

GRADE TWO THEATRE CURRICULUM
Module 3: People Use Stories to Explain Things

Enduring Understanding

Theatre in the World: People have always told stories to explain things.

Essential Question

Why do stories help us understand things?

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, to describe theatrical experiences.</i>
	Analyzing	3.2 Identify universal characters in stories and plays from different periods and places. <i>4.3 Identify the message or moral of a work of theatre.</i>
CREATION	Storytelling	1.2 Use body and voice to improvise alternative endings to a story.
	Role Playing	2.1 Perform in group improvisational theatrical games that develop cooperative skills and concentration.
CONTEXT	Organizing	5.1 Use problem-solving and cooperative skills in dramatizing a story, a current event, or a concept from another subject area.
	Putting into Historical and Cultural Context	3.1 Identify theatre and storytelling forms from different cultures.

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

Sample Performance Task

1. Working as a class, create and perform a nature myth with a clear beginning, middle and end. Discuss with your classmates the message or moral of the myth.

Sample Scoring Tool:

Quality Level	1. Artistic Perception Grade 2 Standard 1.1	2. Creative Expression	3. Historical / Cultural Context	4. Aesthetic Valuing Grade 2 Standard 4.3	5. Connections, Relationships, Applications Grade 2 Standard 5.1
4 Advanced	Insightfully identifies the plot of a nature myth			Shows depth of understanding in identifying the message or moral of the myth	Works cooperatively and actively contributes to develop and perform a nature myth
3 Proficient	Identifies the plot of a nature myth			Identifies message or moral of the myth	Works cooperatively to develop and perform a nature myth
2 Partially Proficient	Attempts to identify the plot of a nature myth			Shows limited understanding in identifying the message or moral of the myth	Attempts to work cooperatively to develop and perform a nature myth
1 Not Proficient	Does not identify the plot of a nature myth			Lacks understanding in identifying the message or moral of the myth	No evidence of cooperation to develop and perform a nature myth

Developing Concepts

Myths are stories that explain the world and human nature.

Key Ideas

- Myths are rooted in beliefs.
- Myths are as old as civilization.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Myth
- [Transformation](#)
- [Gesture](#)
- Exaggerate

Skills

Comprehension

- Read, explore and retell several myths
- Physicalize myths using pantomime, tableau and improvisation
- Practice exaggerating gesture and movement to express conflicts in myths
- Explore ways of changing from one character or setting to another to express transformative nature of myths

Nature myths explain how things originated.

Key Ideas

- Stories help people understand phenomena in nature.
- Nature myths are based on human observations.
- Nature myths are primitive explanations of nature.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Nature myth
- Phenomena
- [Personify](#)
- Observation
- Primitive

Skills

Comprehension

- Read and discuss several nature myths
- Identify the natural events in the myths
- Realize explanations were created without scientific knowledge

	<p><u>Dramatize</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enact situations from nature myths • Personify characters, settings and events in nature myths
<p>Cyclical myths tell stories to explain environmental and human cycles.</p> <p>Key Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life is filled with changes that happen over and over in the same way. • The stories were told to help in understanding change. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge</p> <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyclical • Environmental 	<p style="text-align: center;">Skills</p> <p>Comprehension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read and discuss several cyclical myths • Compare and contrast the mythical explanation to scientific evidence <p>Dramatize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enact situations from cyclical myths • Explore acting techniques to express abstract concepts and symbols in myths and life cycles
<p>A class can create a nature myth.</p> <p>Key Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A myth is a story that has a clear beginning, middle and end. • Theatre skills can be used to present an original nature myth. 	
Knowledge	Skills

Vocabulary

- [Playmaking](#)
- [Blocking](#)
- Storyboard
- [Rehearse](#)
- [Theatricality](#)

Development

- Brainstorm and select elements for original myth
- Storyboard beginning, middle and end of myth

Rehearsal

- Establish and practice simple blocking techniques
- Refine characters, setting and activities for performance
- Select simple materials to enhance theatricality