

DRAMA

BEATS



THIS IS A BOOK BY

Eleni Dougekou

Glossobooks



Foreword

In this book you can find different drama activities, games and techniques that will help you learn naturally. **Drama is centered on YOU, the learner.** The teacher enables, sets up and facilitates the learning situation. In Drama everybody wants to participate, to think, to act, to feel, to create. Whatever you read in this book are things that I have been taught, things I have read, listened to, seen in courses, conferences, seminars. Things that I have tried, expanded, changed and most importantly experienced with my students through the English Drama Method.

Enjoy it!

Author

Eleni Dougekou (BA English Language and Literature, MA English Literature) is a teacher, teacher trainer, school owner and founder of English Drama Method. She teaches English through Drama and she promotes a student-centered approach. She sees learning as a story where you meet other people, you have fun, you dance and sing, you play, you create, you encounter obstacles, you persevere, you respect, you move on.

Drama Activity!

Greetings

Write as many ways as you can to say Hello!

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1

Let's Perform!

Come on stage and create a physical movement to accompany your greeting.





Think and Discuss in groups!

- a** How do you greet your parents?
- b** How do you greet your friend?
- c** How do you greet your teacher?
- d** How do you greet your pet?
- e** How would you greet a fairy?

//

Close your eyes and imagine that you walk in a magical place where you meet different people, animals and things.

//

Now open your eyes.

- a** How was this place? Can you describe it?
- b** What colours, things, animals did you see?
- c** Who did you see?
- d** How did you feel?

Draw This Place!



2

Let's Perform!



Imagine that you walk around that magical place and you mingle with people. Find somebody and greet them in a specific way.

- a** A long-lost friend
- b** A famous person
- c** A scary monster
- d** A talking parrot
- e** A person you are secretly in love with
- f** A person who is flying in an airplane
- g** A rock star

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All the
world's
a stage.

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William Shakespeare,
As You Like It

Drama Game!

Catch it!

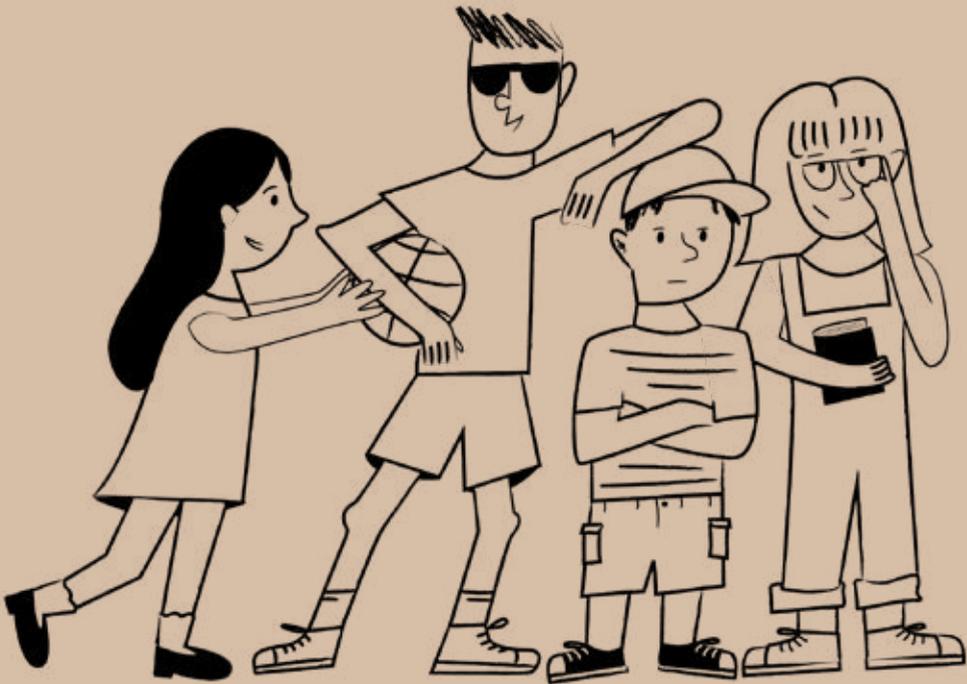
Do you want to know your friends better?

