

Stretch and Challenge Activities for (DRAMA)

KS3

Challenge 1: Learn about professional puppet-making and make your own simple puppet:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1cEDgRTM_o&feature=youtu.be

Kneehigh Theatre take you behind the scenes to show you how they use puppets in their production of '946: The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFEnZfS5lXQ>

This National Theatre video shows you how simple it is to make a puppet person! (Yours may not be quite as big! They use a roll of paper 7 foot long!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELlqd-0qUI>

In this video the director of Kneehigh Theatre introduces their puppets and puppet makers!

Or perhaps you are more interested in masks? This webpage belongs to Vamos Theatre and masks are their specialism:

<https://www.vamostheatre.co.uk/learning/resources/mask-technique-films>

Here are films and worksheets that teach the principles of mask work on stage.

Challenge 2:

Visit the Royal Shakespeare Company's Learning Zone and learn about a Shakespeare play you have never studied before – there is a great introduction to their resources to watch here:

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/>

You can pick one of the Shakespeare plays listed and find out all about productions of this play, the characters, the story, the setting and the staging. There are quizzes so that you can test yourself on what you have learnt too! You will also be learning about the RSC- one of the UK's most important theatre companies producing world class theatre!

Challenge 3:

Visit Kneehigh Theatre's 'windows' on Youtube- these are creative challenges to make and share, from songs and dances to props-making (even with vegetables!) Kneehigh like to have fun so their challenges are always aimed at getting you active and creative, as well as playful and experimental, as this is what their own style of theatre is like. (As you will see if you search on Youtube for any of their behind-the-scenes in rehearsal videos!) This video introduces the challenges and you will see the other 'windows' numbered in the side-bar:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=566OUdN6OOQ&list=PL7UiSyHIkt2qrb30is21N2VN-bbEQEA8c&index=1>

Challenge 4:

Learn about a play that we study in Year 9- 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time'. This is a play that started as its life as a novel by Mark Haddon and became a successful stage production, written by Simon Stephens, directed by Marianne Elliot and choreographed by Frantic Assembly. It is all about a boy called Christopher Boone who is 15 and has autism. There are many videos to watch on Youtube that will show you this amazing production in action but here are a selection that will help you examine how physical theatre movement and multi-media can help to tell a story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERoRecFYjoM>

A full student production- please be aware that there is a little strong language

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVrOsXhG61Q>

The theatrical trailer that shows you a montage of clips and moments from the show

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2bV75ITXJw>

How the play explores autism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4iBhTRRwek>

How the themes of the story are dealt with in the novel and stage production

Challenge 5: see what you can find out about the history of theatre. Theatre is as old as time and people have been performing since the ancient civilisations (and story-telling a long time before!) Learn about some periods in theatre history:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zx9kjxs>

This BBC Bitesize lesson teaches you about Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in Tudor Times

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3VGA6Fp3zl>

Take a virtual tour of the Globe Theatre on London's South Bank

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zx67xnb>

Learn about ancient Greek theatre

https://www.whatsonstage.com/ballymena-theatre/news/shakespeare-plague-disease-influence_51308.html

Are you wondering how the world of public theatre can survive a pandemic? Find out how the world of theatre has been shaped by plague and disease and how it has survived it before!

Challenge 6: Watch this wonderful 'making of' documentary about the stage production of 'The Lion King' and find out how the producers captured the vast African savannah on one stage. You will learn many things about how the design elements work together to create stunning visual effects: from costumes, to make-up, to masks, scenery and lighting. You will also learn about music and sound design and how stories are adapted for the stage:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScFWa-RwC3Y>

(Look out for links to parts two and three!)