

GRADE FOUR

Standards Comparison Recommendations

Theatre and English/Language Arts CCSS

Connections

- summarizing stories
- determining themes of stories
- integrating from two texts to form a knowledgeable work
- researching to discover different aspects of a topic
- being aware of media influences
- writing clearly sequenced narratives
- explaining various literary structures
- telling stories in an organized manner using details and supporting the theme
- paraphrasing a text being read aloud
- having a command of standard English in speaking and writing about theatre experiences using language of the discipline
- analyzing text for details and inferences
- having peer conversations and improvisations in various groupings
- comparing and contrasting similar themes from different cultures
- establishing point of view
- describing characters in detail including objective and motivation
- critiquing performances with opinions based on criteria and a specific point of view
- using evidence from text for reflection

Suggestions

- Summarize stories before and after dramatizing them.
- Discuss the themes of stories and discover ways of making them clear in performance.
- Combine two stories or events into one cohesive performance.
- Research different types of persuasion and write and perform a commercial based on one of them.
- Write a narrative with a clear theme, adapt it into a script using correct formatting, and perform it through improvisation.
- Listen to a text being read aloud and perform it using pantomime or improvisation.
- Describe verbally and in writing including details settings, characters, plots before and after doing theatre activities such as walkabouts, pantomimes, tableaux or improvisations using the language of the discipline.
- When preparing to dramatize a story, analyze it for text, subtext and context. Include all elements in the performance.
- Dramatize stories from various cultures with similar themes. Compare and contrast the themes and the societies that created the stories.

- Using a story or scene, each character tells it from his/her point of view. Compare and contrast the results.
- Create detailed character descriptions including objectives and motivations. Portray the characters in scenes or story dramatizations through pantomime or improvisation.
- Critique performances by forming ideas about them and explaining them in an organized piece of writing with a point of view.
- When writing reflections on one's own work, use references from the text to explain choices made.
- Pair share and improvise often and switch partners frequently. Share improvisations briefly with the class.

Theatre and History-Social Science State Standards

Connections

- analyzing influence of entertainment industry in California
- researching lives of early Californians to increase understanding
- analyzing effects of Gold Rush, Pony Express, Transcontinental Railroad, Great Depression, Dust Bowl and World War II
- studying lives of early, influential California women
- understanding the influences of various cultures on the development of California

Suggestions

- Perform scenes in the styles of early California entertainment such as melodrama, vaudeville, silent film. Research and discuss why these entertainments were popular and how they influenced today's entertainment.
- Use research on early Californians to create tableaux, pantomimes or improvisations to illustrate the conflicts and compromises with which they dealt.
- Research authentic stories from the Gold Rush, Pony Express, Transcontinental Railroad, Great Depression, Dust Bowl and World War II and dramatize them.
- Develop a process drama from one of the items listed above.
- Research prominent women from early California history and create scenes depicting their contributions.
- Dramatize events from early California from the point of view of the various cultures involved. Compare and contrast the results.

When participating in theatre activities, students should:

- base their choices on text and subtext.
- defend those choices.
- relate inferences to specific points in the text.
- describe story elements in detail.
- discuss performances by referencing details from the performance.