■■■ You can ask them any questions you like!

- a** What's your favorite food?
- b** What's your favorite color? Why?
- c** Have you got a nickname?
- d** Do you have a pet?
- e** What kind of music do you listen to?

Can you write three more questions?

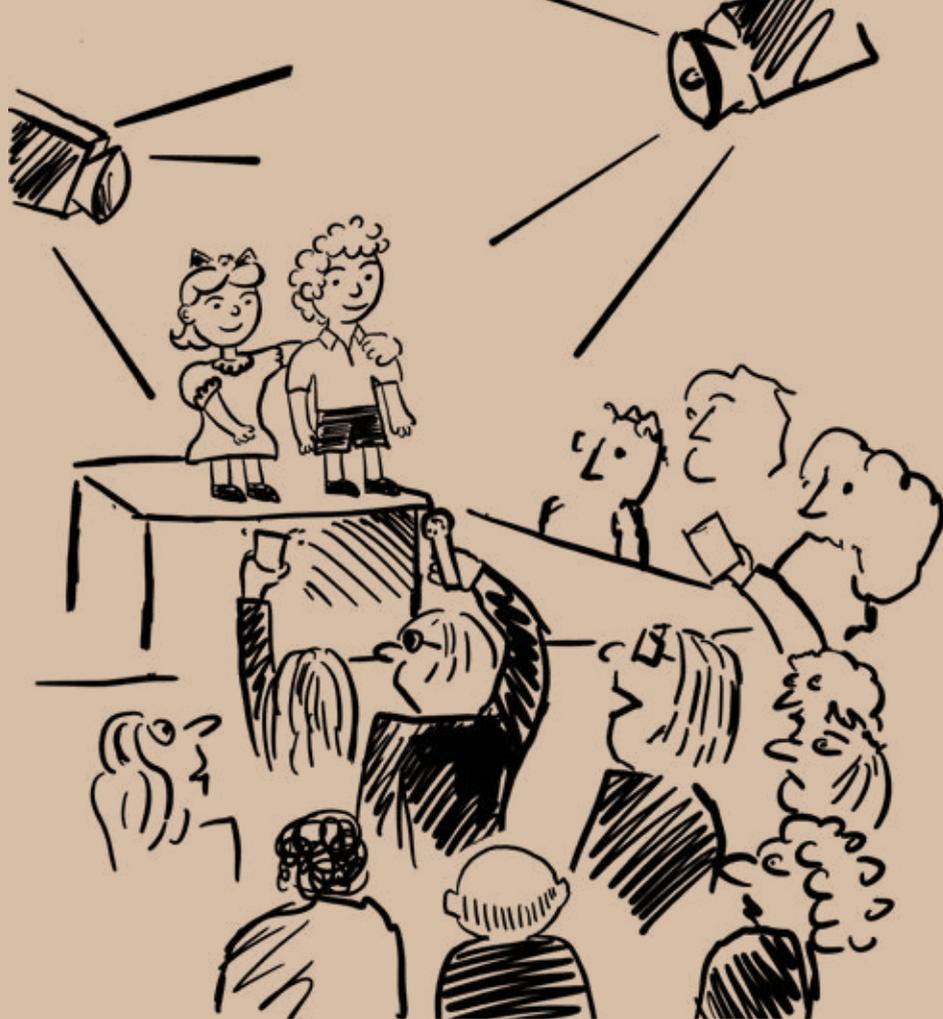
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



1 **Now all of you stand in a circle!** The first child throws the ball to another child in the circle and asks a question. The child who catches the ball should answer the question and then throw the ball to the next child and ask a question.

Are you ready?





