

Teaching Unit: *Improvisation Skills*

Essential Understandings

Improvisation (AKA Improv) is a form of theatre which does not use a script or predetermined ideas for dialog, direction, or movement.

Anyone can become a solid improviser, as long as they maintain a positive attitude, have the desire to improvise, and challenge themselves to improve their skills.

Improvisation skills enhance and transfer to other disciplines (i.e. speeches in English, formulating, asking, and answering questions in all classes, in debate type situations, improved confidence, poise, and skill, etc.).

Improvisation skills enhance and transfer to life skills (i.e. public speaking in education, law, business, the arts, and politics, critical thinking, and problem solving, etc.).

Scenes are built on six key questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.

Improvisation builds skills in addressing unforeseen circumstances.

Sub Topic: *Storytelling*

Knowledge and Skills

Follow rules of good improvisation.

Make up and perform a story from their imagination.

Follow rules of improvisation with team members.

Follow the rules of the stage.

Use physicalization in their improvisational scenes.

Use characterization in their improvisational scenes.

Effectively construct an improv story.

Work as a team/ensemble

Manage conflict

Accept/give/use constructive feedback

Follow established rules/etiquette for performance

Teaching Unit: ***Bus Safety***

Essential Understandings

The performer will interpret character's dialogue, and infuse energy into the "puppet's" voice.

The performer will physically animate their puppet, creating a believable "living" puppet.

Students demonstrate positive interpersonal skills and reflect on the impact of interpersonal skills on personal success in the arts.

Students apply and analyze creative problem-solving and creative-thinking skills to improve or vary their own work and/or the work of others.

Sub Topic: ***Puppet Show***

Knowledge and Skills

Animate a puppet physically

Animate a puppet by using your voice

a. Getting along with others

b. Respecting differences

c. Working as a team/ensemble

d. Managing conflict

e. Accepting/giving/using constructive feedback

f. Accepting responsibility for personal behavior

g. Demonstrating ethical behavior

h. Following established rules/etiquette for performance

Teaching Unit: ***Maine Alliance for Arts in Education***

Essential Understandings

Students demonstrate development of a character's attitude and point of view using voice timing, voice tone/level, and physicality to communicate ideas, moods, intentions, and/or feelings.

Students improvise through theatre games or productions to address unforeseen circumstances.

Students refine gesture and stage business in the portrayal of a role.

Sub Topic: ***Skit Development***

Knowledge and Skills

Students will create several improv skits and combine them into one play with the help of a professional artist.

Work as a team/ensemble

Manage conflict

Accept/give/use constructive feedback

Follow established rules/etiquette for performance

Teaching Unit: *Theatre Education*

Essential Understandings

Students identify and define the parts of the stage.

Students identify and define basic vocabulary of theater.

Identify and describe the crisis, resolution, and theme of the play.

Students fulfill at least one technical role from pre-show through strike.

Sub Topic: *Vocabulary, Production*

Knowledge and Skills

Apply technical knowledge and skills to collaboratively and safely create and use theatre props, costumes, makeup, and stage pieces.

Direct or stage-manage a scene or full production.

Develop specific light and sound cues and use them in scene development.

Participate in the audition process.

Work as a team/ensemble

Manage conflict

Accept/give/use constructive feedback

Follow established rules/etiquette for performance
