Subject Area: Performing Arts	**Course:** Acting	
Unit 1 Title: Drama Skills	**Start:** **Date** Week1	**End:** **Date** Week2
Unit Summary: In this unit, students will learn the basics of stage direction, vocal production, movement on the stage and stage blocking recording techniques.		

Stage 1: Desired Results

Massachusetts Learning Standards

Foundations Theatre Course Standards

Creating
1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. Create theatrical ideas (e.g., plot, setting, character) that reflect characteristics of different artistic movements. (F.T.Cr.01)
3. Refine and complete artistic work. Refine and revise character dialogue, stage directions and sensory details of imagined worlds. (F.T.Cr.03)

Performing
5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation. Identify theatrical staging conventions in a scripted theatrical work. (F.T.P.05)
6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work. Describe how decisions about a performance are connected to what the student wants to express, evoke, or communicate. (F.T.P.06)

Responding
8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work. Identify theatrical decisions from a work that connect it to a specific genre or style. (F.T.R.08)
9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work. Compare and contrast different rubrics or criteria for evaluating theatrical presentations. (F.T.R.09)

Connecting
10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art. Describe what has influenced changes in one's own dramatic style and preferences in theatre. (F.T.Co.10)

Transfer (Authentic, relevant application of learning to new situations)

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to…
Formative:

- Move peers around the stage using stage directions
- Prepare/Present famous speeches
- Use Shakespearean Insults
- Play games creating character voices

Summative:

- Children's Book Project:
  Students will use their skills and knowledge of vocal production, tone color, pacing, timbre and character voices to prepare/practice/present a children's book to elementary age students.

Meaning

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that…

- A wide variety of vocal and physical techniques are essential in engaging audiences and telling stories with authenticity.
- Stage direction, vocal production, and physical movement are integral elements that contribute to the overall effectiveness of a theatrical performance with a satisfying emotional arc.
- Script analysis, personal reflection, and theater games contribute to the development of compelling characters and stories.
- Observing and analyzing people's motivations, thoughts, and emotions can deepen character development and enhance performance in theater.
- The ability to independently apply learned skills and knowledge, as well as learning to give and take feedback is crucial for students' growth and success in theater.

Essential Questions

Students will consider…

- How can stage direction, vocal production, movement on the stage, and stage blocking enhance a theatrical performance?
- How can stage direction, vocal production and physical gesture be used as a powerful means of communication in theater?
- How does script analysis, personal reflection, and theatre games contribute to character and story development in theater?
- How can observation and analysis of people's motivations, thoughts, and emotions enhance character development in theater?
- How can the skills and knowledge acquired throughout the course be applied to prepare and perform a monologue with depth and authenticity?

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Acquisition	
Knowledge **Students will know…** ● Places on the stage: ○ Down Stage (Left, Right, Center) ○ Up Stage (Left, Right, Center) ○ Center (Left, Right, Center) ○ Wings (Left, Right) ○ Proscenium ○ Apron ● Actors Body Clock: ○ Full Front ○ Full Back (Closed) ○ Left/Right Profile ○ Left/Right ¾ ○ Left/Right ¼ (Cheat) ○ Open ● Vocal Variety ○ Pitch ■ Rising ■ Falling ■ Peaking ■ Dipping ○ Timbre ○ Rate ■ Speed ■ Pauses ● Projection ○ Posture ○ Breath ○ Articulation ■ Consonants vs Vowels	**Skills** **Students will be skilled at…** ● Taking Direction/Moving on a stage ● Recording stage direction ● Breathing exercises ● Practicing pitch, tone, timbre through exercises, games, speeches, dialogue ● Creating character voices vs narrator voices - using voice variety ● Reading/presenting children's literature