2 Now get into teams of two. Ask each other five questions! Remember the answers because then you are going on stage to present your friend! **Then your friend will present YOU!**

Hello I'm and I'll talk about my friend

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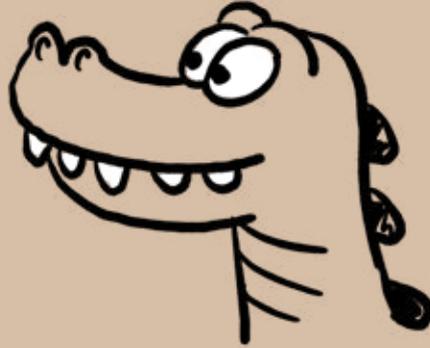
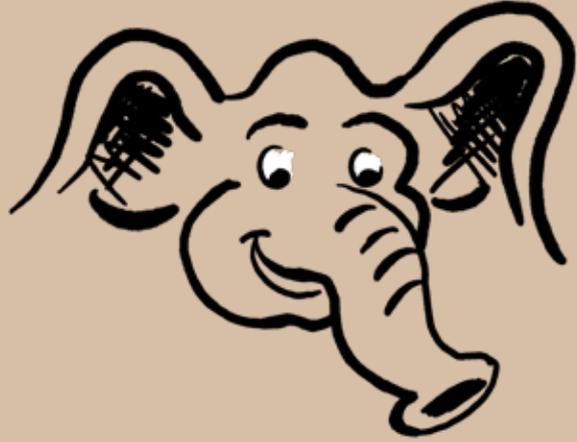
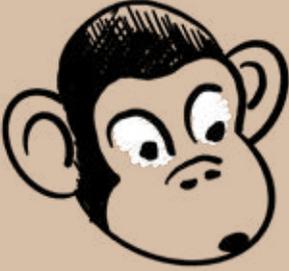
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Drama Game!

If I could be..

Challenge!

How many animals can you think of?
Write them here! **You have 1 minute!**



1 **Get into a circle!** Each child takes turns to say "Hi, my name is and if I could be any animal, I would be a because"

Are you ready?

2

Act It Out!



Now imagine that you are in a forest, and you walk around the clear space pretending to be your chosen animal.

- a** What animal are you?
- b** How do you move?
- c** What sounds do you make?



3

Act It Out!

You are **still in the forest** walking but now you can add voices for 10 seconds!

