

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

How to Train Your Dragon The Musical Jr.



Major support for the Student Enrichment Through the Arts program has been provided by



Frederick A. DeLuca
FOUNDATION

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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 **TEACHER**,



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 Amaturo 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!





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.



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**

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.

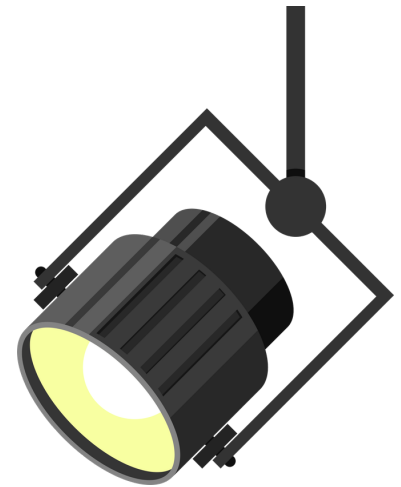
Composer: A person who writes music.

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.



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

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR
DRAGON
THE MUSICAL
Synopsis JR.

"How to Train Your Dragon: The Musical JR." tells the story of Hiccup, a young Viking who defies his tribe's tradition of dragon hunting by befriendng a wounded Night Fury dragon named Toothless.

The story takes place on the fictional island called The Isle of Berk, where Vikings have been battling dragons for generations. Hiccup is the son of the Berk Tribe Chief, Stoick, and despite be Viking royalty, Hiccup doesn't quite fit in with the other villagers. All the Vikings in Berk are skilled dragon hunters and master fighters.

Hiccup, however, lacks the strength and aggression expected of him and is more interested in understanding the dragons than killing them. One day, Hiccup has a chance encounter with a Night Fury dragon, which he names "Toothless' and their unlikely friendship changes everything. Hiccup soon learns that the dragons are not mindless monsters, like the Vikings believed, but intelligent creatures with their own motivations and fears.

Hiccup and Toothless form a deep bond, with Hiccup learning to fly with Toothless using a special prosthetic tail. As Hiccup and Toothless become closer, they must also confront the larger conflict between the Vikings and the dragons. A fearsome dragon called the Red Death emerges, threatening both species. Hiccup and Toothless, along with their friends Astrid and Gobber, work together to protect both the Vikings and the dragons. Their combined efforts prove that understanding and empathy can overcome hatred and fear to defeat any threat.

Hiccup's journey of self-discovery and his unlikely friendship with Toothless ultimately highlight the importance of taking your own path and challenging preconceived notions.

The musical, as a whole, emphasizes the importance of challenging stereotypes, embracing individuality, and finding strength in understanding others. It highlights that true heroism lies in being true to oneself and fostering connections, even with those who seem different than you.

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.

DREAMWORKS
THEATRE

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

THE MUSICAL JR.

WHOLE GROUP AND SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY! WHAT IS A HERO?

Hiccup is described as a hero.

What is a hero?

1. Begin by brainstorming a list of heroes, and then discuss why each of these people is considered a hero.
 - What did they do?
 - What adverse conditions did they overcome?

Discuss many examples.

2. Next, ask each student to write a definition for the word hero.
3. Have students partner.

As a pair, have them combine their ideas to make a new definition.

4. Next, each pair should find another pair and combine their thinking once again.

Ask each group to share their definitions.

5. Write the group definitions on chart paper and give each student **three stickers**. Students can place their stickers next to the definition they like best. They can use all stickers on one definition or divide their stickers among definitions.
6. After every student has "voted" with stickers, count the stickers to reveal the definition that had the most votes.
7. Once a class definition is determined, ask students to find examples of heroes and tell why they do or do not meet the class definition.
8. Encourage students to revise the definition as new examples of heroes are found.

