



ARTS + ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS

GRADES 1-2: LITERACY/THEATER

This Because of That

In this episode, kids learn how conjunctions can help them join two thoughts together to create more interesting sentences. Using props for inspiration, they learn theater techniques to act out what they are writing.

CONNECTED OBJECTIVE: Students will use conjunctions to create sentences and use theater techniques to act them out.

MATERIALS NEEDED DURING EPISODE: None.



Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3

Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.1.A



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Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence (e.g., first word, capitalization, ending punctuation).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1.G

Use frequently occurring conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so, because).

I:P-2:2: Propose details to setting, costume, and properties in a guided original drama/theatrical experience

E:P-2:2: Collaborate with others to conceptualize settings, costumes, and properties for a guided drama/theatrical experience.

E:P-2:3: Think creatively and implement ideas on how to define a character with voice and body

ARTS EXTENSIONS:

Play the Setting

This activity allows students to use their V.I.B.E while understanding the setting in a story. Give the students different places a story can take place. (Ex. the ocean, the jungle, a circus, a school) Have them explore the place with their imagination. Ask them what would they see in that place? What would it smell like? What type of “characters” would be/live there? Once the students have discussed the setting, allow them to choose a character from that place and have them act out what their character would do in the setting. Have them share why they chose their character for that setting.

Theater Pictionary

Have students draw animals without sharing to the class what they are drawing. Then one at a time, have students share what they drew so the class can guess the animal. Once the animal has been guessed (or when the class gives up trying) have everyone use their V.I.B.E to act out the animal. For an extra twist, the teacher can share a mythical creature like a unicorn or dragon to have students get creative with their acting. Remind them that these creatures aren’t real so they can be portrayed however they see fit.

Musical Expression

To explore the theatrical element **expression** play three different songs and have the class express or show how it makes them feel. Choose completely contrasting genres. (Ex: classical, rock, reggae). Instrumentals are recommended so that students can focus on the music and not be influenced by the lyrics. Have students discuss what they felt. If the class is knowledgeable in virtues, have them choose a virtue that the song reminds them of. (A meditation song may make them think of peace. A song with string instruments may make them think of love)



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ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS:

Do you like ice cream_____cake?

Allow students to create 3-5 different sentences using conjunctions. (If they're struggling: show them what we just finished; have them ask for help from someone at home; or, if you can, have a break out chat),. Have them cover up their conjunction with a post-it, paper, or anything else so no one can see their conjunction. Have the student read out their sentence, making sure not to say the conjunction. Have classmates guess what conjunction should be there! The person who gets it right gets to go next!

Columns

Share your screen with students (or post it where work is being completed). Have students read out the sentences on the left side (I would have it in a word doc and have the left side be one color and the right another), and then read out the sentences on the right side. Have students combine any left side sentence with a right side sentence using a conjunction, make sure you don't repeat conjunctions for different sentences- when we are done creating our sentences, have students read them aloud and see if any classmates wrote the same sentence!

FREEZE DANCE

Play freeze dance on youtube or start and stop a song and call on 3 students at a time. Tell 2 of them to think of sentences (if it's too tricky have them read sentences from you) and the last friend will have to combine the sentences together using a conjunction (while the students are reading their sentences the 3rd knows their job and has time to think). At the end, the teacher or students will read the sentences using a conjunction and then begin to dance again until the music stops!

AT-HOME ACTIVITY

You can also have families do this with their student. Have family members come up with sentences so students can combine them with conjunctions. Have students upload a video of them doing it or a google doc showing their sentences!