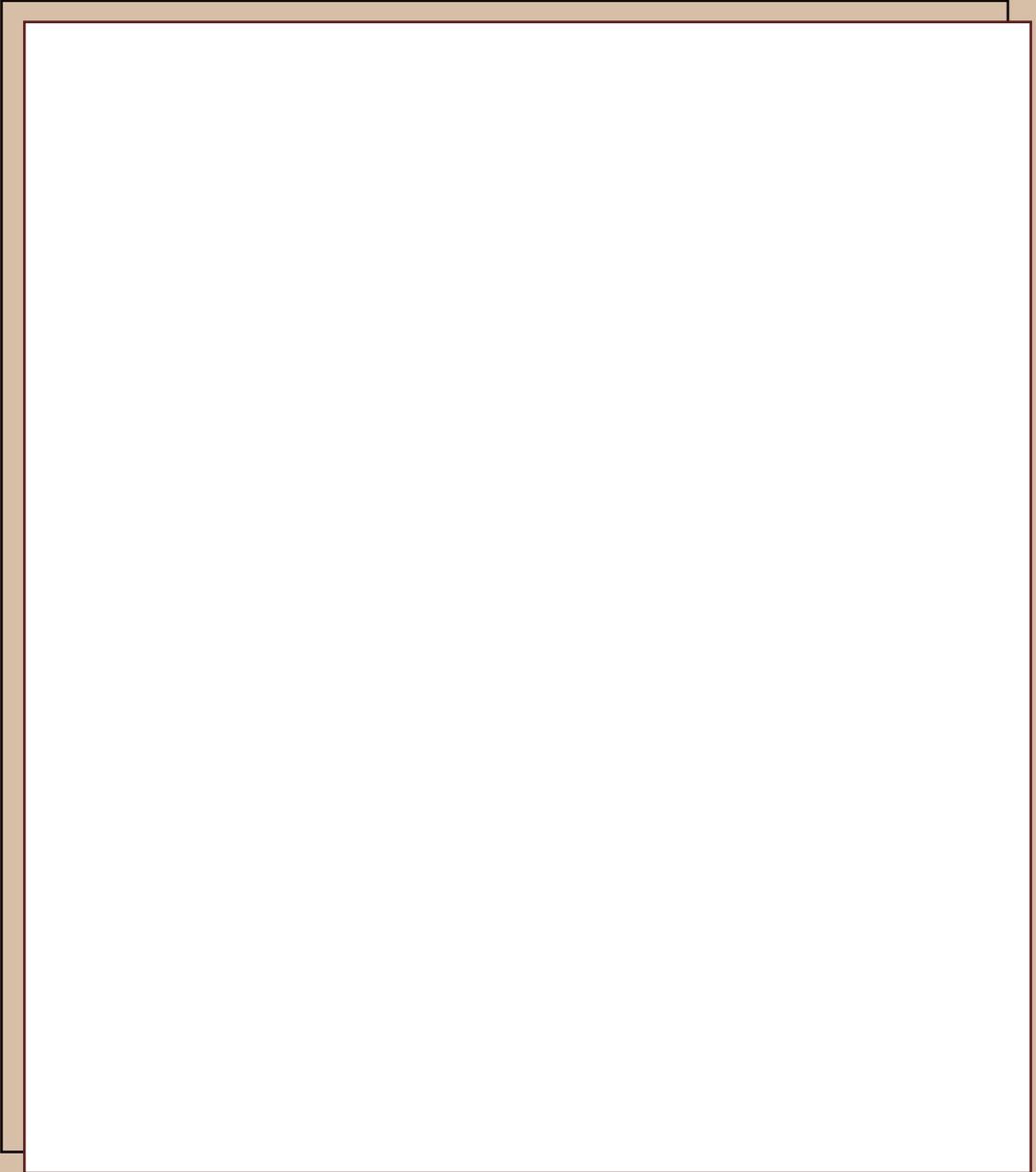


Ready! Steady! Go!



Draw The Forest

With All Your Friends-Animals!



“

I know.

In fact,

I am never

wrong.

”

Oscar Wilde,
The Importance of Being Earnest

Drama Game!

My shopping List

Are you going to the supermarket?

■■■ Write your Shopping List!



Shopping List

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1

Act It Out!



One pretends to be a parent and the other is the child. The parent leaves the house to go shopping but they forget the shopping list. You run after them, but they have crossed the road. You shout the contents of the shopping list across the road and your parent takes it down.

The road is very noisy as all the other students are the traffic.

Ready! Steady! Go!

Drama Game!

Chain Mime

Can you think of simple actions that you do every day?

Write them here:

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1

Mime It!



Sit in a circle with your eyes closed. The first child taps the shoulder of the child to their right and mimes the action. Continue around the circle until the last child mimes the action, followed by the first child showing the original mime.

What do you observe?

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Drama Activity!

