



Once Upon a Time...

Drama

Storytelling can use many different techniques to create characters and to make them come to life. Mimicry and the use of personification are just examples of how creative dramatics are used to tell a story.

National Standards: Fine Arts > Drama

- #1. Script writing by planning and recording improvisations based on imagination
- #2. Acting by assuming roles and interacting in improvisations

Kentucky: Arts & Humanities Drama/Theatre Standards

AH-E-3.1.43

- Improvise to tell stories that show action and have a clear beginning, middle, and end.

AH-E-3.1.35

- Identify and describe characters, their relationships and their settings and environments, related to a script, scenario or classroom dramatization.

AH-E-3.1.38

- Identify and discuss creative dramatics.

Ohio Arts Drama/Theatre Standards

Benchmark

Grades K-3

Creative Expression and Communication

D - Communicate a story through story telling or scripted screen work.

Objective

Students will explore how creative dramatics such as mimicry and the use of personification are used in storytelling.

Materials

- Index cards with animal names or pictures

Vocabulary

- Storytelling
- Mimicry
- Personification

Activity

Teacher will:

- Define mimicry and its role in acting.
- Give each student a card with an animal name or a picture of an animal.
- Have students mimic the animal's body movement, facial expression and vocal expression.
- Let each student share with the class.

- How would moving at different levels (high, medium, low) change the animal character?
- Introduce and define the term personification.
- Have the students mimic the same animal but change the movements, and expressions to become more like a person.
- Share with the class.
- List examples of cartoons, books or movies that personify animals to be like people. (e.g. Bugs Bunny, Roger Rabbit, Air Bud, Ninja Turtles, The Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, etc)
- What characteristics make those animals like people?
- Have students create a story with animal characters using mimicry and personification.