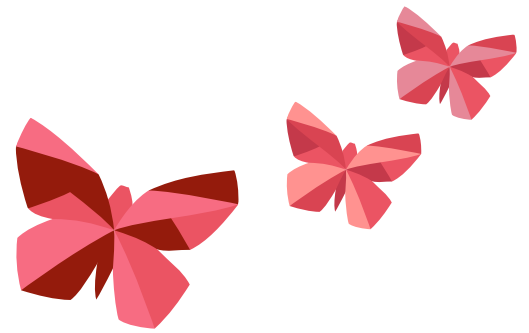
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Know Before you Go:

- Arrive at the theater 15 to 20 minutes before show time. Allow extra time for Broward County traffic. We are unable to start a show late.
- Please stay on the bus until greeted by a SEAS usher. At that time, please give the usher your BUS document and the usher will escort you to the theater.
- Remember to watch our Know Before You Go Video:

<https://tinyurl.com/ElementarySeasWelcome>





Dear Educators,

We are excited to present this Curriculum Connection (Study Guide) as a valuable resource to support your teaching journey. This guide has been carefully designed to offer engaging and meaningful activities for use in your classroom before and after seeing a S.E.A.S. performance at The Broward Center's Amaturro Theater, The Parker, or Miniaci at NSU. Each section is structured to make it easier for you to integrate cross-curricular connections, providing a seamless experience for students to deepen their understanding while exploring the creative process.

The activities and lessons in this guide have been intentionally crafted to complement Florida's B.E.S.T. standards. By utilizing these resources, you will be able to foster a dynamic and creative learning environment while ensuring students meet key academic goals. We encourage you to adapt the materials to best fit your classroom's needs and objectives, empowering students to think critically and creatively across all disciplines.

We want to take a moment to express our sincere appreciation for the passion and dedication you bring to your classrooms every day. Your commitment to infusing art-full moments into education not only enriches your students' learning experiences but also ignites their curiosity and creativity. Thank you for inspiring the next generation of thinkers, creators, and innovators. We are truly grateful for the impact you have on your students' lives. Consider joining the Teacher's Lounge (QR code below) to be notified of special events and discounts just for Teachers.

Don't forget to distribute your S.E.A.S. stickers when you return to school (after the trip) and share the magic that is Student Enrichment Through the Arts!



Teacher's Lounge



Theater Etiquette

There is so much that goes into creating a show for the stage. Behind the scenes, there are people who control the lights and the sound, the sets and the props. There are directors, writers, producers, musicians, and choreographers. So many people work together to create the performance you and everyone in the audience watches.

It is helpful to remind students of appropriate audience etiquette by explaining and discussing WHY these rules of behavior are important:

- Restroom visits are best made prior to the performance.
- Listen carefully to the ushers and your teachers. This gets everyone to your seats quickly and ensures a pleasant experience.
- Turn watches and cell phones to silent.
- Walk single file, hold hand rails as you use the steps for your safety.
- Listen carefully to each performer. They are working hard to entertain and inform with lots of clues about the story.
- Refrain from TALKING. This allows everyone to enjoy the show without distraction. Sometimes we think that if we whisper it is okay. But, if everyone in the audience whispers, it becomes disruptive.
- Laugh if something is funny, but not too loudly, you don't want to miss any dialogue.
- Photography and recording are not permitted.
- Pay attention to the lighting, scenery, costumes and music. All of these elements help provide more details to tell the story in an interesting way.
- Applaud (clap) and laugh at the right moments. This shows the performers that you respect and appreciate their work.



Synopsis

Kuniko is a native of Japan where she grew up studying and performing traditional theater and dance. She traveled to the United States to perform and began touring with Boston's respected Faulkner Light Theater. During this time she toured and performed in hundreds of schools and colleges.

Recently, she has presented her programs throughout the U.S and has regularly performed at Disney's Epcot Japanese Pavilion. She has been on the Florida State Arts Council touring roster since 2000.

Kuniko's performance is dramatic Japanese storytelling of myths and fables plus social ideas designed to educate and entertain. Her use of a variety of elements including traditional Japanese music, origami, hand crafted masks, highly stylized movement and a touch of magic, make this a performance that appeals to all students!

