

MYP4 Drama

Unit 1: Puppets

A World Theatre unit



Statement of Inquiry: Puppets transcend boundaries of communication and expression across time, space and place.

Global Context: Personal and cultural expression

Key Concept: Communication

Inquiry Questions: What are some of the conventions of world puppet traditions such as Wayang Kulit and Bunraku? What can Puppets communicate that humans can't? Why has puppetry endured for so many thousands of years?

Week One-Inquiry: What is a Puppet anyway?

In this lesson you will be introduced to a range of world theatre puppetry traditions, as well as exploring what a puppet 'is' and some of the ways in which people use them.

Watch and discuss - 5 minutes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYIAv07Dfa8&index=10&list=PLA5B7EAEF695D9C26>

On the spot research task - 10 minutes

Define puppetry as best you can. How old is 'puppetry' estimated to be)? Give three examples of an 'ancient' culture that had some form of puppetry tradition.

Practical Warm up - hand puppets - 15 minutes.

Watch this video, and working with the torch on your phone and the wall, create your own very short hand puppet shadow show in pairs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kz8wP2RYy64>

Small group research task - 30 minutes

Find 5 key facts about one of these genres (allocated by your teacher). Use at least three images to illustrate your findings. Your research should cover form (what it looks and sounds like, where it is staged etc) and purpose (including the types of stories commonly recounted). You will present this to the class. Some starter sources are listed on the next page.:

Tolpava Koothu (Kerala, India)

<http://puppetry.org.in/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-kerala/tolpava-koothu-is-adapting-to-changed-times/article1337403.ece>

Yoke The (Myanmar)

http://www.shwemyanmar.info/art_detail.php?id=19

<http://www.suitcaseandworld.com/2016/01/burmese-puppets.html>

<http://traditionscustoms.com/lifestyle/yoke-the>

Chinese Shadow Theatre (Pi-ying Xi)

<http://www.chineseshadowpuppetry.com/>

<http://www.theworldofchinese.com/2013/09/stories-in-the-shadows/>

Sbek Thom (Cambodia)

<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/RL/sbek-thom-khmer-shadow-theatre-00108>

<http://www.zamanproduction.com/en/artist/cambodian-shadows>

<http://www.xip.fi/atd/cambodia/shadow-theatre-sbek-thom-and-sbek-touc.html>

Vietnamese Water Puppets: <https://www.vietnamonline.com/culture/water-puppetry.html>

<http://thanglongwaterpuppet.org/en/><https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BxAK7HxpyFwqZDRPRWtQSW5Vc0E>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxlff980XyM>

Karagoz (Turkish Shadow Theatre)

<http://www.karagoz.net/english/shadowplay.htm>

<http://www.turkishculture.org/performing-arts/theatre/shadow-theatre/karagoz-and-hacivad-90.htm?type=1>

Practical Task - 20- 30 minutes

One of the most universally accepted definitions of puppetry (the act of operating a puppet) is, 'Bringing an inanimate object to life'. (Shows, 2019)

Working together as a class, you are going to each pick an inanimate object, for example your pencil case or your sock. Sitting in a circle begin to experiment with bringing your object to life. Where is it's head and mouth? How does it move? What kind of personality does it have? Does it have a voice? Is it lazy, or cheeky, or sad or happy? Start to interact with some of the other puppets in the room and see if any ideas for character or plot come out of it. Develop a short scene in groups if there is time.