



Play by Play Shakespeare

A workshop with Daniel John Kelly

Professional actor and teaching artist Daniel John Kelly wants to introduce students to William Shakespeare. Many of Shakespeare’s plays are archetypal fairy tales. Young students will enjoy and have fun playing with his words and stories. After a brief, interactive introduction of Shakespeare Mr. Kelly leads students through several exercises designed to explore Shakespeare’s poetry. Students physically

respond to lines of dialogue from Shakespeare in an exercise that encourages them to interpret the meaning of his language in a fun, “no-right-answer” game. Mr. Kelly performs a scene from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* with the help of two students. Students use Shakespeare’s words to explore poetic possibilities, visually playing with word order, rhythm and the

power of emphasis. Mr. Kelly performs a scene from *The Tempest* with two students. Students identify objects by matching them to what they hear in Shakespeare’s poetic descriptions, helping them to internalize the vitality of the language. And finally, in a call-and-response format, the students speak and perform some of Shakespeare’s language.

Inside this guide

Program Description	1
Artist Bio	1
Learning Objectives	2
Preparing	2
Vocabulary	2
Curriculum Connections	2
After the program	3
List of Resources	3
GLEs	4

Artist Bio: Daniel John Kelly

Daniel John Kelly has over 20 years of experience in professional theatre. He was a teaching artist and Director of Educational Outreach for Shakespeare on the Sound in Rowayton, Connecticut. In New England he has performed at the Yale Repertory Theatre, the

Long Wharf Theatre, the Westport Country Playhouse and many more venues. In New York City he has been seen at the Pulse, the Miranda, and Don’t Tell Mama. He has directed plays at Fairfield University, Curtain Call, Inc., and the Theatre Artists’ Workshop. He currently tours with

Interactive Educational Theatre, an improvisational educational theatre group based in Connecticut performing at schools and community centers. Daniel will be acting in the 2010 education tour for Shakespeare Festival St Louis.



Grade Level:

2-6

Curriculum Connections

-Communication Arts / Literature
-Critical Thinking / Problem Solving
-History / Social Studies
-Theater-

Learning objectives

Students will:

- Expand skills of speaking and writing English
- Develop skills for understanding

poetry, characters, and plot through innovative exercises and informal discussion

- Participate in

informal theatrical presentations

- Be introduced to the work of Shakespeare

Preparing for the Program

- This workshop works well in any classroom. All that is needed is a small open area (8x4ft) and a chair.



Vocabulary

- **Iambic Pentameter:** the most common poetic meter in Shakespeare's work consisting of ten syllables per line and every other syllable stressed.
- **Leviathan:** a huge sea creature from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."
- **Plague:** a terrible widespread

disease from "Romeo and Juliet."

- **Promontory:** a high point of land from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."
- **Thee:** an old English word for "you" from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."
- **Thine:** an old English word for "your" from "Hamlet."
- **Villain:** an evil

person "the bad guy" from "Hamlet."

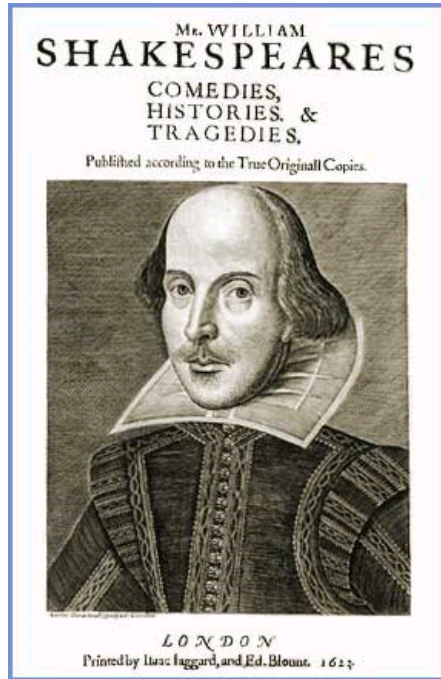
Special Points of Interest:

Several students join the actor, Mr. Kelly, in two different scenes. All students hear him perform the words of Shakespeare.

All students will speak and act some of the witches' lines from "Macbeth."

After the program...

A half dozen activities in a three-page handout lead the students through a review of the workshop and then expand on it by giving students a chance to be poets.



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this program or others
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Springboard provides programs in the arts, cultures, humanities, and sciences to schools and community organizations. These programs inspire their audiences to embrace knowledge and new experiences that broaden their horizons.

Resources

Carnovsky, Morris
The Actor's Eye.
Performing Arts
Journal Publications,
1984.

Shakespeare,
William.
Complete Works of
William Shakespeare.
Oxford University
Press, 1914

**Teachers must remain in
the classroom with students
at all times. Thank you.**

GLE's (Grade Level Expectations)

Communication Arts

Listening and Speaking

1 A	Grades K-8
1 B	K-8
2 A	K-8

Reading

1E	3-8	3B	5
1G	K-1	3C	K-4, 7-8
1H	1	3D	K-8
1I	K-8		
2B	1-2		
2C	5		

Writing

1a	K-1, 4, 6-8	2D	4-8
2A	2-8	2E	K-8
2B	K-8	3A	K-7
2C	K		

Information Literacy

2A	1-8
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Theater

Elements and Principles

1C	1-2, 5-8
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Artistic Perceptions

1A	K-3, 5
1B	K-6

Interdisciplinary Connections

1A	K, 4-6
1B	4-5

Historical and Cultural Connections

1A	6
1B	4-8
2B	5