The stories are carefully selected to portray the culture and moral perspective of Japan. Students are encouraged to compare Japanese and American tales, arts and the cultural elements.



Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Where is Japan?

Japan is in Asia, and it is almost on the other side of world from the United States. Japan lies off the mainland of Asia in Pacific Ocean. It has four main islands: Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku. Japan is a small and crowded country, compared to the United States. The land of Japan is about the same size as the state of California and 120 million people live. That's half the population of the whole United States. Mt. Fuji is considered to be the most beautiful mountain in Japan. Rising to an altitude of 12,388 feet, it is also the highest Japanese mountain.

Considered sacred by the Japanese, its perfect cone shape has inspired many haiku poets and artists throughout the centuries.



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All About Japan

This is Mika and she comes from a country called Japan. It is made up of four main islands and many smaller ones. The capital city of Japan is Tokyo. It is a very special country with lots of interesting food, art and traditions.

Japan has a very unique culture. Sushi is a popular food in Japan that is made with rice, fish, and other ingredients. Another popular food in Japan is ramen, which is a type of noodle soup.

Japanese people are known for creating beautiful paintings, sculptures, and gardens. They also have a special kind of art called anime, which is a type of animation that is very popular all over the world.

Japanese people also have many fun traditions. One tradition is called "hanami," which means "flower viewing" and is typically done in Spring when the cherry blossoms bloom.

Japanese people bow to each other instead of shaking hands. They are a polite and respectful nation of people.



Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Comprehension

1 What is anime?

2 What is a special tradition in Japan during Spring?

3 How do Japanese people show respect to each other?

4 What are some popular Japanese foods?



Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Hiragana Practice

Trace the characters a, i, u, e, and o

a

あ

あ

あ

i

い

い

い

u

う

う

う

e

え

え

え

o

お

お

お

Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Hiragana Practice

Trace the characters ka, ki, ku, ke, and ko

ka

か

か

か

ki

き

き

き

ku

く

く

く

ke

け

け

け

ko

こ

こ

こ

Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Haiku Poem

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry made of short, unrhymed lines about nature.

Line one 5 syllables - Line two 7 syllables - Line three 5 syllables

EXAMPLE:

SPRING



One tiny flower,

pops its head up from the ground.

Spring is on its way.

Your Turn

1.

5 syllables

2.

7 syllables

3.

5 syllables

Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

Practice pronouncing the following Japanese words.

