

Arts for Learning CT PROGRAM GUIDE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To introduce students to the art of live theatre.
- To spread appreciation for the art of improvisation.
- To demonstrate the principles of teamwork as they apply to theatre and life.
- To involve students in a cooperative, creative process.
- To apply students' curriculum in exciting and unexpected ways.



Freestyle Repertory Theater Theater Sports

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

Theatre Sports is improvisational theatre presented as a competitive sport. Two teams of actors challenge each other to create scenes, songs, stories and poems on the spot, based on suggestions from the audience. The audience witnessed the teams issuing and responding to challenges as diverse as "a scene set in a historical period" to "a scene in the style of your favorite author". After fierce and hilarious competitions, scores, awarded by referee, are tallied and a team emerges victorious. Audience participation is key to Theatre Sports. The children, through their involvement with the program, learn to work together and to support each other.



ARTS FOR LEARNING CT
1 EVERGREEN AVENUE
3RD FLOOR
HAMDEN, CT 06518



Arts for
Learning
Connecticut



About the Artist & Program Preparations

VOCAB & RESOURCES

Actor **Director**
Playwright **Creativity**
Character **Setting**
Style **Poetic Device**
Improvisation
Spontaneity
Cooperation

Don't Be Prepared
by Keith Johnstone

Impro: Improvisation and the Theatre
by Keith Johnstone

Improvisation for the Theatre
by Viola Spolin

Theatre Games for the Classroom
by Viola Spolin

Theatresports for the Classroom
by Rebecca Stockley

Bay Area Theatresports Playbook
edited by William Hall and Paul Killeen

PRE-PROGRAM

- Have your students been exposed to live theatre? What is their reaction to it?
- What are the differences between live theatre and film? Which do you prefer?
- Discuss the differences between poetry and prose.
- Discuss the literary styles of certain authors. This will come up during the show, where your students can give these authors as examples.
- Is there a time period that your students would like to visit? Discuss it. This will also come up during the show where your students can give these time periods as examples.

POST PROGRAM

- Ask your students which of the improvised scenes was their favorite and why. Did it have a good story?
- How did teamwork and communication fit in with the act?
- The often quoted first rule of improvisation is "To say yes" to everything. Discuss how this strategy can be used in solving one's conflicts, and try to exercise this strategy.
- Write a poem as a collective, with each student contributing a line.
- Does it use rhyme, meter, simile, metaphor, or alliteration? Ask how the performance recreated the style of suggested authors.
- How can theatre be related to sports? Compare a performance to a sports match.
- Have your students create individual characters and then improvise scenes as those characters.

CURRICULAR LINKS

Source: The CT Arts Curriculum Framework - K-12 Curricular Goals and Standards.

Theatre Content Standard 1: Creating: Students will create theatre through improvising. **Content Standard 6:**

Connections: students will make connections between theatre, other disciplines and daily life. **Content Standard 7:** Analysis, Criticism and Meaning: Students will analyze, critique and construct meanings from works of theatre.

National Core Curriculum Standards For English Language Arts: Speaking and Listening Standards:

Comprehension and Collaboration Language Standards: Knowledge of Language; Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

"Freestyle Rep was back for the second year for our students-they are amazingly talented and kept both students and teachers engaged for the entire program. The artists worked with different genres of literature, setting and with different authors with their cooperative story building done on the spot. Our assistant principal was impressed with how the performance included curriculum, touching on similes, metaphors, setting, character and periods of history. This program is now a tradition for our school!" Dorina Leslie-Huckleberry Hill School



Website:
<http://www.aflct.org>



Contact:
203.230.8101



Email:
info@aflct.org