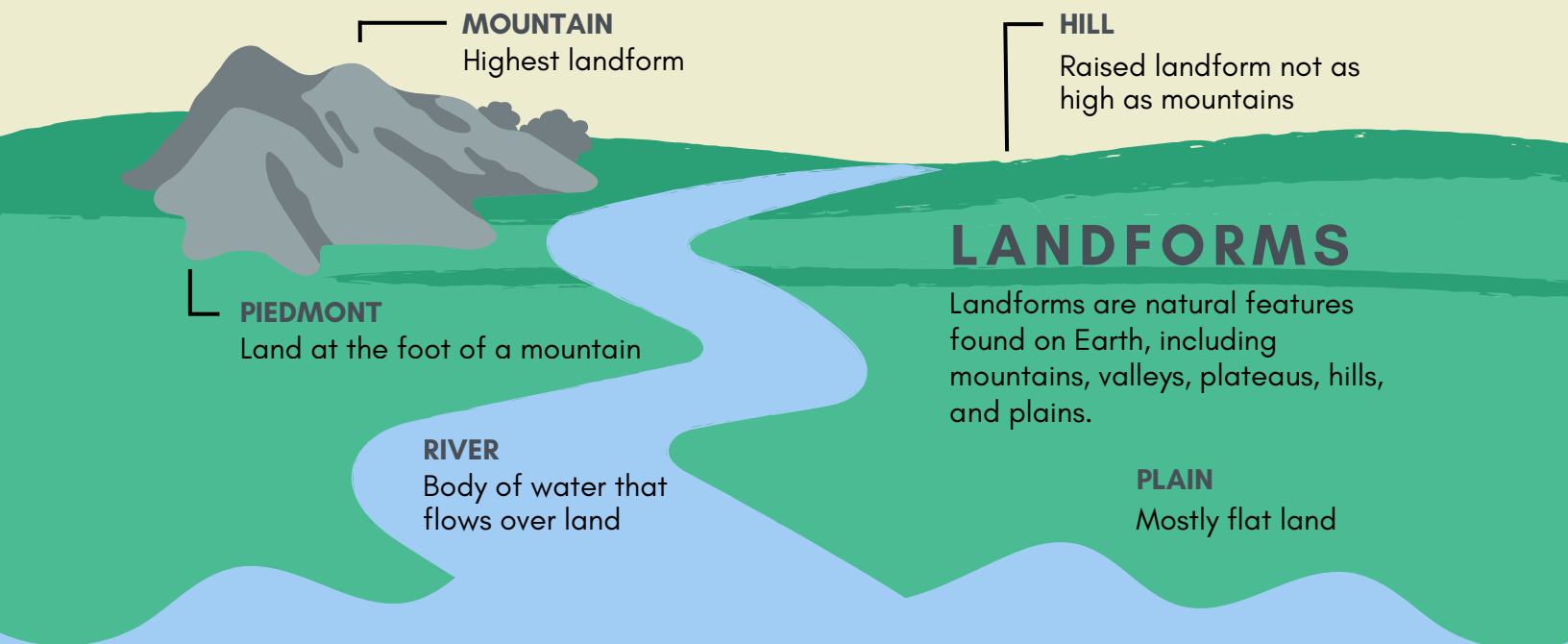
For example, are heroes always people? Can an animal be a hero?

WHAT IS OUR CLASS DEFINITION OF A HERO?



EXPLORING MAPS

DISCOVERING LAND AND WATER



MOUNTAIN

Highest landform

HILL

Raised landform not as high as mountains

PIEDMONT

Land at the foot of a mountain

RIVER

Body of water that flows over land

LANDFORMS

Landforms are natural features found on Earth, including mountains, valleys, plateaus, hills, and plains.

PLAIN

Mostly flat land

OCEAN

Large bodies of saltwater that cover a significant portion of the Earth's surface

BODIES OF WATER

Bodies of water include oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and streams, and they are essential features of the Earth's surface

LANDFORMS MAP

Maps show where things are located. Landform maps are special maps that show different landforms and water formations. They help us understand where these things are located in an area.