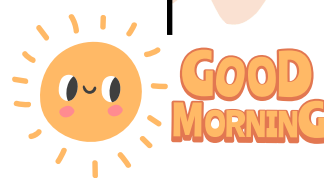
Hello

Kon nichi wa



Good morning

Oha-yo



Thank you

Arigatoh



Friend

Tomo-dachi



Teacher

Sen-sei



Mother

Oka-san



Father

Oto-san

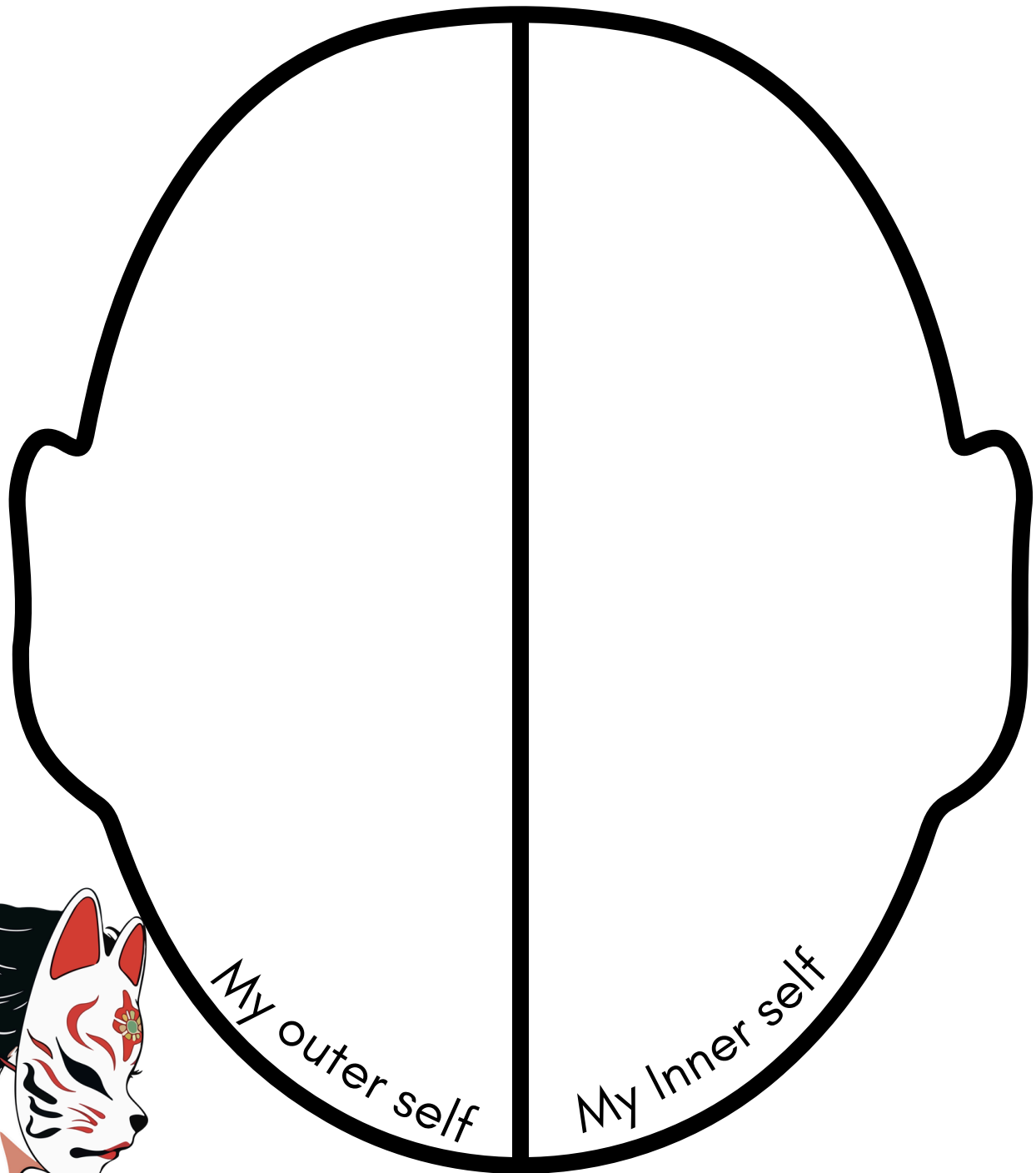


Japanese Storytelling with Magical Mask, Mime and Music

My Self Portrait: SEL

In Japan, masks in Noh theater, known as "omote," are used to represent specific characters, such as gods, demons, women, or old men. They help the audience quickly understand the character's role and nature, even without dialogue.

Sometimes what others see is different from what we see. Color the left side how you think others see you. Color the right side how you see yourself.



Theater Vocabulary: From Script to Spotlight

Play: A story told live on stage by actors in front of a live audience.

Musical: A story told live on stage by actors in front of a live audience that also involves singing and dancing.

Genre: The style of a play.

Plot: The timeline of actions in the story from beginning to end.

Setting: Where a story takes place.

Characters: Who the story is about.

Conflict: A problem that the characters in the story have to face and overcome. A conflict arises when a character wants something but something else gets in their way.

Objective: What a character wants to achieve or solve in the story. In other words, a character's goal.

Protagonist: The story's **hero**. This is the character who is out to accomplish a goal or find purpose.

Antagonist: The story's **villain**. This character is usually against what the protagonist(s) needs to accomplish their objective or goal.

Dialogue: a conversation between two or more people in a play or musical.

Moment Before: an acting term that encourages actors to consider what is going on in their character's life just before the present moment.

Blocking: Movement the director give to the actors to show them where to go on the stage

Choreography: A sequence of dance moves assigned to a dancer in a musical number (song) that are used to help tell the story.

Cue: In theater, a cue signals when another action should begin. Ex: The actor's cue to enter the stage might be after they hear the thunder sound effect.

Make-Up: Artistically designed cosmetics to enhance an actor's portrayal of a character.

Playwright: The writer or writers of the play. Playwrights write the dialogue between characters in a play.

Composer: The artist who writes music for a musical.

