



My Grade 4 ArtsAround Short Range Drama Plan for Cycle 'A'

Submitted by: _____ Principal's Name: _____ Date: _____

This is 10 ++ weeks of ArtsAround's Short Range Drama Plan for Cycle A

DRAMA

April

Lessons # 1 & 2: Drama Techniques: In this lesson the students are introduced to the *Elements of Drama* through tableau and roleplay. They loosen up and get their creative juices flowing through fun drama games followed by an introduction to a 'fantasy' island called Greenel where life is simple. There is a direct link to the Grade 4 Science curriculum topic: **Habitats and Communities**.

April

Lesson # 3: *The Town Meeting* sets the scene so that the local inhabitants learn of the changes about to take place in their idyllic island life. Tensions build as they learn of life in the nearby Graynal Island and what that can mean to them. They meet the Leader of Graynal, who is a bully, and plans on building a bridge to their quiet neighbourhood whether they want it or not. **Use of voice, blocking actors on stage, facial expressions and body stance** are only some of the techniques practiced.

May

Lessons # 4: *The Greenal Preservation Board* must deal with the crisis that occurs when the entire Island of Graynel tipped up on its edge, and slid down into the oily brown water, of Warden Bay. TV reporters arrive to get the footage of this newsworthy event to discover that the Greenal Preservation Committee is running a contest to determine which Team gets to put the victory Flag on the Graynal chimney! An impressive **collaboration with fellow classmates adds intrigue and suspense**.

May

Lessons # 5 & 6: *Choral Speaking*: Since Drama consists of **voice projection and proper enunciation**, two lessons provide the students a chance to understand the importance of clear speech and showing courage and conviction when speaking publicly. Directly aligning some of these lessons to the ***Light and Sound* unit for Grade 4** in their curriculum, again there is a nice connection to

to integrate at several levels. **Social skills and teamwork** provide the students with an opportunity to use **interpersonal skills** as well. Critiquing each other -as well as **self-evaluation**-also offers a chance to understand **authentic reflection**.

June

Lessons # 7, 8 & 9: *The Legend of Beowulf*: The Old English epic poem *Beowulf* is partly based on a real hall unearthed in a small town in Denmark, according to archeologists. This epic poem is believed to have been composed between 700 and 750 A.D. In these lessons the students learn '**storytelling through narration**'. There are lots of props and partial costumes to kick off this adventure so primary kids can see a performance. The background information is quite extensive so that the children can really get a good grip on the **plot line**. Having someone video *Beowulf* is a great way for students to look, discuss and learn how and where they excelled and where they need improvement. It is always fun to watch themselves on a screen. What a great teachable moment!

June

Lesson 10 ++: A Humour Fest: What Makes You Laugh? What a great way to end! There is nothing better than a belly laugh. By exploring and comparing various YouTubes and deciding how to score each video from a Funny Factor range from #1 to #5. #1 = not very funny up to #5= VERY funny, will certainly demonstrate to the students that humour is a very personal preference that people choose. 'How to' deliver a good joke, tell a funny story, be quick to respond to an offer **requires thinking on your feet and understanding the basic principles of good improvisation**.

Tongue twisters, twisted nursery rhymes and belly laughs should be heard through the halls of your school this month. Maybe allowing a joke or funny story to be told during announcements one day or to have the winning comedy team perform at an assembly would be appropriate? Celebrate in any way you can!

