

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

La Maleta de Maebelle



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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.



FROM PAGE TO STAGE

An adaptation in theater is when a book, short story, novel, or even a poem is transformed into a stage performance, like a musical or play. The original story is usually kept at the core, but parts may be changed or added, such as songs, dialogue, or characters to make it work better for a live audience.

VOCABULARY OF AN ADAPTATION

Adaptation: Something that has changed so that it can be presented in another form.

Author: A person who writes something such as a book or an article.

Characters: the individuals portrayed by actors in a play or musical.

Composer: A person who writes music.

Director: A key creative figure in theater responsible for overseeing the artistic aspects of a production.

Lyricist: A person who writes the words of a song.

Playwright: A person who writes plays.

Scriptwriting: Turning narration into dialogue and scenes.



Here are 10 of the most famous stage adaptations:

Les Misérables

The Lion King

Wicked

Matilda the Musical

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

The Phantom of the Opera

To Kill a Mockingbird

Hamilton

The Wizard of Oz

Oliver!

Les Misérables by Victor Hugo

Based on Disney's animated film (inspired by Hamlet)

Wicked by Gregory Maguire (a reimagining of The Wizard of Oz)

Matilda by Roald Dahl

Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling

Le Fantôme de l'Opéra by Gaston Leroux

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Based on the Alexander Hamilton biography by Ron Chernow

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens

La Maleta de Maebelle (Maebelle's Suitcase) Synopsis

A bilingual adaptation of the celebrated & beloved Reading Rainbow book Maebelle's Suitcase
by Tricia Tusa:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xzZYfej3aI>

Maebelle lives in her treehouse and is an incredible hat maker. She's been working hard ahead of the town's annual hat contest when she befriends Binkle, a bird with a migration dilemma. He's trying to carry too much on his flight south for the winter! As Maebelle generously offers her cherished suitcase from her own migration from Colombia, they delve into profound reflections on the significance of our possessions and memories. Through laughter and tears, Maebelle and Binkle help each other discover the beauty of remembrance and the liberating power of letting go.

Characters:

In the play, puppets represent most of the humans and all of the birds.

Maebelle an Afro-Colombian woman, born in the 1900s, who lives in a treehouse and makes hats.

Binkle a bird who's trying to fly south to Colombia on his migration

Blanche a white lady, wearing pointy glasses and a hummingbird on her wide-brimmed hat

Sofia a Latina with curly red hair with a pink hat and blue ribbon.

Dorothy a white lady with a long face and long nose, in an orange hat with a sunflower.

Rosa an Afro-Latina with graying coiled hair and red roses on her hat.

Various birds from Mexico, Peru, and Colombia.



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.

La Maleta de Maebelle

Are you Bilingual?

In Maebelle's town, everyone knows some English, but only some of her neighbors speak Spanish. Rosa is Afro-Caribbean and Sofia is Mexican. They grew up speaking Spanish, and have learned English, which makes them **bilingual**. Dorothy and Blanche grew up speaking only English, but Blanche is learning Spanish and trying to become bilingual. She practices the following Spanish words and phrases with Maebelle.

Find the English translation for each Spanish word or phrase and trace a line between them.

CAFECITO

birds

HASTA LUEGO

hammock

HAMACA

supermarket

SUPERMERCADO

See you soon

PÁJAROS

See You then

HASTA LA VISTA

coffee

Now use the table below to write five words that you know in more than one language.
Can you list more than five?

English

Language: _____



La Maleta de Maebelle



MIGRATION

READING COMPREHENSION

Migration is a strategy some animals use to help them survive seasonal changes. They physically move to more optimal climatic conditions, but always return to their original habitats.

Animals migrate for different reasons. For example, monarch butterflies can not survive the cold winter months in their native Canada, so fly to Mexico - several thousands of kilometres away, in search of warmer climates. They then return to Canada in Spring. Others migrate for feeding reasons, such as zebras who relocate during the dry season when fresh grass and water are in short supply. Zebras make the longest migration of all land mammals in Africa.

Bird migration is when birds travel from one place to another at certain times of the year. Many birds fly to warmer places in the fall to find food and stay safe during the cold winter. Then, in the spring, they fly back to where they came from to build nests and raise their babies. It's like a big bird vacation that happens every year! Some birds fly very far—even across oceans! They use the sun, stars, and even the Earth's magnetic field to help them find their way.



1 In your own words, define migration: _____

2 Describe two reasons why animals and birds migrate:

- ⊙ _____
- ⊙ _____

3 What does migration have to do with food?: _____

4 Explain why birds travel so far only to return back to where they came from:

La Maleta de Maeabelle: Columbia!



COLOMBIA

A Spanish-speaking nation in the north part of South America. It touches the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

Colombia is home to more kinds of birds than any other country in the world, including many that migrate to and from the United States.

