

LESSON PLAN

A. Title: Tableaux (Composition of the Day, Still Life)

B. Type of Lesson: Improvisation

C. Target Group: Grades 6 - 8; 15 - 20 people

D. Approximate Length: 20 - 25 minutes

E. Materials: Paper, pencils, chairs, various costume pieces

F. Objectives:

Competency Goal #2 - The student will act by interacting in improvisations and assuming roles.

Objectives - 2.01 The student will practice role-playing and characterization skills.

Competency Goal #7 - The learner will analyze, critique and construct meaning from informal and formal theatre, film, television, and electronic media productions.

Objectives - 7.01 The student will recognize and practice audience etiquette.

Personal Goals - The student will create scenes from a posed human "still life."

G. Procedure:

1. One student will be chosen as the director and will pose two other students as the characters in the still life/tableaux.

2. The other students in the audience will write down on half sheets of paper the following:

WHO: (Who the characters are.)

WHAT: (The conflict, or situation, in which the characters are involved.)

WHERE: (Where the action takes place.)

[WHEN: (Time period in which the action takes place.)

WHY: (What each character wants in the situation.)]

3. All students will place their papers in a pile and the director will choose one at random. The W's are read out to the audience and the players. At the director's call of "Action!" the scene begins.

4. After a few moments of action, the director may call out "Freeze!" and direct the players to do any of the following:

*Add a character

*Change location (specify new location)

*Silent! (no talking)

*Slow motion

*Fast Motion

*Go to past/future (Specify how far or new time period)

*Come to an ending

5. At the end of the scene, the players should bow and the audience should show appreciation.

H. Evaluation:

The students will write, draw or otherwise express in their journals some kind of starting point for another improv. This can be the beginning of a story, a picture, or anything else that could be the starting point for a story. The student should be able to identify to me the W's in their story, picture or other creation that complete the information needed for beginning a scene.