In a Dark, Dark Wood



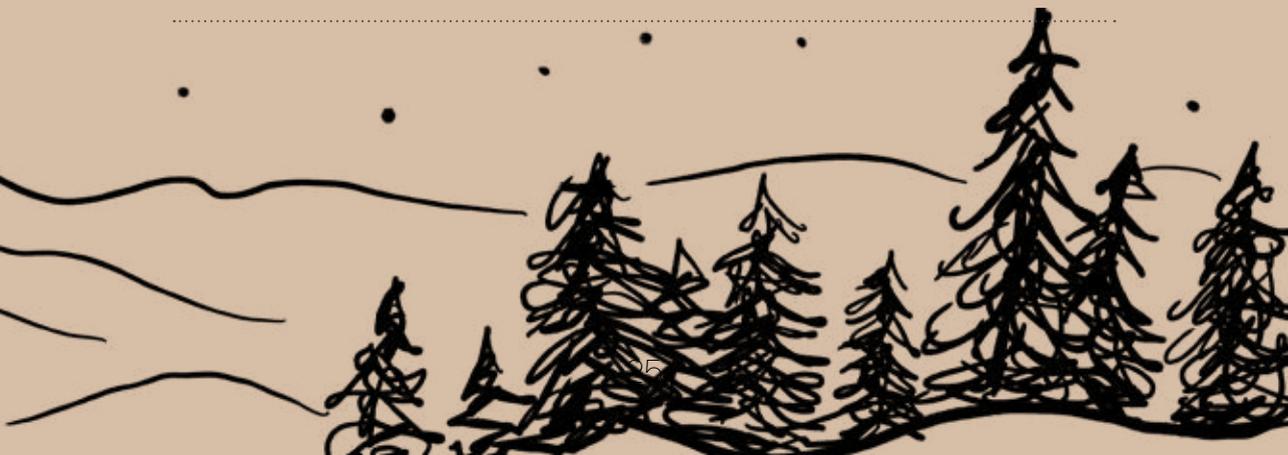
1

Read the Poem!

"In a dark, dark wood, there was a dark, dark house.
And in that dark, dark house, there was a dark, dark room.
And in that dark, dark room, there was a dark, dark cupboard.
And in that dark, dark cupboard, there was a dark, dark shelf.
And on that dark, dark shelf, there was a dark, dark box.
And in that dark, dark box there was a ..."

Can you continue the poem?

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2

Let's Perform!

As you recite the poem you should all mime going into the dark woods, opening the door of the dark house, looking in the cupboard, touching the shelf and opening the box.

What can it be in the box?

Give the appropriate reaction to whatever is in the box!



//

**I AM the current
curator of the
black trunk and
the stories it holds
within.**

//

Hope Barrett,
Discovering Oscar

Drama Activity!

The Campfire

1

Listen To A Story!

Sit in a circle and imagine a fire in the middle of the circle. Imagine yourself sitting around the campfire with your snacks.

Two Friends and a Bear

Once there were two friends who were crossing the jungle. After some time they saw a bear coming towards them. One of the friends quickly climbed the nearby tree but the other did not know how to climb the tree so he decided to lay down on the ground holding his breath. The bear reached near him and he sniffed him in the ear. After some time the bear left the place, thinking the boy is dead. Now the other friend climbed down and asked his friend 'What did the Bear say to you?' and the boy said, he told me to stay away from fake friends!



What are your feelings after listening to the story?

.....

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.....



2

Act It Out!

Take a **“talking stick”** and talk about your best friend.



and later I had to
fight with a wolf...

Of all the things that
didn't happen,
this happened
the didn't'est



“

I am interested in
the shape of ideas,
even if I do not
believe in them.

”

Samuel Beckett

Drama Game!

The Line Game

Shhhh...

This is a silent game! You can only use facial expressions and your body!
You only have 15 seconds to get into the line according to...

Are you ready?

a

Line up according to height. Tallest on this end (right), shortest on this end (left), go!

b

Line up according to your birthday. January on this end (right), December on this end (left), go!

c

Line up according to number of brothers and sisters. Most on this end (right), least on this end (left), go!

d

Line up according to the number of pets you have. Most on this end (right), least on this end (left), go!

e

Line up according to the number of Storybooks you have read. Most on this end (right), least on this end (left), go!