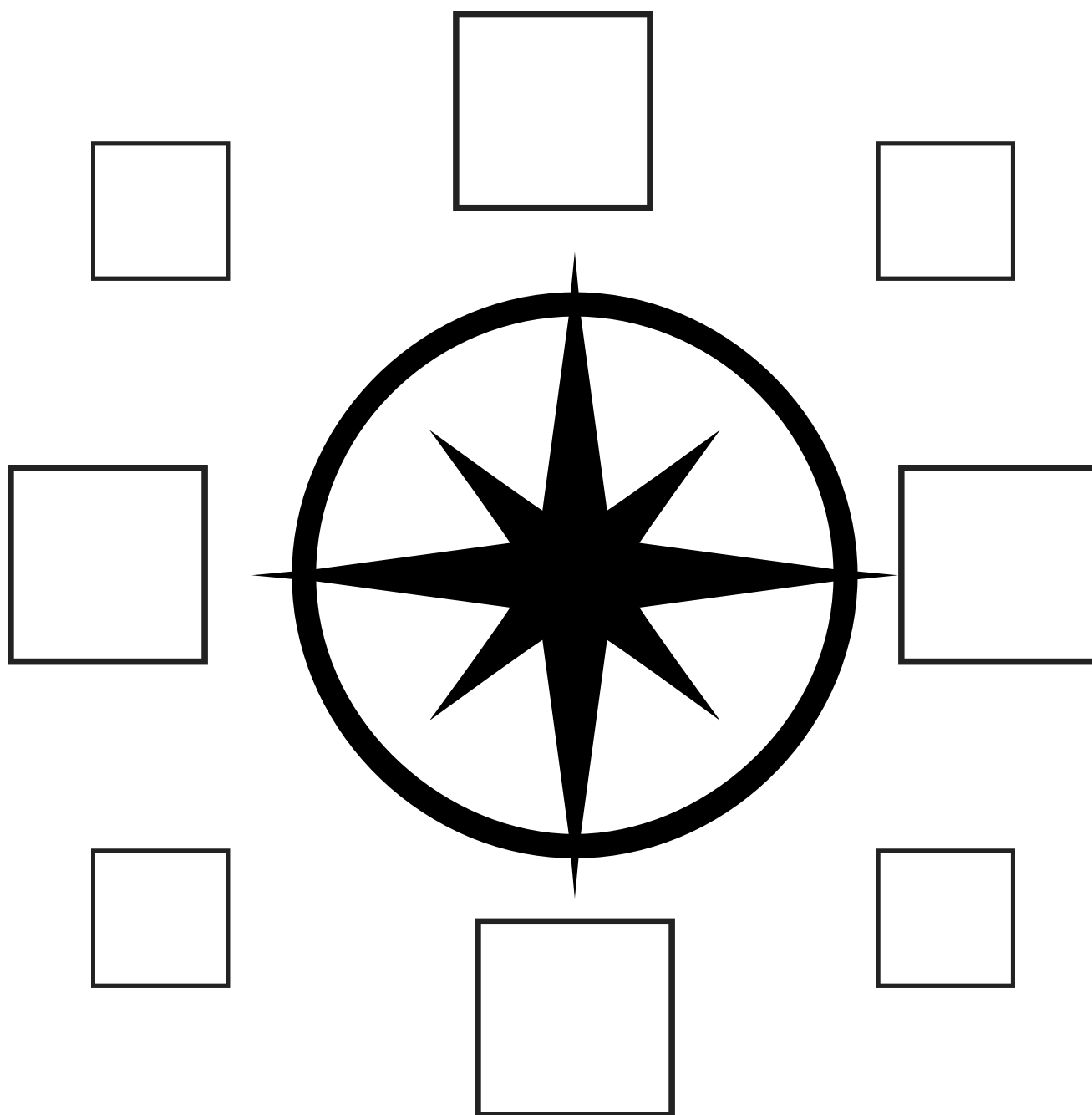


HOW TO TRAIN YOUR
DRAGON
THE MUSICAL **JR.**

USING A COMPASS

Below is a compass rose.

Directions: Fill in the boxes to show the correct directions.



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR
DRAGON
 THE MUSICAL JR.

GRID REFERENCES

Find each object and write its grid reference next to the picture.

Remember: letter first, then number.

	1	2	3	4	5
A					
B					
C					
D					

	_____		_____		_____
	_____		_____		_____

MAGICAL GRAMMAR: CREATE YOUR OWN MYTHICAL CREATURE



STEP 1 – DESIGN YOUR CREATURE

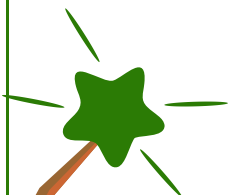
Directions: Invent your own mythical creature! Draw it and write sentences about what it does. Be sure your sentences include correct subject – verb agreement and a prepositional phrase.

What is the creature's name? _____

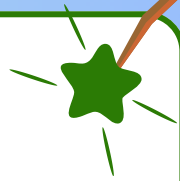
Where does it live? _____

What special powers does it have? (List three) _____

Draw your creature in the box below.



STEP 2 - WRITE ABOUT YOUR CREATURE



Directions: Write five sentences about your creature.

Each sentence must include: a subject, a verb that agrees with the subject, a prepositional phrase, and at least 8 words.

