

Children's Theatre – Lesson Plan

January 22, 2015

Lesson Plan "Tableau"

58 Minutes

Objectives:

- Students will be able to define and create a "tableau."
- Students will be able to connect the elements of a tableau to Children's Theatre.

Common Core Standards Addressed:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1/11-12.1: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10/11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Assessments:

- *Formal:* "Children's Theatre" handout (Due today)
- *Informal:* participation in games, class discussion

Instructional Strategies and Learning Tasks

(5 minutes) Students will circle upon the stage and listen to any announcements from the teacher. Entrance tickets (handout) will be turned in.

(8 minutes) Warn-up game. Students will play *The Foot Game*. One person is "it," and they must tag another person's foot by jumping, two-foot hop, onto their toes (toe-to-toe tag). If they miss, the first person they make eye contact with is now "it." They will be timed to 7 minutes.

(5 minutes) Ask students to define "tableau" in their own words. They are silent and motionless pictures, the simplest way for students to explore and express emotions, characters, relationships and abstract ideas. Through tableau, participants learn to think on their feet, trust their instincts, physically communicate and make specific choices in a low-risk, safe environment.

(10 minutes) Partner tableaus. Five students (A) at a time will strike a pose, using their whole body. Another five (B) will join into the tableau to create a paired tableau, adding to the picture. After a count of ten, ten more students will go up and repeat the process. Cycle through until every student has been an A and a B.

(5 minutes) Debrief. Ask students what they liked, what they didn't like. What is the point of the game? How did they feel playing it? What types of poses created the most engaging picture?

(5 minutes) Explain the group project. Students will get into groups of 5 (or 6) and be handed an “environment” slip. They will then create three tableaux, a Beginning, Middle and End, holding each pose for ten seconds before morphing into the next one. The goal is to create a story within those three frozen pictures. Then the class will guess their environment, using the visual clues given in the tableau. Divide students by having them count off 1-5, spreading out the clumps of friends.

(15 minutes) Students receive their slip (drawing from the cup a random title) and disperse to work on their three tableaux. After ten minutes, they will be called back and asked to present their work.

- A Princess Birthday Party
- First Day of kindergarten
- The Monster under the bed
- Rubber Ducky bath time
- We’re going to Disneyland!
- Playground Showdown
- Dinner at Grandma’s
- But I don’t want to take a nap!

(5 minutes) Debrief. Ask students what they liked, what they didn’t like. What is the point of the activity? Did the stories all make sense? What tableau’s worked better than others? How does this activity connect to Children’s Theatre? What elements were the same?

ELD and Other Special Needs Strategies:

Class think-aloud, guiding questions

Co-Teaching Strategies Used:

Team teaching, Co-planning

Resources/ Materials Needed:

Environment tableau slips, timer

Homework/ Assignment for Next Class:

- None