



GAIETY SCHOOL
OF ACTING

Youth Theatre: *At Home*

THE LION KING



Drama and Creative Resources for Ages 4-12

Transport yourself to the Savannah using just your imagination! The following resources can be used by children on their own above 8 years old*, or led by parents. Some of the tasks, such as writing will be difficult for younger children, but they can definitely get involved in performing!

*For elements that require adult guidance we will let you know.

Have fun, be safe, and we look forward to seeing you back at GSA very soon.

CONTENTS: DRAMA GAMES, IMPROVISATION EXERCISE, MAKE YOUR OWN PLAY, COLOURING SHEET, ART AND SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

DRAMA GAMES

It's important to warm up before every drama class or performance. These exercises are fun, will get you moving when the playgrounds are closed, and are great for ALL ages! As much as possible, furniture should be pushed back to the sides of the room. This is to avoid any accidents. Ask a parent first!

FRUIT BOWL

This is definitely a game you should try and have at least three people for, but is a lot of fun and can get very silly!

WHAT YOU NEED: One chair less than the number of people you have! So if you have four people three chairs, and if you have three people - two chairs! Place the chairs in a circle (hard to do with two chairs but give it a shot!)

1. One person stands in the middle of the circle of chairs and gives the other players one of these fruits Apple, Orange or Banana. The person in the middle also gets a fruit.
2. The person in the middle then calls out a fruit and when your fruit gets called you have to move chairs.
3. When everyone is moving the person in the middle then tries to steal a chair from one of the other players. The player who loses their chair now stands in the middle and calls out a fruit
4. You can play this a few times like this and then mix it up! Instead of calling out a fruit the person in the middle can say things like "Move places if you are wearing pink" or "Move places if you like pizza" or "Move places if you have been to Spain" - you can ask any questions you like and try and find out lots about the people you are playing with. Even if they are your family! Why not try asking animal themed questions to get into the Lion King Spirit. "Move places if you've seen an elephant", "Move places if Lions are your favourite animals."

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

This is a fun mime game.

1. Stand in a circle
2. in turns someone picks an action to mime. For example, they could be washing the dishes.
3. The person next to them in the circle asks "what are you doing?"
4. The person miming must respond that they are doing ANYTHING that is NOT what they are doing, i.e "I'm driving a car!" or "I'm walking the dog".
5. Then the person who asked "what are you doing" must take their turn to pick a mime.
6. Again, you can try making this animal themed - do one round of everyone miming an animal from the Lion King.

This game will get you thinking creatively and its great for practising your mime and getting used to using your body!



IMPROVISATION

Improvisation is the best way to test your imagination and creativity.

EMOTIONAL SAFARI

WHAT YOU NEED: Four Chairs set out in like a car - or a jeep as we are going on safari!

1. Three people sit in the jeep (one person driving and two people in the back) and the rest of the people wait outside in a line.
2. The three people can start the scene by acting like they are going on safari. Things to talk about: Someone can ask if they have the map, somebody could say what animals they are hoping to see, maybe somebody can make sure you have enough snacks. What snacks are they?
3. Now the person at the top of the line asks the jeep to stop and the family decide to give this stranger a lift. The new person can decide to be any animal they like, and they must also choose an emotion. So for example they could be a sad lion, an angry warthog, a happy giraffe. Everyone else in the jeep must start acting the same way, like whatever animal they think the person is acting as, and in what way they are acting.
4. After one minute of everyone copying the newcomer, one of the passengers in the back will get out of the jeep and go to the back of the line. The person who is now at the top of the line hops into the front seat as whatever animal in whatever mood they like. Again the people in the jeep must try and copy the newcomer. You can repeat this until everybody has had a turn being the newcomer.

TIP: if you only have three people playing you can just have one person in the back of the car!



MAKE YOUR OWN PLAY!

What you need: Pen, paper, props, costumes

WRITING THE PLAY

We will give you an idea for your play, but it's up to YOU to write the script! You can take it in turns to write scenes. We will start each scene for you with a short introduction by a narrator and then you can write the dialogue - dialogue is what actors say to each other on stage.

THE LION'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Characters: You decide! Don't forget, one actor can play many roles - this is called "multi-roling". There are also one-woman or one-man shows.

Here is an idea of the characters you might use from The Lion King: Simba, Nala, Mufasa, Scar, Pumbaa, Timon, Zazu, Sarabi.

Setting: The Savannah

Scene 1:

Narrator: Simba knew it was Nala's birthday soon and, because she is his best friend, decided to throw a surprise party for her. He asked Zazu to help him start planning the party.

Scene 2:

Narrator: Simba had organised everything for the party except for decorations. Nala's favourite flowers grew just beyond the elephant graveyard and even though Zazu didn't agree Simba thought he was brave enough to reach them. Zazu tried his hardest to argue with Simba...

Scene 3:

Narrator: Simba arrived at the Elephant Graveyard - he had made it this far, and although he was a little scared, he felt brave to have made it this far. He had just reached the place where the flowers grew when he heard a huge roar! Or was it really that big...

Scene 4:

Narrator: Simba had arrived home and brought his new friend with him to join in the party. The baby hyena had helped him carry all the flowers, but Zazu was horrified to see Simba arrive with this enemy!

Scene 5:

Narrator: Nala was so surprised that all her friends had gathered to celebrate her birthday but got a fright when she saw a little hyena hiding in the corner! She asked Simba what was going on!

