

Arts for Learning CT PROGRAM GUIDE



David Harrell

The Boy Who Would
Be Captain Hook

Grades PK-2

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the importance of not being defined by limitations
- Understanding how to respond to those who are differently abled

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In this inspiring and humorous program, David Harrell shares the highs and lows of growing up without a right hand. Portraying colorful and influential characters from his own family, TV, and film, David shares the importance of not being defined by your limitations.



ARTS FOR LEARNING CT
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Arts for
Learning
Connecticut



About the Artist & Program Preparations

ABOUT THE ARTIST

David Harrell is an international award-winning actor, speaker and disability advocate, performing in acclaimed Off-Broadway plays and on the silver screen. David has produced and performed in two award-winning films. His highly respected solo play; A Little Potato and Hard to Peel and his adaptation for young audiences The Boy Who Would Be Captain Hook have entertained audiences from New York City to Southern Georgia—from Off-Broadway houses to the US Department of the Interior. David holds a BFA from the University of Southern Mississippi and a MFA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in theatre performance.

PRE PROGRAM

- Do you know anyone with a physical difference or disability? If yes, how do you interact with them? If no, how would you interact with someone with a visible physical difference?
- Name five ways we can be kind to others regardless of their differences?
- We are all different in many ways. Name five differences about you that make you unique?
- Decorate paper cut outs with the things that make you who you are with words and pictures. Make a collage of all the paper people. What are the similarities and differences you see in the group?
- Have the children form a circle holding their cutouts. Pass the cutouts to the person to the right, as the cutouts are passed around the circle, have each person make a small crumple or tear in the cutout and add a pencil mark.
- When the cutouts have made their way around the entire circle, have children try to repair their own cut outs by flattening, erasing, and taping.
- After cutouts are repaired, discuss the activity. Talk about the effects of unkind words and hurt feelings.

POST PROGRAM

- What were some of the ways David overcame the obstacles and limitations he faced?
- Who were some of the characters David portrayed besides himself?
- In what ways did this show cause you to be more aware of others?
- You have your own solo show about you! Design a flyer for your performance. Share with your classmates what they would learn from your show.
- Using tableaux, create a beginning, middle and end sequence of a group coming together. This can be abstract or literal. Have the instructor “activate” different people at different points during the sequence to share what they are feeling or what their character might be thinking.

CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS

Common Core Standards for English Language Arts K-8: Comprehension and Collaboration

National Core Arts Standards: Theatre: Grades 1-8 Anchor Standard #4, Anchor Standard #7, Anchor Standard #8, Anchor Standard #10, Anchor Standard #11



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