

Lesson Plan 1: Theatre/For Kids

Teacher will introduce herself/himself and how she/he ended up loving drama.

Students will start out by telling their names and a favorite person or cartoon they watch on television. Teacher will share favorite person and cartoon to watch on television. **NOTE:** The teacher will name a favorite actor that is a child and explain why she/he thinks kids are the best actors. Kids are full of honesty, imagination, and faith to believe. The teacher will then expound on how the students are great actors already.

Then each student will say their name and give an action that describes their personality. The teacher will demonstrate first. Whatever action they use will be theirs for the rest of the semester. The teacher will from time to time see if they remember their action.

'Goody Rules': Goody Rules are how the class will conduct themselves in the class. The teacher will share that if they keep these rules every class they will receive **'Goodies'** and something else **'Special'** at the end of the semester. The Rules are:

1. You can talk only when someone else is not talking.
2. You can only eat and drink in class when the teacher gives permission for everybody.
3. You have to remember that you are always special like everybody else.
4. You have to remember all of your other classmates deserve respect just like you. (Explain if necessary).

LESSON 1: OBJECTIVE: Students will demonstrate the understanding that theatre is the art of telling stories through acting. They will understand that observing the world around them and watching people's behavior is the first step to being a good actor.

The other purpose of the first class is for the kids to use their bodies and imagination. They should know that imagination is the most important thing for the actor. After a few classes of imagination work we will introduce masks, props etc.

- Activity One: '**Freeze**'-Students will move and freeze at the same time. At the teachers signal the entire class will begin moving. All movement will start out very slow. On the teacher's signal the students will freeze. The freeze and move orders will continue and the speed will increase as the game progresses. The students can come close to people or objects but they are not allowed to touch anything or anyone.
- **GOAL:** For students to get use to being in the same space and sensitive to another's presence without physical touch.
- Activity Two: '**BAHH**'-Students will stand in a circle. One student will be designated to start. That student will turn to a person on either side of them, extend their hands to them and say '**BAHH**'. The student who receives the '**BAHH**' can give it back to the person who gave it or to the person on the other side of them. There will be three or four rounds of this. Each time it will get first or slower. The teacher will give them the pace. Optimum results are for them to go as fast as possible without getting confused about who is receiving the '**BAHH**'.
- **GOAL:** To help students to listen and watch with a relaxed focus so they learn how to be active listeners that are fluid with giving and receiving.
- **PANTOMIME:** Teacher will discuss with the class what pantomime is. He will have some students call out some action words one at a time. The teacher will pantomime the actions to demonstrate how to pantomime. The teacher will then break the class up into groups of three or four. Each group will be given the assignment of coming up with an occupation that involves a group. Such as: football players, construction workers, fire man. After time is up each group will have 11/2 minutes to perform their occupations for everyone.

- **PART 2:** If time permits the teacher will pick out two to three students at a time to stand in front of class. He will call out a scene for them to pantomime. They will have twenty seconds to finish their scene.

NOTE: This will conclude the class. Depending on the amount of time for the class the teacher can adjust the amount of activities that are done. For Example: Activity one or two can be taken out or one of the pantomime exercises can be taken out.