

4-H Theatre Arts Lesson • Creating Magical Worlds

USE PROPS TO ACT OUT A FAIRY TALE

Project Skills:

- Props

Life Skills:

- Planning and organizing

Academic Standards:

- Theatre Education B.4. Performance

Time: 30-35 minutes

Supplies:

- Space large enough to conduct a skit
- Random House Book of Fairy Tales
- Marker or chalk
- Collection of props appropriate for each story:

Princess and the Pea

- Green bright-colored pea
- Princess crown
- Bed blanket or comforter

Jack and the Beanstalk

- Handful of large, bright-colored magical beans
- Fairy's hat
- Giant's red beard
- Golden eggs
- Lavender-colored pants
- Bag of silver & gold coins

Cinderella

- Fairy's wand
- Scrub brush
- Paper invitation to the ball
- Pair of slippers — glass slippers

Getting Ready:

- Familiarize yourself with the three stories

WHAT TO DO

Select a Story

1. Show the youth the book of fairy tales.
2. Read or give a synopsis of the story to the group.
3. Let the youth select which one they want to act out (two groups could be formed and each work on a different story).

Collect Props

1. Make a list of the main characters and the props (property) needed to tell the story.
2. Collect as many props as possible. Have youth use their imagination to transform ordinary objects into something that will work.

Conduct the Skit

1. Have the youth pick roles to play. Discuss a character's role in the story with each actor.
2. Give each group(s) five minutes to work on their presentation.
3. Each group(s) should present their play.

TALK IT OVER

Try to get each youth to express their feelings and experiences.

Reflect:

- What was fun about doing this activity?
- Why is it important to gather materials and organize ideas before the play?

Apply:

- What are some other times that you need to organize ideas and materials?
- How can you use your organizational skills to help you at home or school?

ENHANCE

- Select another one of the stories and repeat the exercise based on the new story.
- Have youth create their own story and conduct the activity based on this story.

Adapted from 4HCCS Theatre Arts Project Series Act 1, Soaring Into Action (BU-6870), pages 26-27.