f

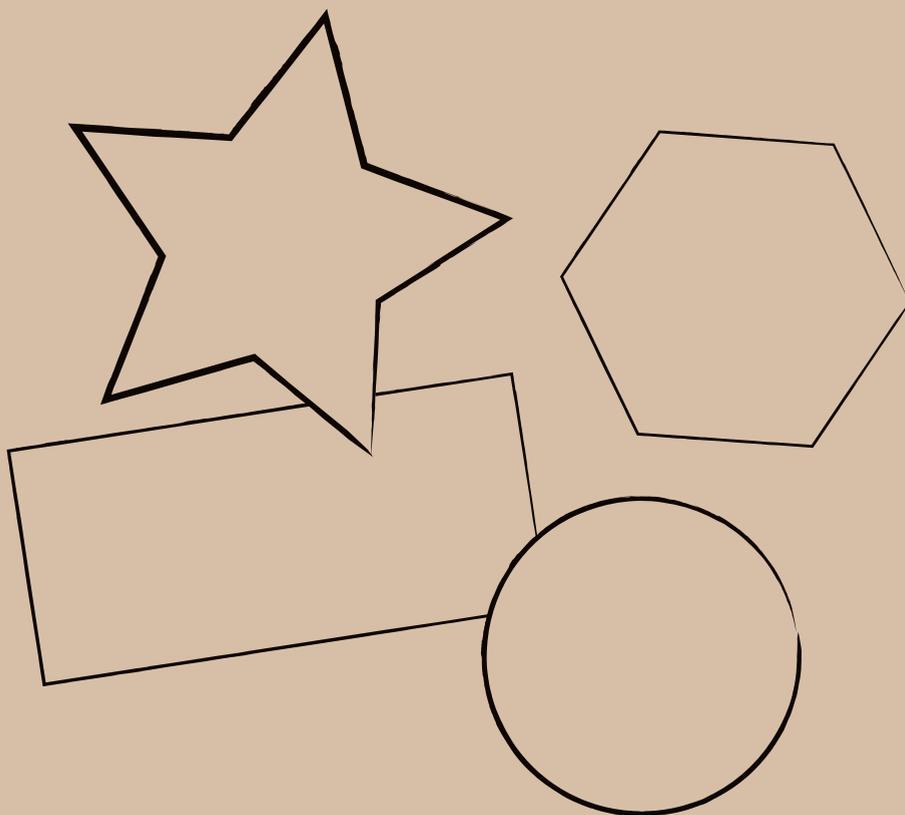
Line up according to the number of the places you have visited. Most on this end (right), least on this end (left), go!



Drama Game!

Shapes in 10'

*Get into small groups. Imagine that you are different shapes! Together in one team use your bodies to make that shape. **It is a silent activity!***



a Make the shape of a square!

b Make the shape of a circle!

c Make the shape of a rectangle!

d Make the shape of a triangle!

e Make the shape of a star!

f Make the shape of a heart!

Drama Activity!

Walk like a ...

Who are your favorite characters from stories?

Write them here:

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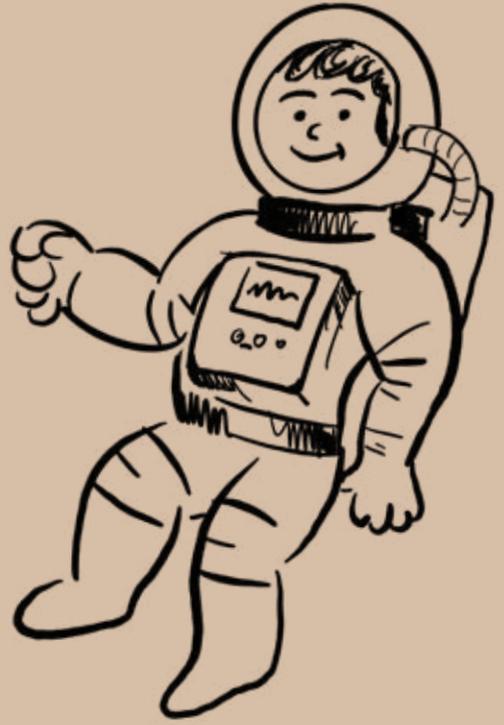
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2

Let's perform!



Now come and pick a piece of paper from the hat. Imagine that you are that character and walk across the room slowly as your character.

Your friends should try and guess which character you are portraying.





3

Let's perform!

Now imagine that you are in a party and all the characters walk around and they meet each other!

Remember you talk with the voice of your character.



Drama Activity!

Exaggeration game

It's time for a story!

