

## Think, Imagine, Improvise!

Students will explore the fundamentals of theatrical improvisation to think, imagine, and improvise! Using the national core arts standards for theatre, Jerry Bowman guides students through improvisational exercises and games to engage the imagination, enhance cooperative learning, encourage team-building and hone listening & speaking skills.

### LESSON PLAN:

**Lesson Objective(s):** Students will learn the basic ‘rules of improvisation’ and use these fundamental ideas to build a foundation of knowledge that supports students in learning problem solving skills, cooperation, team-building, speaking & listening.

### Curriculum Standards:

**(Grades 6–8) Theatre Standard 2.0 Character Acting**  
Students will develop basic acting skills by portraying characters in improvised and scripted scenes.

**(Grades 9–12) Theatre Standard 2.0 Character Acting**  
Students will act by developing, communicating, and sustaining characters in improvisations and in informal or formal productions

### Procedures for delivering instruction:

Jerry Bowman will lead students through a series of improvisational games and exercises which emphasize the concepts of listening, cooperation, teamwork and give & take. Jerry will shift from teacher centered activity (explanation and modeling of improvisational concepts) to student-centered activities (coaching and feedback as students perform scenes improvised scenes in small groups)

### Materials

Jerry Bowman will provide hats and props for exploration of various games including, but not limited to, ‘object transfer’& ‘the hat game’. Additionally, students are encouraged to explore ‘space work’ through the use of pantomimed ‘objects’ in their scene work.

### Length of lesson:

Lessons may range in length from 45 minutes to 85 minutes, depending on class schedule and may be tailored to fit into residencies ranging from 3 days to several weeks dependent upon budget.

### Assessment:

Student achievement will be assessed through formative assessments including Jerry participating in coaching and immediate feedback as the students perform improvised scenes. Students will have multiple opportunities to explore the

concepts of improvisation, receive feedback and 'play' again. Students will be able to understand and apply the basic rules of improvisation, perform a short improvised scene, and perform a character-driven improvised scene. Longer residencies may also include a performance-based summative assessment in which students perform (either formally or informally) for an audience of peers and/or school community and friends and family in an improvised showcase of scenes.