

3RD GRADE THEATRE CURRICULUM
Module 3: Origins of Theatre

Enduring Understanding

Theatre in the World: Theatre has origins in myth, [storytelling](#) and ritual.

Essential Question

Why are myths, stories, and rituals frequently [adapted](#) into theatre pieces?

Domain	Process	Standard
PERCEPTION	Analyzing	3.2 Identify universal themes in stories from around the world.
CREATION	Role-playing /Acting	2.1 Participate in cooperative scriptwriting or improvisations that incorporating the 5 W's.
CONTEXT	Organizing	5.2 Develop problem-solving and communication skills by participating collaboratively in theatrical experiences.
	Putting into Historical and Cultural Context	<i>3.1 Dramatize different cultural versions of similar stories from around the world.</i>
	Connecting to the Community	5.1 Use problem-solving and cooperative skills to dramatize a story or a current event from another content area, with emphasis on the 5 W's.

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

Sample Performance Task

1. Work with the class to create and perform a [ritual](#) based on Native American culture.

Sample Scoring Tool:

Quality Level	1. Artistic Perception	2. Creative Expression Grade 3 Standard 2.1	3. Historical / Cultural Context Grade 3 Standard 3.1	4. Aesthetic Valuing	5. Connections, Relationships, Applications Grade 3 Standard 5.1
4 Advanced		Vividly performs a well developed role with rich details	Incorporates rich supporting details specific to the Native American culture		Effectively communicates and incorporates ideas specific to Native American culture
3 Proficient		Performs a role in a ritual based on Native American culture	Demonstrates understanding of Native American culture in performance		Works cooperatively to develop and perform a ritual based on Native American culture
2 Partially Proficient		Attempts to perform a role in a ritual based on Native American culture	Demonstrates limited understanding of Native American culture		Some evidence of working cooperatively to develop and perform a ritual based on Native American culture
1 Not Proficient		Does not perform a role in a ritual based on Native American culture	Does not demonstrate understanding of Native American culture in performance		Does not work cooperatively to develop and perform a ritual based on Native American culture

Developing Concepts

Rituals are part of human life.

Key Ideas

- Some rituals are every day.
- Some rituals occur occasionally.

- Rituals are universal and timeless.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Ritual

Skills

Comprehension

- List everyday rituals
- Discuss special occasion rituals
- Share personal cultural rituals
- Research history of a ritual

Exploration

- Reenact daily rituals
- Participate in recreating special occasion rituals
- Compare and contrast personal cultural rituals

Numerous rituals are found in Native American cultures.

Key Ideas

- Rituals are a central focus of Native American cultures.
- Rituals celebrate milestones in human life.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Milestones
- Rite of Passage

Skills

Dramatization

- Select and reenact stories based on specific rituals from Native American cultures
- Choose a Native American ritual based on an important life event and participate in it

Rituals solidify group identities.

Key Ideas

- Age-old ceremonies bring families together.
- Ritualistic activities remain the same throughout time.
- Ritual participation builds community.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Ceremony

Skills

Exploration

- Experience ensemble building through family ritual
- Find the commonalities in rituals throughout history
- Connect small group identity to larger community

Rituals consist of various modes of symbolic expression.

Key Ideas

- Rituals include visual, auditory and kinesthetic activities.
- Ritual activities address the five senses.
- Symbolism is central to all rituals.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

- Visual
- Auditory
- Kinesthetic
- Symbolism

Skills

Exploration

- Participate in rituals using a variety of methods such as dance, visual images, music and poetry
- Include all five senses when developing a ritual
- Discover theatrical ways to communicate the symbols connected to the rituals

Theatre is ritual.

Key Ideas

- There are rituals connected to the practice of theatre.
- Reenacting a ritual deepens human understanding.
- Participants discover personal identities through ritualistic roles.

Knowledge

Vocabulary

Skills

Comprehension

- Understand and use standard theatre vocabulary and practices
- Observe and discuss group and individual behaviors during ceremonies
- Connect group ritual to life experiences