*Choose your favorite book or your favorite story and bring it in class! **READ ALOUD!***

1

Let's perform!

Think of actions that the character does in the story.

Choose one action and in a circle the first person starts with a tiny action of the character and as you go around the circle, each person exaggerates it bit by bit to get to the huge version of the action!





Continue with another action!

Drama Activity!

Hot seat!

It's time for a story!

*Choose your favorite book or your favorite story and bring it in class! **READ ALOUD!***

1

Let's perform!

Now one of you will be a character from the story.

Sit in a "special" seat. Your friends will ask you questions, and you should answer in character!



*"The moment you doubt whether
you can fly, you cease forever to
be able to do it."*



Drama Activity!

Describe it!

Think of your favorite objects.

- a** What are they?
- b** Why are they important to you?
- c** Who gave them to you?

1

Let's Play!

Sit in a circle with your friends. Say your favorite object. The student next to you should give an adjective that describes this object and then adds another object. The third person gives an adjective that describes the object and adds another object!

Are you ready?

//

**Art is not about
perfection. It is
about perception.**

//

Niloy Roy

Drama Game!

Yes, Let's!

Think!

... of activities that you usually do and write them here.

... of activities that you rarely do and write them here.

... of activities that you would like to do and write them here.

1

Let's Play!

Stand in a circle. The first person should begin with 'I know, let's ..'

'Let's go on an adventure!'

Now all of you in the circle should reply '**Yes, let's**' and then mime the activity!

Ready! Steady! Go!

Drama Game!

Pass the face

*Stand in a circle and 'pass the face':
How many emotions can you think of?*

1

Let's perform!

The first person 'passes the face' to the next person who mirrors the face and then in slow motion transforms it into another face but hold the same feeling.

When you reach the last person **start over but now with another emotion!**





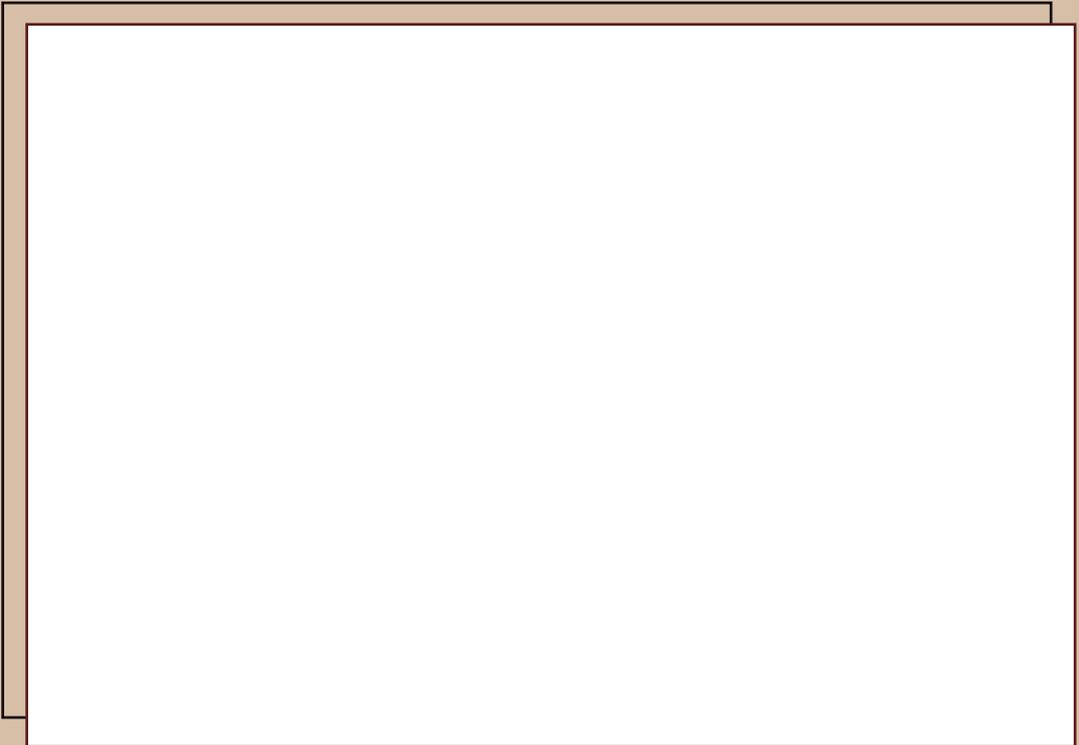
Drama Activity!

