

Readers' Theater Teaching Tips

Be a Star!



On *Reading Street*, students of all grade levels experience the excitement of participating in theater. Students will build fluency and confidence by reading and performing as part of a group.

Objective: Students will improve reading comprehension and fluency.

Readers' Theater:	Class performances of plays, poems, or stories
Props:	Objects that characters hold or use in a performance
Scenery:	Pictures or objects that show the setting of a performance
Audience:	People who watch a performance

Step 1: Reading a Play Together

- Print and distribute the Readers' Theater selection.
- Assign parts. If there are more students than parts in the play, different students can read the same role in different scenes. If there are fewer students than parts, some students can read more than one part.
- Read the play. Encourage students to read with expression and to imitate the voices of characters.
- Ask each student to write a summary of the play using the "Reading Together" worksheet.

Step 2: Group Discussion and Independent Reading

- In small groups, students select a scene from the play.
- Students decide who will read each part.
- Students read their scenes independently.

Step 3: Reading Practice and Planning

- Students practice reading lines from the scene with expression and confidence. They do not need to memorize the lines, but should know them well enough to look at the class during their performance.
- Students complete the "Ready, Set, Act!" worksheet as they plan their performances. They may decide to use simple props or scenery when they perform.

Step 4: Developing Reading Comprehension and Fluency

- Students perform their scene for the class.
- Students summarize and assess their performances using the "You're the Star!" worksheet.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading Together



Play Summary Sheet

Write a short summary of the play you just read. Describe the characters, the problem, and the way the problem was solved.

Title: _____ Author: _____

Describe your part in the play. What did you learn about this character?

How did your character feel? How did you show how the character felt?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ready, Set, Act!

Scene Summary Sheet

Use this page to record what happens in your scene and to plan your performance.

What characters are in this scene ? How would you describe these characters?

Where are the characters in the scene? How can you use scenery or props to show the setting?

What do the characters do? How will you act when you perform your lines?

Name: _____ Date: _____

You're the Star!

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**Performance Summary Sheet**

**How did you perform your lines? How did you show how the character felt?**

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**What props did you use? How did the props make your performance better?**

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**Did your audience enjoy the performance? Explain why. What would you do differently next time?**

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