

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Rita Finds Home



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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>

Sensory Experience Ratings:

Below are some ratings to help students prepare for the experience.

A rating of 1 represents a small amount and a rating of 5 represents a large amount.

- Potentially Anxious Moments: 2
- Scarieness: 1
- Theatrical Effects: 1



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:

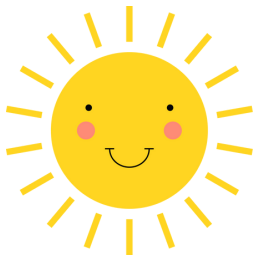
- Restroom visits are best made prior to the performance.
- Listen carefully to the ushers and your teachers. This gets everyone to your seats quickly and ensures a pleasant experience.
- Turn watches and cell phones to silent.
- Walk single file, hold hand rails as you use the steps for your safety.
- 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.

The Story: Rita Finds Home

Miami City Ballet

Rita, a young artist, paints and dreams of one day living in the big city despite the lush tropical island she lives in. When a hurricane thrusts Rita and her mother into a new life in an urban metropolis, she struggles to adapt to her new environment. Feeling lost and like everything she knew, including her talents, were washed away by the storm, Rita embarks on a journey that helps her re-define what home means to her. With a little help from her new friends and her family, Rita's spirits lift as she explores the beauty of her new city, igniting a new sense of home, and the realization that her talents never left her.





Rita Finds Home

Weather Word Search

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

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

HOT

WARM

SNOWY

CLOUDY

COLD

WINDY

STORMY

SUNNY

COOL

RAINY

FOGGY

PARTLY CLOUDY



Rita Finds Home

Life in the City

Classify the words and phrases into the correct category to learn more about life in the city.

toy stores	movie theaters	birds	dance class	buses
in a house	in a condominium	visit friends	trees	doctors
people	in an apartment	subways	hospitals	schools
go shopping	go for a walk	police officers	cars	dogs
museums	clothing stores	grocery stores	firefighters	trains
read books	traffic lights	teachers	buildings	parks

**Places where I can
live in the city**

**Places I can see
in the city**

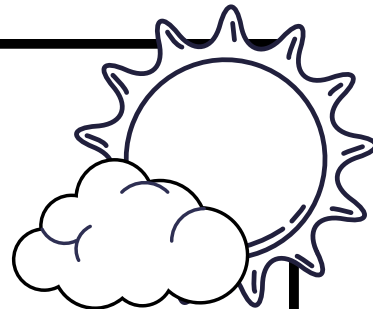
**Community helpers
I can see in the city**

**Things I can find in
the city**

**Means of transportation
I can use in the city**

**Activities I can do
in the city**

Rita Finds Home Weekly Weather Record

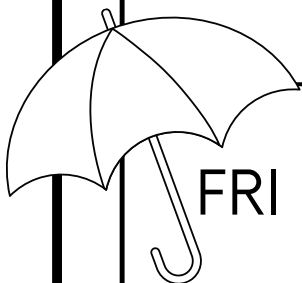


Draw (create) your own weather symbols in each box below:

sunny	cloudy	rainy	storm	snow	windy

Complete the table below for one week: Week of: _____

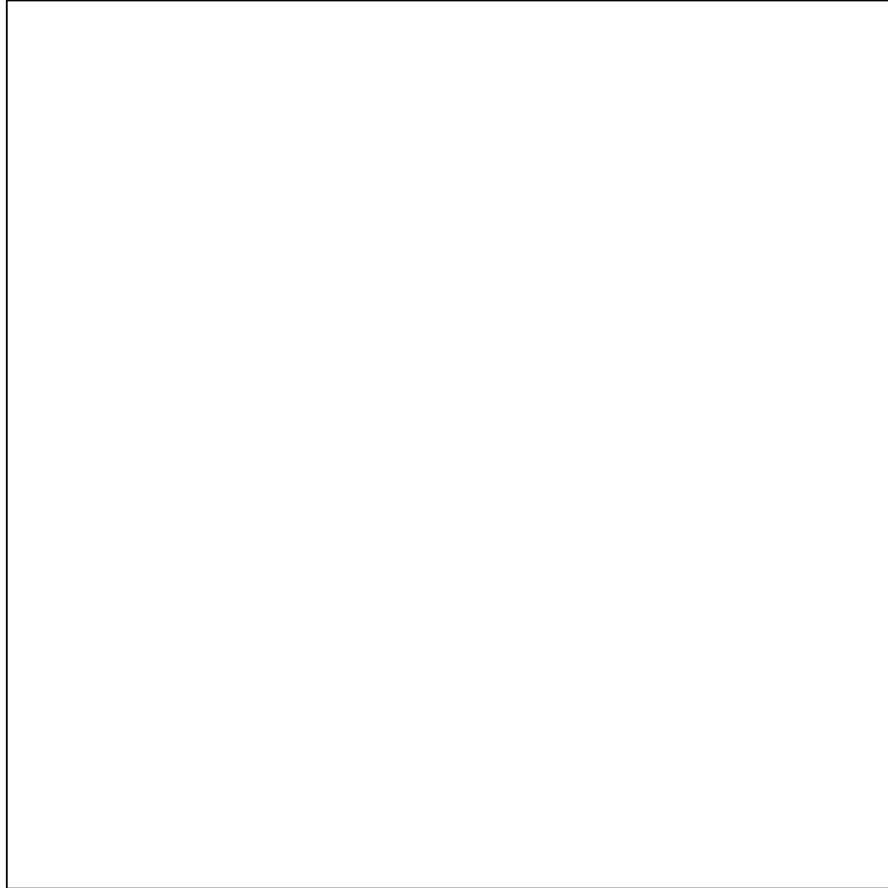
Day	Temperature	Rainfall	Weather
MON			
TUES			
WED			
THUR			
FRI			



