

GRADE TWO THEATRE CURRICULUM

Audience Preparation Module: Identifying Elements of a Play

Enduring Understanding

Attending Live Theatre: The audience identifies elements of a play that help to tell the story.

Essential Question

How do actors in a play help us understand the meaning of the story?

Domain	Process	Standard
PERCEPTION	Observing/ Responding	1.1 Use the vocabulary of theatre, such as <i>plot (beginning, middle and end), scene, sets, conflict, script, and audience</i> , to describe theatrical experiences.
	Analyzing	3.2 Identify universal characters in stories and plays from different periods and places. 4.3 Identify the message or moral of a work of theatre.
CREATION	Storytelling	2.2 Retell familiar stories, sequencing story points and identifying character, setting and conflict.
CONTEXT	Critiquing	4.1 Critique an actor's performance as to the use of voice, gesture, facial expression and movement to create character.
	Connecting to the Community	4.2 Respond to a live performance with appropriate audience behavior.

Essential standards and **supporting standards** to be assessed.

Sample Performance Task

1. Attend a live theatre performance. Choose a character from the play, and in your journal write two things the actor did to make the character seem real. Tell what you think the message of the play was.

Sample Scoring Tool:

Quality Level	1. Artistic Perception	2. Creative Expression	3. Historical / Cultural Context	4. Aesthetic Valuing Grade 2 Standard 4.1, 4.2, 4.3	5. Connections, Relationships, Applications
4 Advanced	/	/	/	<p>Writes two or more well developed things the actor did to make the character seem real</p> <p>Insightfully verbalizes message of the performance using specific details</p>	/
3 Proficient	/	/	/	<p>Writes two things the actor did to make the character seem real</p> <p>Verbalizes message of the performance</p>	/
2 Partially Proficient	/	/	/	<p>Attempts to write two things the actor did to make the character</p>	/

				seem real	
				Partially verbalize s message of the performa nce	
1 Not Profici ent				Writing does not indicate what the actor did to make the character seem real	
				Minimal verbaliza tion of the message of the performa nce	

Developing Concepts

Preparation prior to seeing a play is essential for a rich appreciation of the experience.

Key Ideas:

- Understanding a character’s objective and motivation is an important step in character development.
- Exploring the message of a play increases understanding.

Knowledge

Skills

<p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective • Motivation • Character Development • Message 	<p>Exploration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice developing characters using walkabout, pantomime, gesture, motivation and objective • Discuss the message of the play and compare to similar stories <p>Improvisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvise scenes based on characters' objectives and motivations • Dramatize scenes connected to the message of the play
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An audience at live theatre responds spontaneously.

Key Ideas:

- Responses vary according to prior experience.
- Live theatre is a two-way communication.

<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge</p> <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication 	<p style="text-align: center;">Skills</p> <p>Concentration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond appropriately to emotional impact • Notice audience's effect on actors' performances
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Analysis of character and message is an important part of the live theatre experience.

Key Ideas:

- Understanding the work of an actor enhances ability to develop characters.

- Discerning the message of a play is a significant step in audience education.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Character Development
- Message

Skills

Analysis

- Discover the specific decisions the actors made in developing characters
- Explore the message of the play and your personal connection to it