Lyricist: the artist who writes words to the music in a musical.

Actor: the artist who embodies or puts themselves "in the shoes of" a character or characters in a play or musical to tell that character's story to the audience.

Audience: a group of people who attend a live event like a theatre performances to watch, listen, and respond to the event on stage.

Director: the artist who works with the writers, actors, and designers to tell a clear story on stage for the audience.

Stage Manager: The artist who manages the onstage and backstage areas before, during, and after a performance.

Costume Design: A costumer designer chooses and creates the articles of clothing that characters wear on stage to help tell the audience who the characters.

Sound Designer: an artist that creates the mood or atmosphere of the play through the use of sound, sound effects, and music in a play or musical.

Props: Objects used by a character on stage to help tell the story. Ex: A character may use a prop like an umbrella on stage if it is raining in that scene of the play.

K-5 Student to Family Cooperative Activity Ideas:

- Create a home theater space: Dedicate a specific area in your home as a temporary theater space. It can be anywhere with a little bit of space to "put on a show". Create a cozy ambiance with lighting and comfortable seating.
- Create tickets and programs: Design and print them at home or even hand made. Deliver the tickets to family members, and the programs can include information about the performance, cast, and crew. This adds a touch of authenticity and excitement.
- Snack bar and concessions: Set up a snack bar or concessions stand with a variety of treats and refreshments. You can even create special themed snacks related to the performance you are watching.
- Interactive viewing experience: Encourage audience participation during the performance. For example, during a musical, you can sing along to the songs and clap during applause-worthy moments!
- Post-show discussions: After the performance, have a family discussion about the show. Share your thoughts, favorite moments, and discuss the themes or lessons portrayed. This can foster critical thinking and encourage creativity in your kids.
- **Remember, the goal is to create a memorable and immersive experience. Adapt these ideas based on your family's preferences and the resources available to you. The key is to have fun and enjoy the theater experience in your digs!**

Additional Activity Ideas:



- Memory jars: Create a memory jar with your children. Write down favorite childhood memories on small pieces of paper and put them in a jar. Each week or month, take turns pulling out a memory and sharing it. This can spark conversations and lead to further discussions about your childhood experiences, and theirs too!
- Bedtime stories: Instead of reading traditional bedtime stories, take turns sharing personal stories from your childhood. These could be tales of adventure, funny incidents, or heartwarming experiences. This can create a strong bond between you and your children as you share personal narratives.
- Encourage your kids to create their own journals or scrapbooks to document their childhood memories. Take the opportunity to share your childhood stories as you help them with their own projects. You can even contribute by adding some of your own stories or mementos to their journals.
- What was your favorite song, band or genre growing up? Play a few songs for your child/children and let them play a few of their favorites for you!
- Create traditions with your child/children!: Establish special rituals or traditions that you can share. It could be a weekly movie night, cooking together on weekends, going for a walk after dinner, or singing at the top of your lungs before bedtime.

Standards Alignment: The activities in this guide are aligned with the standards listed below. When teachers incorporate the arts, they increase student engagement, offer multiple points for students to access the curriculum, and provide alternate means for students to demonstrate what they know.

Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.)	
Kindergarten through Grade 12/ English Language Arts	
ELA.K12.EE.1.1	Cite evidence to explain and justify reasoning.
ELA.K12.EE.2.1	Read and comprehend grade-level complex texts proficiently.
ELA.K12.EE.3.1	Make inferences to support comprehension.
ELA.K12.EE.4.1	Use appropriate collaborative techniques and active listening skills when engaging in discussions in a variety of situations.
ELA.K12.EE.5.1	Use the accepted rules governing a specific format to create quality work.
ELA.K12.EE.6.1	Use appropriate voice and tone when speaking or writing.
Theater	
TH.K.C.3.2	Share reactions to a live theatre performance.
TH.1. H.3.1	Identify similarities between plays and stories.
TH.2. O.3.1	Identify theatrical elements and vocabulary found in everyday life.



My Theater Review

I saw: _____

Reviewed by: _____

This play/musical was about...

Here's a drawing of
my favorite character:

It made me feel:

I learned:

I gave this play/musical stars.



**We'd love to hear from you! If you'd like to submit this review,
please send to jenriquez@browardcenter.org**