Rita Finds Home: Writing

K-2

Who helps you when you are sad? Draw and write about your special helper:



Rita Finds Home: Writing

3-5

Write about a time you struggled to adapt to something new.
Who helped you? How did you overcome?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. In the top left corner, there is a small, partially visible yellow sticky note with some faint markings. The rest of the page is blank, providing space for writing or drawing.

Rita Finds Home: SEL

Exploring my emotions

Choose the names of these emotions from the list to fill the blank space then answer the questions.

Angry

Sad

Happy

Confused

Shocked

Disappointed

silly

loved



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.....



.....



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How do you feel when you lose something?

How do you feel when you have a nightmare?

How do you feel when it storms?

How do you feel when someone hugs you?

How do you feel when it is your birthday?

HEY TEACHER...TRY TABLEAU

Students can create a TABLEAU to retell a story or summarize a key event. For example, after reading a book or a historical event, students can work in groups to create a frozen scene that represents an important moment. This helps students grasp key plot points, character emotions, and overall themes, while also practicing critical thinking, problem solving and summarization skills.

Introduction to Tableau-Creating Images

With students standing in a circle, introduce Tableau

- A Tableau is a STILL IMAGE or PICTURE demonstrating an idea, person, or thing. It is as if a moment of action from a play, show or musical is frozen.

- Tableaus are SILENT
- Tableaus are strong when they use DIFFERENT LEVELS.



Practice Multiple Levels

- Tell students to think about if there are levels between 1 and 10

1 is as low as you could possibly go,

10 is as high as you could go without jumping

5 is you standing still at normal height

Let's practice showing different levels. The teacher will call out different levels (1-10) and have students demonstrate those levels.

Now let's practice Tableau

- Instruct students to practice individual still images by creating an image/picture of the prompt BY THEMSELVES of the following (provide one at a time) while they try to use different levels.

Count 1-2-3 Freeze and then Relax in between each as the students create their Tableau.

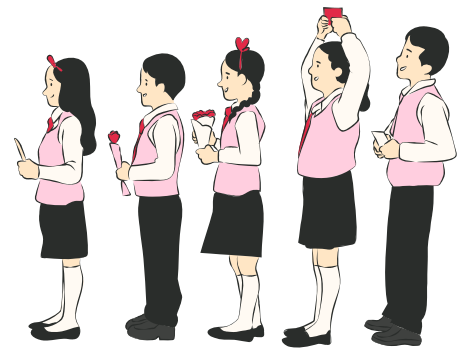
- How they are today
- A tree feeling
- A frog on a lily pad

Tableau in GROUPS

- Have them find a partner or a group (teacher's choice)

Their job is to create TOGETHER AND WITHOUT TALKING a Fountain.

- Have student groups share their images with the rest of the class.



TEACHER'S NOTE:

Here are a few key reasons why tableau is particularly helpful for students:

1. **Collaborative Learning:** It promotes teamwork. Students work together to create a scene, which helps them learn about collaboration, communication, and understanding different perspectives.

2. **Engagement and Focus:** Tableau keeps students engaged by giving them an active role in the learning process. Rather than passively watching, they are physically involved, which can help with focus and retention of the material.

3. **Simplifies Complex Ideas:** For students, breaking down a story into key moments and actions (via tableau) makes it easier to understand complex ideas, emotions, or historical events, especially when the abstract nature of the story might be difficult to grasp.

HEY TEACHER...TRY TABLEAU

In groups, have students try the following scenes as a Tableau:

- Rita and her mom right after the storm.
- Rita discovering the sights and sounds of her new city.
- Rita painting on her canvas.
- Rita and her classmates.
- Student's choice.



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: Rita Finds Home (Miami City Ballet)

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.K.12.EE.1.1	Cite evidence to explain and justify reasoning.
ELA.K.12.EE.2.1	Read and comprehend grade-level complex texts proficiently.
ELA.K.12.EE.3.1	Make inferences to support comprehension.
ELA.K.12.EE.4.1	Use appropriate collaborative techniques and active listening skills when engaging in discussions in a variety of situations.
ELA.K.12.EE.5.1	Use the accepted rules governing a specific format to create quality work.
ELA.K.12.EE.6.1	Use appropriate voice and tone when speaking or writing.
Science	
SS.K.G.3.3	Describe and give examples of seasonal weather changes and illustrate how weather affects people and the environment.
SS.1.G.1.6	Describe how location, weather, and physical environment affect the way people live in our community.
SC.2.E.7.5	State the importance of preparing for severe weather, lightning, and other weather related events.



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**