

Visual and Performing Arts
Performing Arts: Theatre Arts I
Unit 1: Art History and Culture

Essential Understandings	Theater both reflects and shapes the time period and culture in which it exists.
Essential Questions	What can theater tell us about our own society and other cultures-- now and in previous time periods?
Essential Knowledge	- Theater has different meanings and functions in different times and places. - The elements and principles of theater can be used to describe plays and performances from different time periods.
Vocabulary	<u>Terms:</u> - Dionysus, tragedy, thespian, ritual, closet drama, naumachia, Noh, Kabuki, Bunraku, Kyogen, Miracle Play, Mystery Play, Morality Play, Passion Play, trope, commedia dell'arte, pseudo-classicism, wooden O's, blank verse, soliloquy, legitimate theater, groundlings
Essential Skills	- Compare the function and meaning of works of theater from various cultures and time periods. - Identify and describe specific elements and principles found in works of theater from specific time periods.
Related Maine Learning Results	<u>Performing Arts</u> A. Disciplinary Literacy - Theater 1. Terminology Research and explain how performing artists reflect and shape their time and culture. E. Visual and Performing Arts Connections 1. The Arts and History and World Cultures Students analyze the characteristics and purposes of products of the performing arts to understand history and/or world cultures.
Sample Lessons And Activities	- Read and discuss chapters on theater history from the Greeks through the Elizabethan theater - Compare and contrast the theater forms of two or more time periods - Discuss the contributions made to modern theater by theater in earlier time periods - Read and discuss scenes from plays of other cultures and time periods
Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	- Quizzes on periods of theater history - Poster project - Performance of scenes from plays from other cultures and/or time periods - Oral review and discussion

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Sample Resources	▪ <u>Publications</u> ○ Basic Drama Projects by Fran Averett Tanner Ph. D. ▪ <u>Other Resources:</u> ○ BHS library
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