

ACADEMY CURRICULUM - SKILLS FOR STAGE (GRADES 1 & 2)

Class 5

MATERIALS: X markings for kids to stand on, Benches for bus, Bus Driver Hat, Safety Vest, Counter for Ice Cream, money bucket, 2 aprons, cleaning cloth, trash can, tables and chairs for parlor

IMAGINE! OPENING ACTIVITY

Everyone come stand in our circle- make room for all our friends.

Let's do our Action Names? And after we repeat your action, everyone to tell us your favorite kind of ice cream!

I will start...

-Go around the circle and do ACTION NAMES- Wonderful!-

REVIEW LAST WEEK!

Last week we had so much fun! We used all our actor tools to become a story about silly shoes-

This week we are going to use all those tools again, but we will be using our tools to become lots of different characters and to learn to think on our feet!

Let's get started- Everyone go and find an X

WARM UP! SPACE WALK

This activity helps actors to get to know their space as well as practice using their bodies in different ways. Establish clearly defined boundaries for the players to stay inside.

I want everyone to begin moving about the room- make sure you stay in our playing area. Walk or stroll for a few seconds just paying attention to the space around you.

Keep walking. Only now pretend you are walking through pudding! Think about what it feels like and how your body would move through pudding. For example, you might move more slowly now because pudding is thicker than air. Or it might be thin and slimy- you decide! Think about what kind of pudding you are walking in- You might even be brave enough to take a little taste of the pudding!

After a while, pretend the space has turned into clouds. Think about what it feels like, and how you might walk through clouds. Do you jump from cloud to cloud, or just bounce all along.

Continue... honey; snow; water; frozen pond; mashed potatoes; the moon; popcorn; feathers; mud; fire; taffy; pea soup; cotton candy; marbles; a boat in a storm

WARM UP! SPACE WALK WITH CHARACTERS

***Great! Now we are going to add some animal characters to our SPACE WALK to help warm up our voices too.

First I am going to call out 4 different animals- when I call all four out you decide which one you want to become and begin moving about the room like that animal.

The 4 animals are: *snake, elephant, gorilla, crocodile*. And GO! Great job- remember to think about what kind of environment these animals would be in.

Now, slowly I want you to transform into a few other animals, and use your voices to make an appropriate sound for that animal:

cat, lion, monkey, dog, cow, sheep

Great! Now let me see you all:

Trot like a horse in a field.

Slither through very long grass like a snake.

Walk through the desert like a camel.

Be a monkey picking and eating a banana.

Beat your chest like a gorilla, making an appropriate sound.

Stalk a mouse, like a cat

And Last, move back to your X like an old dog walking to his bed after a long walk.

PUTTING OUT TOOLS INTO ACTION- BECOMING A CHARACTERS

Great job everyone- come sit over here in front of the stage.

What we have just been doing is called Improvisation! Does anyone know what it means to improvise (**create and perform (music, drama, or verse) spontaneously or without preparation.**)

Now that we have improvised animal characters and environments, we want to start improvising some people-characters and situations.

First we are going to improvise a scene all together.

SCENE 1: BUS DRIVER AND CROSSING GUARD EXPLAINING THE SAFETY RULES TO CHILDREN ON A BUS

- Assign one actor to be the bus driver _____
- Assign one actor to be the crossing guard _____
- Assign all other children to be students on the bus riding home after the first day of school.
- Assign students who will ask questions _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
OTHERS may respond to what is going on, but these students will ask the starter questions
- Everyone must create their own characters and be a part of the scene using actions and reactions.

I will set my timer for 2 minutes. During the 2 minutes you must be thinking of what kind of character you will be and if you are to be a speaking character what you will say. You may also talk to your neighbor to get ideas. If you have a question for me, raise your hand.

(SIDE NOTE- CREATE A BUS WITH BENCHES DURING THE 2 MINUTES)

SET TIMER- ANSWER QUESTIONS

Alright- are we all ready? Let's get started!

Bus Driver & Crossing Guard- you will start by asking all the students to find their seats on the bus, and students will begin by entering the bus one by one and taking a seat. I am going to set the timer for 4 minutes- the scene should keep going until time is up. Stay in character!

Ready- GO!

(ALLOW SCENE TO PLAY OUT)

Great Job Actors!!!! Come have a seat by the stage again!

That was fun! Let's do another scene together.

This time, we are all at an Ice Cream Store.

- Assign a store clerk who will take orders and collect money _____
- Assign a cleaning worker who will go around and wipe up tables after people finish. _____
- Assign all other actors to be customers and put them in order.

I will set my timer for 2 minutes. During the 2 minutes you must be thinking of what kind of character you will be and what you will say. You may also talk to your neighbor to get ideas. If you have a question for me, raise your hand.

WHILE ACTORS ARE SEATED, SET UP SCENE with "tables & chairs" a ice cream counter, money bucket, apron, etc. & trash can

- Now- let me have my workers take their places.
- Customers, everyone come line up here at the door. When I touch your head you may enter the ice cream store. You may choose to get your ice cream to go and exit after, or you may choose to sit down at one of the tables in the parlor. Also you might choose to throw away your cup and spoon, or some of you might forget and leave it on the table for the cleaning worker... You might like your ice cream or you might not. You might be with a friend or alone- Remember BE CREATIVE!
- IF I come and tap you on the head, it means it is time to wrap up your order so someone else can come inside.
- Are we all ready? AND GO
 - TAP KID ON HEAD ONE BY ONE, HELP THEM BEFORE THEY BEGIN TO ENTER WITH IDEAS

Now remember, once you are finished with your ice cream, you need to exit the parlor. Once you exit you are no longer in the scene and you may come and sit out here and watch.

GREAT JOB ACTORS! YOU ALL WERE FANTASTIC!

(IF there is additional time, re do both scenes and split into two groups to perform)

RECAP

Wonderful job today!!! You all are turning into some really great actors!

ASK KIDS-

What is your favorite activity that we have done so far?

What do you like most about acting?

Very good! Alright... it's time for our Friendship Wave...

CLOSING RITUAL

Alright, everyone stand up and take a hand of the person beside you- we are going to do our "Friendship Wave". I will start, when the movement gets to you, you wave your arm gently.

"Great Job today actors- let's all take a bow!" Lead performers in a hand held bow. Applause

All performers were GREAT students today, so _____ (Assistant) will get each of you a sticker! When _____ gives you your sticker, come line up behind me.