

Blood Brothers - Learning Journey

This scheme explores Act 1 of the popular play text *Blood Brothers* as a stimulus. The scheme offers ideas on how to work with play scripts practically, with both on- and off-text ideas and activities. The activities outlined develop an understanding of the characters, plot and themes for the opening act.

Lesson 1 - Developing an understanding of status in performance and its relevance to the play *Blood Brothers*

Lesson 2 - Exploring the opening and its use of narration to communicate themes and narrative

Lesson 3 - Exploring the dilemma of Mrs Johnstone

Lesson 4 - Exploring nature versus nurture and social influence in *Blood Brothers* through still images

Lesson 5 - Exploring the moment of the separated twins Mickey and Eddie meeting and becoming friends, then *Blood Brothers*

Lesson 6 - Bringing key moments to life to conclude the exploration of Act 1

By the end of this term, students will:

- Have developed your understanding of how to develop characterisation and realise scenes according to a writer's intentions
- Have developed your ability to work in groups to develop character and perform scenes from a text
- Have explored the actor-audience relationship
- Have explored status in performance
- Have developed your ability to work effectively with scripts, including how to deconstruct meaning and interpret a writer's craft.
- Have used a variety of rehearsal techniques and exploratory strategies to interpret characters, themes and plot within a play text
- Have explored the range of themes in the text practically and then through reflective question and answer opportunities.

How will I know how to perform in a successful way?

Each lesson we will explore a different dramatic techniques to explore *Blood Brothers* and you will practise each week performing new skills in front of your peers..

How will I practice working creatively?

You will work in a number of groups each lessons using the dramatic techniques to create an engaging performance.

How will I be assessed?

You will work in groups to rehearse and perform an extract from '*Blood Brothers*'. This will be rehearsed and performed as part of your assessment, demonstrating your knowledge and performance skills.

catharsis (n)

The release of the audience's emotions through empathy with the characters

nurture (v)

care for and protect (someone or something) while they are growing.

characterisation (n)

The act of changing voice, body language, movement, gesture etc when in role is called characterisation.

superstition (n)

A belief that is not based on human reason or scientific knowledge but is connected with old ideas about magic etc

vocal skills (n)

Vocal skills include clarity of diction, inflection, accent, intonation and phrasing; pace, pause and timing; projection, pitch;

physical skills (n)

Physical skills include: body language, gesture, facial expressions, pace, quality of movement and space.