Example:

The crystal dragon flies above the nearby mountains.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

STEP 3 - PREPOSITION CHALLENGE

Directions: Choose any of the following prepositions and create two additional and all new sentences about your creature using the same considerations as above.

above, under, behind, between, near, through

1.

2.

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR
DRAGON
THE MUSICAL JR.

LEAP YEAR

Hiccup was born on February 29th. Snotlout takes great pleasure in teasing Hiccup for only being three years old on his 12th birthday.

Was Hiccup celebrating his third or twelfth birthday? What do you believe and why?
Here are some facts about LEAP YEARS:

 Earth actually takes about $365\frac{1}{4}$ days (more precisely, about 365.2422 days) to orbit the sun.

 The extra day is always February 29.

 People born on February 29 are sometimes called Leaplings or Leapers.

 Leaplings only get to celebrate their exact birthday once every four years.

 Around 1 in every 1,461 people is born on February 29.

 The tradition of leap years dates back more than 2,000 years to the time of Julius Caesar.

 According to an old tradition in some countries, February 29 was considered a day when women could propose marriage to men.

 Most years divisible by 4 are leap years, but century years (like 1900 or 2100) are not leap years unless they are also divisible by 400. That's why 2000 was a leap year, but 1900 and 2100 are not.

 Some schools and communities hold giant birthday parties for everyone born on February 29.

True or False:

A leap year has 366 days.

February always has 29 days.

People born on February 29 are called "Leaplings."

Earth takes exactly 365 days to orbit the Sun.

Challenge Questions

If Isy was born on February 29, 2000, how many "real" February 29 birthdays had she celebrated by February 29, 2028?

If today is February 29 of a leap year, what is tomorrow's date?

If a leap year has 366 days, how many weeks and days is that?

GESTURES OF A GOOD CLASSMATE

CHARACTERISTICS

Write the characteristics of a
good classmate

ACTIONS

For each characteristic write an
example of an action



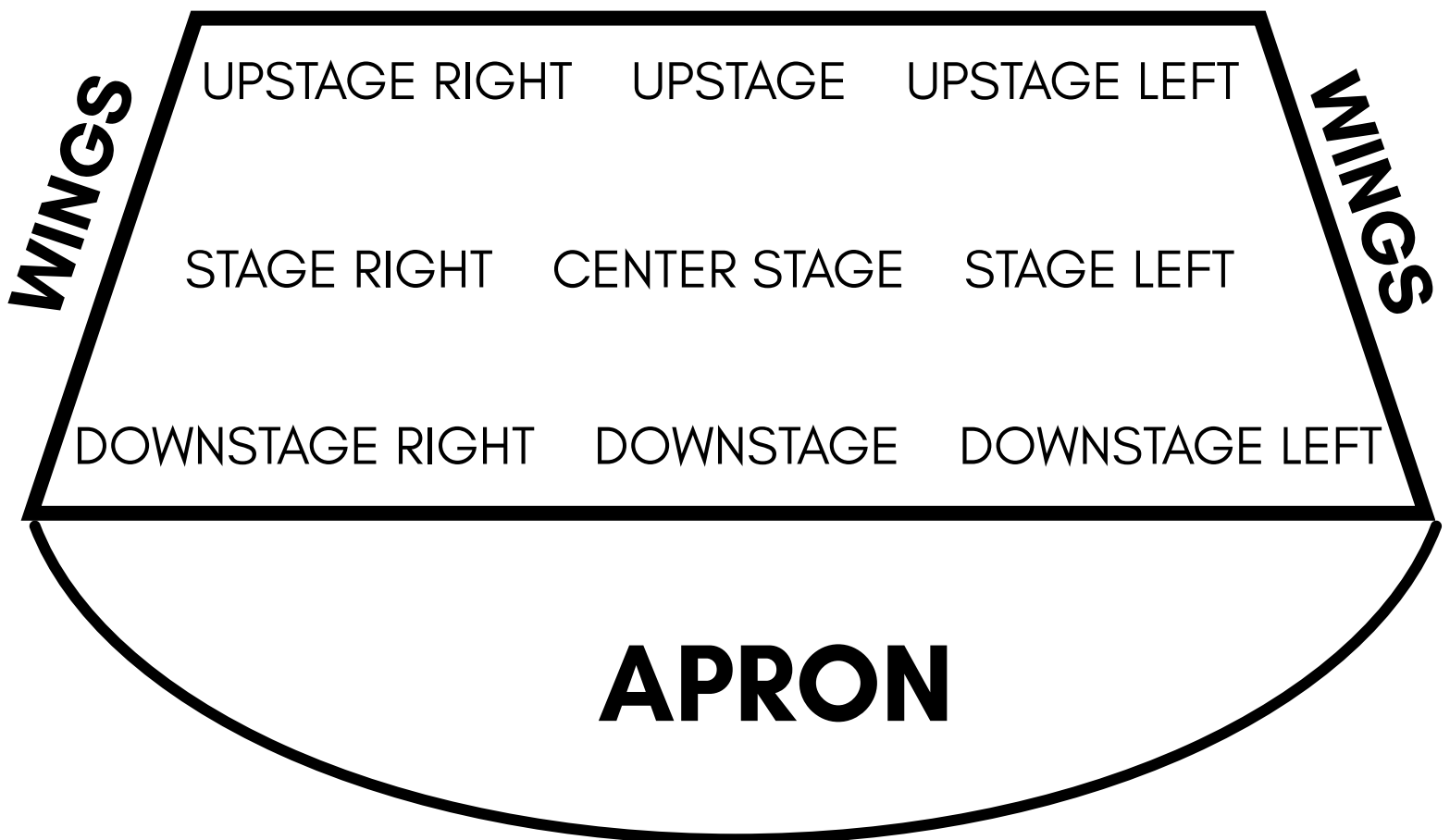
REFLECT ABOUT THE QUESTION: AM I A GOOD CLASSMATE?

