

**Creative Arts Informance!**  
**Theatre Arts Lesson Plan**  
**Patch Clark**  
**Department of Theatre and Dance**  
**East Carolina University**  
**328-1196**

**Lesson Title:** Music Dramas

**National Theatre Standard(s):**

- #1 The student will write based on personal experience and heritage, imagination, literature, and history.
- #2 The student will act by interacting in improvisations and assuming roles.
- #4 The student will direct through planning and presenting informal or formal productions.
- #6 The student will compare and integrate art forms by analyzing traditional theatre, dance, music, visual arts, and new art forms.

**Procedures:**

Step #1: Students will listen to a selection of music and “visualize” a scene.

Step #2: One student may begin the improvisation while the music continues to play.

Step# 3: Other students may join in but the number of participants may be limited to four at one time to avoid confusion.

Step# 4: Students will develop the improvisation including a beginning, middle, and end and practice “shared acting” while involved in the scene.

**Extension exercises:**

1. The entire class may be involved in an improvisation concerning war, disasters, or exploration with the teacher or an appointed student as the narrator to guide the group through the story.
2. The music may also be turned down at various times to allow for dialogue.
3. As a follow-up extension exercise, students may write monologues, character biographies, short stories or plays based on this experience.
4. Student may create visual art which expresses the emotion, characters or scene of the improvisation.
5. Students may wish to select their own music to share with the class for “music dramas.”
6. Students may research important historical moments and create “music dramas” depicting various scenes representing these times.
7. Students may accompany actors by playing their own instruments.
8. Students may work together to compose music for the “music drama.”