

SAMPLE ARTIST RESIDENCY PLAN

Beginning

- At the beginning of the residency, students will be given a pre-test on terms and concepts to be explored in the residency.
- The first two sessions will focus on exercises that explore the five senses and ways the senses can be employed in creating stories. Activities will be both real and imagined. For example, first students will taste a slice of a lemon (being aware of potential allergic reactions), then the experience will be deepened by having them taste an imaginary lemon.
- The next two sessions will focus on movement, rhythm and recognizing patterns. Students will move quickly or slowly in an open space, then move individual body parts to create individual and group machines.

Middle

- In this cluster of activities, the students will explore verbal and non-verbal communication by transforming a single word into dramatic action. Example: Verbal – Students will say “hello”. Non-verbal – students will act out “hello.”
- Students will select scenes and passages from a dramatic story to perform and problem-solve to determine which to perform verbally or non-verbally. Students will act them out. For this exercise, a who and why story such as: *Why the Sun and Moon Live in the Sky* will be used.
- Students’ understanding of the story will then be deepened through the use of props and staging-using the basic elements of drama/theatre.

End

- Ways of incorporating other artistic disciplines such as the visual arts, dance and music into the students' improvised stories will then be explored.
- Students will use what they have learned to create their own performance of a scene from an established story, or an improvised scene.
- The concept of theatre as a shared experience will be discussed.
- Students will prepare for a final sharing or performance to be seen by other classes, other grade levels and/or the community; as appropriate to the students' skill level.
- Following the closing event an evaluation will be conducted with students to examine what worked for them, and what they could do to make their own work stronger.
- Students will be given a post-test and the results will be discussed between the artistic and educational staff to determine how to strengthen future residencies.