A Storm

What's your favorite **weather**?

- a Why?
- b How does your favorite weather feel like, smell?

Now Draw It!



What's your **least** favorite **weather**?

a How does it make you feel?

Think! Do you like storms? Why / why not?

Now Draw It!



1

Let's perform!

As a group create the sound of a rainstorm.
Create the sound of the raindrops.



3 - 2 - 1!

You should definately work
on the high notes man...



//

He didn't *want*
the *world* to know.
And I *wanted* him more
than all the *world*.

//

Tarrell Alvin McCraney

Drama Activity!

In the street

A

Excuse me! Where's the supermarket?

B

It's on your left.

A

Where? I can't see it.

B

Look where I'm pointing. It's next to the park.

1

Let's perform!

Act out this dialogue in character. Use appropriate gestures, body language and voice.



Suggestions for characters:

- a** A toddler
- b** A superhero
- c** An old person
- d** A tired person
- e** An angry person

Now write your own dialogue and act it out with your friends.

Dialogue 1 *In a café...*

A

B

A

B

A

Dialogue 2 *At the airport...*

A

B

A

B

A

Dialogue 3

At the dentist...

A

.....

B

.....

A

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B

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A

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Dialogue 4

At the beach...

A

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B

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A

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B

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A

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Drama Game!

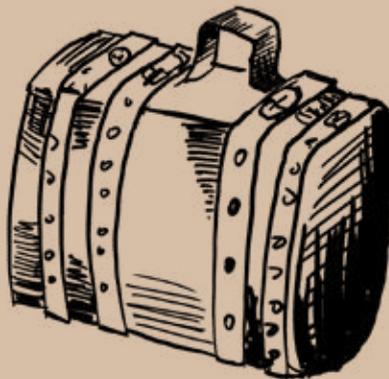
We are going on holidays

1

Let's Play!

Sit in a circle. Imagine that we are going on holidays! Each person says 'We are going on holidays' and takes one item with them.

Today we are going on holiday! In my suitcase I put a Pass the suitcase around the circle to another person and the next person says "In my suitcase I put a and a" "



Everyone should listen carefully because each of you should say what everyone is bringing on holidays with them and then add your own item.

Are you ready?



Drama Activity!

Freeze Frames

It's time for a story!

Choose your favorite book or your favorite story and bring it in class! **READ ALOUD!**



1

Let's perform!



You will be working together using your bodies to create a Freeze Frame of a scene of a story. The focus is on what people are doing and how they feel.

Folk and Fairy tales!

- a** Cinderella
- b** Hansel and Gretel
- c** Jack and the Beanstalk
- d** Little Red Riding Hood
- e** The Ugly Duckling
- f** Sleeping Beauty
- g** Puss in Boots
- h** Gingerbread Man
- i** Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- j** The Little Red Hen
- k** The Three Little Pigs

*Do you know these stories? **Discuss!***

.....

.....

2

Let's perform!



As a whole class or as a small group take the first tale and create three Freeze Frames. The first Freeze Frame is the beginning of the story, the second Freeze Frame is the middle of the story, and the third Freeze Frame is the end.

Do the same for all stories!



My Favorite

Drama Game!

What was my
favorite Drama Game?

.....

What did I learn
from this Drama Game?

.....

What did I enjoy about
this Drama Game?

.....



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//

**Drama is exposure,
it is confrontation,
it is contradiction**

**and it leads to analysis,
construction,
recognition,
and eventually
to an awakening
of understanding.**



Peter Brook