Map of Colombia: Florida is the pink finger pointing off the bottom of the US straight through Cuba at Colombia. Trace the flock of white birds with your finger to see that path Binkle will take to Colombia.



Answers:
Bogotá, Emerald,
Yellow/blue/red,
Spanish, Arepa

Let's test your knowledge about Colombia!

What is the capital city of Colombia?

Which precious stone is Colombia famous for producing?

What are the three colors of the Colombian flag?

What is the official language of Colombia?

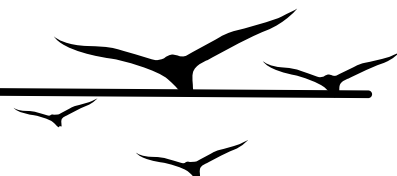
What is a popular traditional Colombian food made from cornmeal?

La Maleta de Maebelle: Write About It!

Writing Prompts:

Binkle wants to fly south for the winter to Colombia, but he doesn't want to part with his favorite things, and he can't carry them with him. Choose one of the writing prompts below and create your response:

- 1.What (or who) would you have a hard time leaving behind if you went away for a season? Why?
- 2.If you flew away for the winter, where would you go? Why?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal black ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook or legal stationery. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

La Maleta de Maebelle

NATURAL DISASTERS

WORD SEARCH



In the play, Maebelle explains that her family left Colombia because of a hurricane that destroyed their home. As the planet experiences changes in climate, hurricanes are becoming more frequent. Some people and animals migrate because of climate-related issues like hurricanes or changes in rainfall patterns. **Search for the hidden words.**

E	B	H	E	R	U	P	T	I	O	N	W
A	C	E	F	N	T	S	U	N	A	M	I
R	A	A	P	L	S	U	I	F	E	C	L
T	W	T	D	R	O	U	G	H	T	Y	D
H	F	W	C	R	A	O	D	I	O	W	L
Q	R	A	A	G	I	F	D	C	R	N	I
U	O	V	O	L	C	A	N	O	N	R	F
A	C	E	S	I	A	J	N	G	A	U	E
K	I	L	A	N	D	S	L	I	D	E	F
E	N	S	O	O	T	H	E	F	O	I	I
C	S	N	O	W	S	T	O	R	M	C	R
A	N	T	H	U	R	R	I	C	A	N	E

EARTHQUAKE

TSUNAMI

HEATWAVE

HURRICANE

SNOWSTORM

TORNADO

DROUGHT

VOLCANO

WILDLIFE FIRE

ERUPTION

LANDSLIDE

FLOOD

NATURAL DISASTERS WORD SEARCH



KEY:



EARTHQUAKE

TSUNAMI

HEATWAVE

HURRICANE

SNOWSTORM

TORNADO

DROUGHT

VOLCANO

WILDLIFE FIRE

ERUPTION

LANDSLIDE

FLOOD

La Maleta de Maebelle

Let's Make a Hat:

Supplies You'll Need for Making a Sombrero Hat:

- A Paper Plate
- Scissors
- Plastic Solo cup or Hefty Cup – around 16 oz. – any colorful, tall, plastic cup should work for this craft
- Pom-Poms – 6-8 per hat
- A temp glue gun and glue sticks
- Hole punch
- Elastic cording – about 12 inches per hat (yard would also work in a pinch)

How to Make a Sombrero:

1. Using a pencil, pen, or marker, trace the outer edge of a solo cup in the middle of the plate.

2. From the hole you traced on the plate, cut a smaller circle out of the middle, leaving a small border

**the hole in the plate helps prevent the hat from sliding off of your head, but you do not want to make it so big that the cup slips through.*

3. Glue the Solo cup upside down over the hole.

4. Glue around eight pom-poms directly to the top of the brim of the hat.

5. Decorate as desired.

6. Use a hole punch to make 2 tiny holes directly across from each other on either side of the rim.

Tie around a 9 in. piece of elastic cording on to help keep the hat nice and secure.



La Maleta de Maebelle S.E.L.

I AM GRATEFUL

Today, I am thankful for...

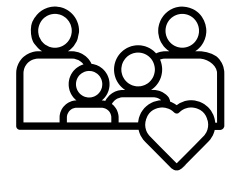
The Best Part of My Day



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: La Maleta De Maebelle

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.
Social Studies	
SS.5. G.1.3	Identify major United States physical features on a map of North America.
World Languages	
WL. K12.NM.6.1	Recognize basic practices and perspectives of cultures where the target language is spoken (such as greetings, holiday celebrations, etc.)
WL. K12.NM.6.4	Recognize products of culture. (e.g., food, shelter, clothing, transportation, toys).
Theater	
TH.1. O.2.1	Describe in words or by drawing a picture, the most exciting part in the story line of a play.



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**