

Puppetry Panorama

Through puppets, students are given the opportunity to practice responses to social situations they will face. The puppets themselves are beautiful, large mouth puppets, which my middle level students love to just hold during reading or during other classes as appropriate.

Curriculum/State Standard

State of Maine Learning Results: must leave school as (1) a clear and effective communicator; (2) a creative and practical problem solver; (3) a more responsible citizen

Overview

Students will use experiences in a variety of subjects to create puppet skits demonstrating both content knowledge and/or responsible behavior. Public speaking skills, collaboration, problem solving, and creative writing are all addressed as students work together to create and perform their skits.

Objectives

- Use planning, drafting and revising to produce well-developed, organized and polished puppetry skits dealing with a panorama of pertinent issues related to DARE, citizenship, and responsible behavior.
- Write puppet skits with an identifiable beginning, middle and end.
- Write skits that include major events, develop settings, and deal with problems and solutions.
- Perform skits (e.g. puppet manipulation, voice modulation, changes of rhythm, props, sound effects).
- Analyze skits with audience regarding choices characters made, reflecting on other options and solutions.

Continued on the back...

7-8

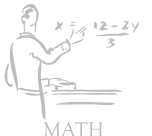
GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

4-6

MONTHS

\$850

TOTAL BUDGET



THIS WINNING LESSON PLAN WAS SUBMITTED BY:

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“Puppetry Panorama” project continued...

Materials

A variety of well constructed large mouth puppets, both human and animal; supportive materials, such as how to develop character voices, how to construct skits, books of prewritten skits and other puppetry support materials as needed

Readiness Activity

Allowing students to interact with the puppets from the start is important. The novelty of the puppet needs to give way to serious concentration on puppet movement, voice modulation of the puppeteer, and effective overall presentation of the skit. Any content area can essentially be a part of these skits!

Strategies/Activities

- Introductions to puppets.
- Direct instruction: DARE, responsible behavior according to state standards, conflict resolution/peer relations.
- Review of writing process
- Model of teacher written skit
- Sharing of assignment checklist
- Group selection
- Brainstorming to select topic
- Brainstorming to formulate skeleton of skit with graphic organizer
- The writing process
- Direct instruction regarding performance with puppets
- Creation of backdrops or props
- Practice with puppet manipulation, voice modulation, rhythm and scene changes
- Performance with videotaped self assessment

- Further practice with changes
- Performance to class, and other classes/grade levels, as desired, particularly as confidence is gained.
- Discussion regarding content of skits and viability of solutions offered
- Assessments: self, peer, and teacher
- Selection of new topic and process repeated

Culminating Activity

Performances! Performances!
Authentic assessment at its best.

Evaluation

Teacher-created rubrics, teacher/student observation, videotaping of productions