

## YALS TEEN PROGRAMMING IDEAS

PROGRAM TITLE: Theatre Games

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Have fun thinking on your feet with these improvisation games.

MATERIALS NEEDED: Depends on games chosen. Many games use various props of your choice, common objects. Some games need a clock or watch, note cards or slips of paper are needed for some games and are useful for pre-program brainstorming.

COST: Free

### PROGRAM PROCEDURE:

\*Look up improvisation games online or in books. You can also check out the T.V. show “Whose Line Is It Anyway” for additional ideas.

\*Brainstorm ideas and put each idea on a note card for:

Types of characters: fairy, soldier, vampire, robot, toddler, gorilla, old lady, cowboy, cheerleader...

Emotions/States of being: scared, proud, angry, nervous, tired, depressed, giggly...

Places/Situations: At the zoo, on a crowded bus, in a restaurant, at the circus, waiting for a train...

\*Collect various items to be used for improvisation: kitchen implements, office supplies, anything

\*Charades cards: I play book charades and make cards with familiar book titles, any theme or category will work.

### OUTSIDE PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION:

You can contact a local theatre group to see if they have anyone interested in presenting a program

### USEFUL PLANNING RESOURCES FOR LIBRARIANS:

\*I am posting a list of theatre/improvisation activities that I often use with larger groups on the YALS website ([www.nashua.lib.nh.us/YALS/index.htm](http://www.nashua.lib.nh.us/YALS/index.htm)) along with this program description. Look under “Teen Programs That Work” Feel free to contact me with questions or for additional ideas.

\*A book I have found particularly helpful is: Novelly, Maria C. *Theatre Games for Young Performers*. Viola Spolin’s improvisation books, especially *Theatre Games for the Classroom*, have lots of ideas.

\*Most libraries and bookstores have books on theatre/improvisation activities.

### RELATED MATERIALS FOR DISPLAY /RESOURCE LIST FOR TEENS:

Contact information for local theatre companies, theatre camps and classes for interested people

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

I have done this kind of program with kindergarteners – senior citizens, from small groups to 30+. Programs have lasted from 45 minutes to half a day or many sessions over a school year. Use your discretion, some games are boring for large groups because they have to sit around while each person takes an individual turn. Tailor your games to your group size, have plenty of games planned and move on to the next if one isn’t holding interest.

### CONTACT INFORMATION OF LIBRARIAN SUBMITTING PROGRAM:

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