

Teaching Shakespeare



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Sources for Teaching Shakespeare

There are two primary sources for teaching Shakespeare to grades 3-8 in the Classical Academies.

1. [*Introducing the World and Life of William Shakespeare*](#)

This resource is a booklet that is provided through the warehouse order form and should be read aloud in grade 3. It is also recommended as a supplement for new students and teachers in middle school. For instructions on using this booklet, read the [instructions located in the book](#) itself.

2. [*Tales from Shakespeare* by Mary and Charles Lamb](#)

In the Prima and Optima Lecta series, each grade will read a literary re-telling of a Shakespeare play from *Tales from Shakespeare* by Mary and Charles Lamb. The teacher guide for presenting these lessons are in this guide (see below for appropriate grade)

The Lecta series will provide lessons for the students to convert the story into a play. Teachers **must** read the teacher's guide provided below in this document, so that the entire campus can enjoy these short plays.

The whole book by Mary and Charles Lamb is in the public domain. A few minor adaptations in order to fix grammatical errors and odd words have been made in the Lecta series.

[To access the public domain version, click here.](#)

Interesting and Entertaining Resources for Shakespeare Instruction

Preview these videos and articles to determine what you might want to show to your students. Some of the videos are very fun to watch and students might really enjoy them.

Sayings and Phrases coined from Shakespeare:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIZ_eq0vLfc

Why Shakespeare Still Matters with David Tennant:

<http://www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/2014/04/45-phrases-coined-shakespeare-450th-birthday>

Original pronunciation videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hi-rejaoP7U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQ2R-TF1mo0>

“To Be or Not To Be” Skit by Royal Shakespeare company with Benedict Cumberbatch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGTR_LiueM

2 year old learning Shakespeare:

<http://www.openculture.com/2015/04/shakespearean-actor-brian-cox-teaches-hamlets-soliloquy-to-a-2-year-old-child.html>

Original pronunciation website:

<http://originalpronunciation.com/>

Brain Development from Shakespeare language:

<http://bigthink.com/how-to-think-like-shakespeare/this-is-your-brain-on-shakespeare>

It is highly recommended that teacher's obtain a copy of the book, **Readers on Stage** by Aaron Shepard. It is around \$10 and will help with scripting, directing, and dramatic reading. If a campus needs funds to purchase these, consider a donation drive or \$2 ticket sales by hosting a recitation or Shakespeare event at your campus.

About the Book and ordering options: <http://www.aaronshp.com/rt/books/ReadersOS.html>

Here is the author's home page: <http://www.aaronshp.com/>

Scope and Sequence

Third Grade: ***Introducing the World and Life of William Shakespeare. The Tempest*** is included in the guide.

Fourth Grade: **Cymbeline** (Lamb version in Prima Lecta)

Fifth Grade: ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** (Lamb version in Prima Lecta)

Sixth Grade: ***The Merchant of Venice*** (Lamb version and original Shakespeare translation are both in Optima Lecta)

Seventh Grade: ***Taming of the Shrew*** (Lamb version and original Shakespeare translation are both included in Optima Lecta)

Eighth Grade: ***TBD***

Ninth Grade: ***Romeo and Juliet***
