# Unit 3: Performance

Content Area: **Art**
Course(s): **Sample Course, Musical Theatre**
Time Period:
Length: **90 Days/ Grade 6**
Status: **Published**

## Title Section

# Department of Curriculum and Instruction

**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

## Unit 3: Performance

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

**Prepared by:** Maria Calhoun, Supervisor of Secondary Education

Dr. Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J., Superintendent of Schools

Ms. LucyAnn Demikoff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Ms. Nicole Shanklin, Director of Elementary Education

Mr. George Droste, Director of Secondary Education

Board Approved: December 16, 2019

## Unit Overview

In this unit, the students will focus on performance. Every element of performance (such as breathing, posture, voice, movements,

background information) will be discussed. Practice and performance is at the heart of this unit.

## Enduring Understanding

- It is important to create a personality and a background for a character.

- Posture, breathing, and voice control affect a presentation.

- Movements, gestures, and expressions help and improve and support a scene.

- Performers use vocal techniques to communicate meaning and character.

## Essential Questions

- Why is it important to create a personality and a background for a character?

- How do posture, breathing, and voice control affect a presentation?

- How do movements, gestures, and expressions help and improve and support a scene?

- How do performers use vocal techniques to communicate meaning and character?

## Exit Skills

- Create appropriate physical gestures and facial expressions that align to a character.

- Participate in group exercises, drills, improvisations and theater games.

- Rehearse and perform a scene in front of others.

- Portray a character, using at least one appropriate costume piece, prop, gesture, need and physical shape.

- Be able to provide performance feedback to peers.

## New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)

| | |
|---|---|
| VPA.1.1.8.C.1 | Analyze the structural components of plays and performances from a variety of Western and non-Western theatrical traditions and from different historical eras. |
| VPA.1.1.8.C.2 | Determine the effectiveness of various methods of vocal, physical, relaxation, and acting techniques used in actor training. |
| VPA.1.1.8.C.3 | Differentiate among vocal rate, pitch, and volume, and explain how they affect articulation, meaning, and character. |
| VPA.1.3.8.C.1 | Create a method for defining and articulating character objectives, intentions, and subtext, and apply the method to the portrayal of characters in live performances or recorded venues. |
| VPA.1.3.8.C.2 | Create and apply a process for developing believable, multidimensional characters in scripted and improvised performances by combining methods of relaxation, physical and vocal skills, acting techniques, and active listening skills. |
| VPA.1.4.8.B.2 | Differentiate among basic formal structures and technical proficiency of artists in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art. |

## Interdisciplinary Connections

ELA:

- Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

- Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

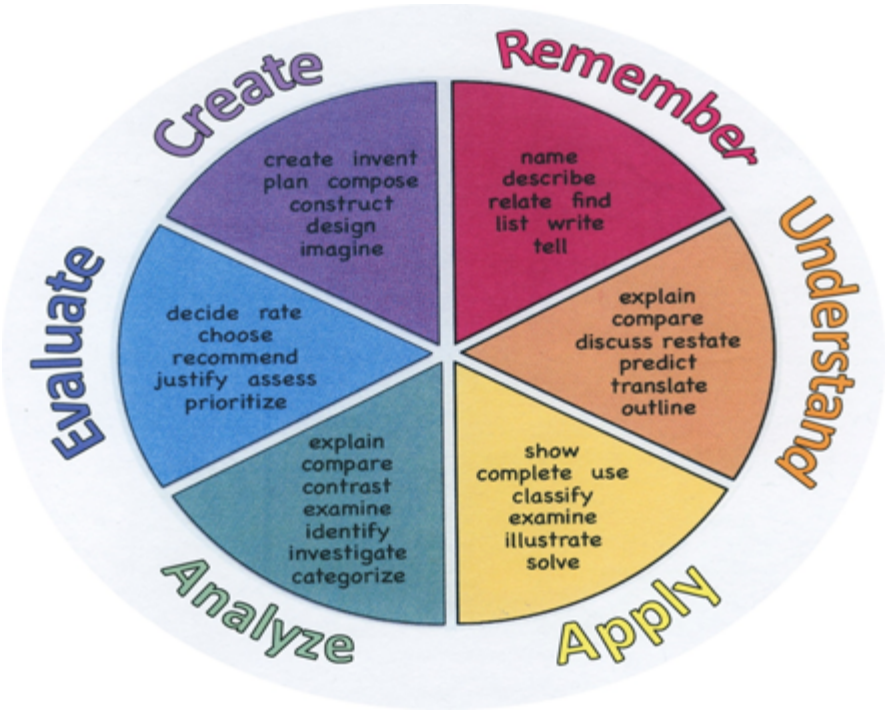
| | |
|---|---|
| LA.W.8.10 | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. |
| LA.SL.8.1 | Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. |
| LA.SL.8.1.A | Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion. |
| LA.SL.8.2 | Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation. |

## Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- - Define “believability” by identifying common traits of believable performances.
- - Differentiate between a character’s actions, intentions and internal dialogue and apply these distinctions to the portrayal of a character.
- - Analyze scripted scenes to determine how a character's objectives change throughout a scene and how his or her tactics and subtext change within a scene in response to the actions of other characters. Apply the analysis to the portrayal of characters in a performance.
- - Maintain focus and concentration in order to sustain improvisations, scene work and performance.
- - Use distinct physical, vocal and

| Remember | Understand | Apply | Analyze | Evaluate | Create |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Choose | Classify | Choose | Categorize | Appraise | Combine |
| Describe | Defend | Dramatize | Classify | Judge | Compose |
| Define | Demonstrate | Explain | Compare | Criticize | Construct |
| Label | Distinguish | Generalize | Differentiate | Defend | Design |
| List | Explain | Judge | Distinguish | Compare | Develop |
| Locate | Express | Organize | Identify | Assess | Formulate |
| Match | Extend | Paint | Infer | Conclude | Hypothesize |
| Memorize | Give Examples | Prepare | Point out | Contrast | Invent |
| Name | Illustrate | Produce | Select | Critique | Make |
| Omit | Indicate | Select | Subdivide | Determine | Originate |
| Recite | Interrelate | Show | Survey | Grade | Organize |
| Select | Interpret | Sketch | Arrange | Justify | Plan |
| State | Infer | Solve | Breakdown | Measure | Produce |
| Count | Match | Use | Combine | Rank | Role Play |
| Draw | Paraphrase | Add | Detect | Rate | Drive |
| Outline | Represent | Calculate | Diagram | Support | Devise |
| Point | Restate | Change | Discriminate | Test | Generate |
| Quote | Rewrite | Classify | Illustrate | | Integrate |
| Recall | Select | Complete | Outline | | Prescribe |
| Recognize | Show | Compute | Point out | | Propose |
| Repeat | Summarize | Discover | Separate | | Reconstruct |
| Reproduce | Tell | Divide | | | Revise |
| | Translate | Examine | | | Rewrite |
| | Associate | Graph | | | Transform |
| | Compute | Interpolate | | | |
| | Convert | Manipulate | | | |
| | Discuss | Modify | | | |
| | Estimate | Operate | | | |
| | Extrapolate | Subtract | | | |
| | Generalize | | | | |
| | Predict | | | | |




## Suggested Activities & Best Practices

- Create appropriate physical gestures and facial expressions that align to a character.

- Participate in group exercises, drills, improvisations and theater games. - Rehearse and perform a scene in front of others.

- Research and portray a character, using at least one appropriate costume piece, prop, gesture, need and physical shape.

- Provide feedback to scenes performed by peers in the “director’s voice,” noting character choices, vocal projection and stage pictures.

- Demonstrate physical and vocal warm-ups used as preparation for rehearsal and performance.

## Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Performance (Formative/Summative)

- Portfolio (Benchmark)
- Written Assessment (Alternative)
- Peer Reviews (Formative)

- Sample Portfolio Components: "Maintain a theatre portfolio over time (paper or digital) with journal reflections, research ideas, notation, videos, photographs, clippings about theatre from magazines and newspapers, theatre resources and performance 'notes.'"
- Sample Assessments: "Evaluate informal in-class performances and video evidence of student performances using observation, discussions, drawings, video, and simple student-created rubrics."

In addition to the assessments listed above, the following assessments can be used to track progress:

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share

- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## Primary Resources & Materials

Suggested Plays

- The Effect of Gamma Rays On Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds by Paul Zindel

- Our Town by Thornton Wilder

- A Thousand Cranes by Kathryn Schultz Miller

- Step on a Crack by Susan Zeder

- Getting Near to Baby by Y. York

- Wiley and the Hairy Man by Susan Zeder - Still Life with Iris by Steven Dietz

- Selkie: Between Land and Sea by Laurie Brooks

## Ancillary Resources

N/A

- Any additional resources must be approved by an administrator prior to being used.

## Technology Infusion

- Create and share presentations utilizing on-line platforms (such as Google resources).

- Create original movies.

- Share work via Twitter.




## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

**21st Century Skills & Technology** and their Alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology.

| | |
|---|---|
| TECH.8.1.12.A.1 | Create a personal digital portfolio which reflects personal and academic interests, achievements, and career aspirations by using a variety of digital tools and resources. |
| TECH.8.1.12.A.CS2 | Select and use applications effectively and productively. |
| TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1 | Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes. |
| TECH.8.1.12.B.CS2 | Create original works as a means of personal or group expression. |

## 21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

**21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## 21st Century Skills

**21st Century Skills** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

| | |
|---|---|
| CRP.K-12.CRP2 | Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP4.1 | Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP5.1 | Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP6.1 | Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization. |

## Differentiation

- Utilize study guides.

- Allow students to select their own groups.

- Watch plays at home to prepare for class discussion.

- Allow students to record and present performances.

**Differentiations:**

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

**Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning

- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

**Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

● Choose time, place, mood or theme to focus on when performing a particular theatrical piece.

● Work with a peer to develop a short theatre performance.

● Highlight individual speaking parts to provide visual assistance during performance.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length

- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## English Language Learning (ELL)

● Create visual of common character emotions.

● Display labeled image of stage components.

● Highlight individual speaking parts to provide visual assistance during performance.

- teaching key aspects of a topic.  Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## At Risk

● Invite parents/guardians to view and/or participate in a theatre performance.

● Break dialogue into smaller pieces.

● Conference with teacher during the acting planning process.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

● Compare and contrast performance techniques from two or more theatrical styles and present findings to peers.

● Write and performer longer theatrical works, individually and in collaboration with peers.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and

growth opportunities

- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## Sample Lesson

See Unit 1.