



Antonio Rocha Brazilian Storytelling

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Through his powerful blend of mime and storytelling, Antonio pulls audiences through the Brazilian rainforests, and introduces them to the wonderful characters found within. With his diverse background, Antonio's stories hail from around the world and are told with masks and mime. In one tale, students might meet a clever boy who sets out to capture an equally clever iguana, while in another, they are introduced to a rat who tries to convince the sun, the cloud, and the wind to marry his daughter.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To introduce and familiarize students with Brazilian culture through storytelling and mime.
- To sensitize students towards the plight of global ecosystems.
- To encourage literacy and communication through theatrics.
- To educate students about, and demonstrate, the unique art of mime.





About the Artist & Program Preparations

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Brazilian native Antonio Rocha began performing in 1985. A few years later he received grant funding to study in the U.S. and improve his mime skills. He has since earned a Summa Cum Laude Theatre B.A. from the University of Southern Maine, and has studied with master Marcel Marceau. Mr. Rocha's unique shows have been performed abroad in Austria, Aruba, and Singapore, and in the U.S. at schools and universities across the country. Mr. Rocha is a member of the Maine Arts Commission, the New England Foundation for the Arts, and the National Storytelling Association.

PRE PROGRAM

- Challenge your students to practice mime and communicate their ideas without using speech.
- Discuss how this is different from other forms of theatre, and pay special attention to its benefits, and disadvantages.
- Have a short geography lesson on Brazil, discuss not only its physical geography, but also its history, and its culture.
- Discuss the plight of the Amazon Rainforest, and other important ecosystems.

POST PROGRAM

- Ask your students how Antonio's presentation differs from the stereotypical representation of mime.
- Now that they have a better understanding of mime, challenge your students again to tell a story without using words, and then have them tell the story again (using words and mime together).
- Have the class discuss the importance of our world's ecosystems, particularly the Amazon Rainforest.

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts:

Speaking and Listening Standards - Comprehension and Collaboration; Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas.
Language Standards – Knowledge of Language; Vocabulary Acquisition and Use.

RESOURCES

<http://www.mime.info/> <http://www.innovotheatre.com/>
http://www.learningenrichment.org/brazil_stud.html
http://www.chatham.edu/PTI/Contemp_Latin/abstract_page.htm

A mime (or pantomime) artist (from Greek "μίμος" - mimos, "imitator, actor" is someone who uses mime as a theatrical medium or as a performance art, involving miming, or the acting out a story through body motions, without use of speech.



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