THE PARTS OF A STAGE

A proscenium stage is a traditional theatre configuration where the audience views the performance through a "picture frame" arch, separating the stage from the seating area.

- Stage Left and Stage Right are named from the actor's point of view while facing the audience, **not** from the audience's view.
- Upstage means the back of the stage, and downstage means the front. These terms come from old stages that were sloped upward toward the back.
- Wings are the areas on the sides of the stage where actors wait to enter and where scenery and props are kept out of the audience's sight.

BACKSTAGE



HOUSE

THE PARTS OF A STAGE FOUR CORNERS GAME

Adapt Four Corners with you as the **DIRECTOR**. Start at center stage, close your eyes and count to 10. Students move to a part of the room. Call out a stage direction. Students in that section are “out” and become part of the “house” to watch the rest of the game until there is a winner!

BACKSTAGE

UPSTAGE RIGHT UPSTAGE UPSTAGE LEFT

STAGE RIGHT CENTER STAGE STAGE LEFT

DOWNSTAGE RIGHT DOWNSTAGE DOWNSTAGE LEFT

APRON

HOUSE

FREYTAG'S PYRAMID

A method of storytelling for writers:

What is Freytag's Pyramid?

Freytag's Pyramid is a framework for telling stories made up of five sections:

Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Denouement. Closely related to the five-act story structure, Freytag's Pyramid has been a favorite of writers across all storytelling genres for centuries because it reflects the way we tell stories instinctually. It's sometimes called "Freytag's Triangle."



Identify the parts of the musical or play you watched at the theater:

1. Exposition: _____

2. Rising action: _____

3. Climax: _____

4. Falling action: _____

5. Denouement: _____

Post Show Cooperative Learning Opportunities

(Group Work Ideas for Teachers)



1. Group Reflection Circle

Sit together and share your favorite moments, characters, or songs from the performance. Encourage everyone to explain why they liked those parts.

This builds listening skills and helps everyone appreciate different perspectives.

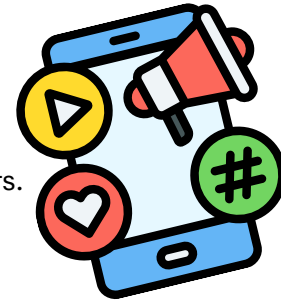


2. Create a Mini Review Together

Work as a team to write a short review of the show.

Assign roles: one person writes, another edits, others brainstorm key points.

You can post it on social media or keep it in a class journal.



3. Reenact a Scene

Pick a favorite scene and act it out as a group.

Add your own twist—maybe change the setting or improvise new dialogue.

This sparks creativity and teamwork.



4. Design a Poster or Program

Collaborate to create a poster or program for the performance you saw.

Include drawings, quotes, and fun facts.

This is great for artistic expression and memory keeping.



5. Plan a "Behind the Scenes" Discussion

Research how the performance was made (costumes, music, choreography).

Assign each group member a topic to present.

This turns curiosity into a cooperative learning activity.



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.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS DONORS

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