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE WRITTEN YOUR FIRST PLAY! NOW YOU HAVE TO PICK WHO IS GOING TO PLAY WHICH PART - THIS IS CALLED "CASTING". THEN YOU CAN START REHEARSALS! WHY NOT MAKE A POSTER USING THE TEMPLATE TWO PAGES AHEAD. IT JUST NEEDS DETAILS AND A GREAT IMAGE, SO GET COLOURING!

MAKE YOUR OWN PLAY!

EXAMPLE

See below how you can put your script together. Use your imagination and choose your characters and what they say to each other.

SCENE 1

Narrator: Simba knew it was Nala's birthday soon and, because she is his best friend, decided to throw a surprise party for her. He asked Zazu to help him start planning the party.

Simba: Hey Zazu, I want to throw a big party for Nala.

Zazu: Oh absolutely, as you know, I am the palace's chief party planner. We'll need food, music, guests...

Simba: This is going to be the best party!

_____ Productions
Presents

THE LION'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

DATE:
TIME:
PLACE:

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

SING ALONG!

One of the best things about The Lion King is the music! Why not work a song into your performance. This is one of our favourites - you can find the song here on [youtube!](#)

I JUST CAN'T WAIT TO BE KING

I'm gonna be a mighty king
So enemies beware
Well, I've never seen a king or beast
With quite so little hair
I'm gonna be the main event
Like no king was before
I'm brushing up on looking down
I'm working on my roar
Thus far, a rather uninspiring thing
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
You've rather a long way to go, young
master, if you think
No one saying, "do this"
Now when I said that, I
No one saying, "be there"
What I meant was
No one saying, "stop that"
Look, what you don't realize
No one saying, "see here"
Now see here!
Free to run around all day
Well, that's definitely out
Free to do it all my way

I think it's time that you and I
Arranged a heart to heart
Kings don't need advice
From little horn-bills for a start
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
If this is where the monarchy is headed
Count me out
Out of service, out of Africa
I wouldn't hang about
This child is getting wildly out of wing
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
Everybody look left
Everybody look right
Everywhere you look I'm
Standin' in the spotlight
Not yet!
Let every creature go for broke and sing
Let's hear it in the herd and on the wing
It's gonna be King Simba's finest fling
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
Oh, I just can't wait to be king
Oh, I just can't wait to be king





LET'S GET MAKING!

**** PARENTAL GUIDANCE IS RECOMMENDED HERE WHEN USING SCISSORS**

SIMBA'S ROARS - PAPER MEGAPHONE CRAFT

Simba is a little lion who loves to practice his roar but is not quite able to do it until he grows up. Actors train for years to be able to project their voice while they are on stage. You don't have to wait that long with this paper megaphone you can start practicing your roar straight away! You can check out this How To video [here!](#)



PERFORMANCE PREPARATION

Before actors go on stage it is important to prepare their bodies, breath and voices for the best performance ever! Before you perform your play make sure you do the following:

Breathe: Stand with your feet apart and place one hand on your belly. Count to five and take a deep breath - you should feel your tummy rising as delicious air fills up your whole body. Next breathe out slowly counting again to five. **Breathe in:** Smell the flowers, **Breathe out:** Blow out the candles. Do this three times - it will relax you, and make sure that you are using your breath correctly when you are speaking.

Voice: Imagine you have a load of bumble bees in your mouth and are chewing them (ew!). Do this for one minute - the buzzing noise will help warm up your vocal chords!

Body: Keep standing with your feet apart (not too wide!) and start shaking out your body as follows. Right hand shake 10 times, Left hand shake 10 times, Right foot shake 10 times, Left foot shake 10 times. Then repeat for a count of 8, then 6, then 4, then 2, and finally do a big JUMP and SHOUT!

WHAT YOU NEED:

Large sheet of paper
Tape
Scissors
Red/Orange Wool
Glue
Construction paper

HOW TO:

1. Roll the large piece of paper into a cone shape. (You may need to cut it at the top and bottom to perfect your cone shape. Tape into place.
2. Glue the wool in place to create your lion's mane
3. Cut out some paper ears from construction paper.
4. Glue or tape the ears onto your megaphone.
5. Use your megaphone to roar

THE SCIENCE BIT

Did you know that sounds move in waves? All sounds are vibrations that travel through the air to our ears. A megaphone works by focusing the sound in a direction.

LET'S TEST HOW THE MEGAPHONE WORKS

Try saying some words. Now cup your hands and say the same words again. The cupped hands focus the waves. Test your megaphone by standing at one end of a room and saying words without the megaphone, with cupped hands and with the megaphone. Have your parents or siblings listen and they can tell you which is louder

LION KING MASK

Masks have been used in theatre to help actors play characters for over a 1000 years. We know that masks were used in theatre as far back as the ancient Greeks in the 5th Century but they could have been in use even earlier. So now is the time for you to join in the ancient theatre tradition of mask wearing for your own production !

WHAT YOU NEED:

Paper plate
Coloured paper
Glue
Scissors
Lollipop stick

HOW TO:

Cut out the centre part of the plate (depending on the size of your paper plate for older children you can just cut out the eyes)

Cut your coloured paper into strips about 10 cm long and 2 cm wide (Good colours to use are brown, yellow and red)

Glue the strips around the outside of the plate

Glue the lollipop stick onto the plate (this is to let the children hold up the mask to their faces)

Why don't you see what other characters you can make? If you only have plain paper don't worry you can colour in the strips with crayon to create different colours!



We hope you enjoyed the Lion King fun! We'd love to see photos of your performances and crafts- you can tag us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @Gaietyschool or email marketing@gaietyschool.com.

You can find out all about our Young Gaiety classes and Summer Camps at gaietyschool.com

