



Topic List 2008/09

How to engage ALL your pupils in a National Curriculum topic using drama



Lucy Quick –
Principal of Perform

Hi! If you're looking for an inspiring new approach to a traditional topic, a fresh angle to reinforce your own teaching or a fun educational treat to get the children buzzing, a visit from Perform4Schools could be the answer.

Our popular **Explorer Workshops** use children's natural love of drama, role-play and improvisation to spark their imaginations and stimulate their interest in Foundation, KS1 and KS2 topics. We also offer regular weekly **Experience Projects** (the no hassle way to put on an end-of-term performance) and **INSET Days**.

You'll find details on all our topics below and inside. When you're ready, please contact us on **0845 400 4100** to discuss your requirements.

I hope to show you the difference Perform4Schools can make to your classroom soon.

With best wishes, Lucy

Explorer Workshops are available for a range of Foundation, KS1 and KS2 topics closely aligned to the National Curriculum.

Facilitated by one of our trained CRB-checked teachers, they use imaginative creative resources, performing arts-based exercises and role-play scenarios to spark children's imaginations and provide a fresh look at traditional subjects.

Explorer Workshops are 50 minutes in duration and can be combined into a:

Morning (up to 3 Explorer Workshops): £200.00
Full Day (up to 5 Explorer Workshops): £320.00

There is an additional £10 travel expenses charge if your school is outside the M25. All prices are subject to VAT.

For more information or to book an Explorer Workshop, please call 0845 400 4100

FOUNDATION & KEY STAGE 1

HISTORY

Florence Nightingale



"Absolutely wonderful. Would love to have your teacher on our staff."

B Williams,
Stoughton Infant School, Guildford

A factual account and hands-on recreation of the Crimean War featuring Britain's most famous carer, her methods and the impact she has had on modern-day palliative care.

- Journeying back to 1854 in a Time Capsule
- Improvising a scene between the injured soldiers and nurses
- Exploring the characters of Florence Nightingale, Queen Victoria and other key individuals
- Looking at Florence Nightingale's legacy to nursing today

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a, 2a, 4b, 6c

The Gunpowder Plot



"Fabulous! The children and teachers really enjoyed themselves. We all feel inspired."

S Walker, Finton House School, London

An explosive exploration into the murderous plot to overthrow the monarchy and how its failure shaped 5th November as we know it today.

- Meet Guy Fawkes and take a time capsule back to 1605
- Role-playing key events
- Creating a fireworks soundscape
- Attending a modern-day fireworks party

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a, 2a–b, 3, 5, 6b–d

The Great Fire of London



"The quality of the workshop was excellent. The workshop leaders all had great charisma

and character and the children were with them all the way – they loved their session and fed back enthusiastically about it in class and later in the day."

S Day, Buckingham Primary School, Hampton

An improvisation-based workshop about London's disastrous fire and its key locations and characters.

- Meet Samuel Pepys and take a time capsule back to 1666
- Interactive journey based on key dates in Pepys' diary
- Improvising the start of the fire in Pudding Lane
- Learning the *Fire of London Rap*

CURRICULUM LINKS: History: 1a, 2a, 5, 6b–d

Toys Yesterday and Today



"It was excellent. The children from nursery upwards were spell-bound! The teacher took them to the land of imagination."

P Mines, Holme Grange School, Wokingham

A high-energy physical workshop in which children become the toys of yesteryear with the help of Olde Worlde shop-owner, Mrs Rattle, and a glamorous Italian puppeteer.

- Acting out favourite toys
- Creating a puppet with bodies
- Exploring the differences between modern and traditional toys
- Improvising the rescue of a stolen toy from a castle in the forest

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 2b, 5, 6a–b

GEOGRAPHY

Around The World



"Really like the music and all the children were very focused. Discipline was great. Thank you for another great experience. Everyone's so friendly at Perform, it's really appreciated."

H Poyton, Dulwich Village C of E Infant's School, Dulwich

CURRICULUM LINKS: Geography: 1a,c-d, 2a, 3a, c-e, 4a-b

An exciting, globe-trotting journey with tour guide Phileas Fogg, in which emphasis is placed on world music, language and culture.

- Discovering global themes in world music and national dances
- Learning "hello" and "goodbye" in various languages
- Visiting a cross-section of countries with different flora and fauna
- Travelling to Egypt to perform the *Pyramid Rap*

Weather Around The World



"Year 2 and Year 1 really enjoyed it, took a full part and followed up the workshop with lots of discussion and writing etc."

J Blackburn, Foxhill Primary School, Bracknell

An imaginative movement-based workshop focusing on climates around

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Geography: 1a,c-d, 2a, 3a-e, 4a-b

the globe, extreme forms of weather and the harsh conditions found in certain countries.

- Helping Wendy the Weather Reporter prepare a forecast
- Travelling in the Weather Capsule to Australia, Scotland, the Sahara Desert, the North Pole and the Amazon Rainforest
- Improvising the characteristics of different weather conditions
- Acting out a weather soundscape

SCIENCE

Outer Space



"Super class control and pupil participation. Children were on task and focused by the topic 'Outer Space'. Thoroughly enjoyable."

K Ford, Kings Court First School, Windsor

A high-octane trip into the solar system discovering space travel, basic facts about the planets and our place in the universe.

- Training to be an astronaut
- Looking at the nature of space travel
- Travelling to the moon with the *Moon Rock* song
- Learning about the characteristics of the different planets with the *Planet Rap*

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Breadth of Study: 1a-b

Knowledge skills and understanding: 2a,c,e-g

The Jungle



"Wonderful. All the children were engaged and the combination of listening/speaking/physical activities worked well."

P Attridge, Cadmore End C of E Combined School, High Wycombe

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Geography: 1a,c-d, 2a, 3a,d-e, 4b

A fascinating look at the jungle habitat with strong environmental links and group improvisational work.

- Exploring the characteristics of different jungle animals
- Discovering predators and prey in the *Don't Trust A Cheetah* song.
- Discussing animals and what they eat with the *Banana Pie* rap
- Going on an expedition to save the last white tiger from extinction.

The Seaside Today & Yesterday



"Brilliant. Such enthusiasm raised from the children. Imaginative way of linking curriculum and drama."

N Bailey, White House Prep School, Wokingham

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Geography: 1a,c-d, 2a-e, 4a

History: 1a, 2a-b, e, 4b, 5, 6a-d

A fun historical recreation of the English seaside in Victorian times and today.

- Travelling to the seaside past and present and improvising the different activities of the time
- Creating a seaside soundscape
- Learning the *Seaside Rap*
- Enjoying Victorian seaside activities such as Punch and Judy and donkey rides

Plants & Animals in the Local Environment



"Brilliant links to our work on plants and animals. The children were instantly engaged in the session and were encouraged to use their imaginations well."

R McCleverty, Strand on the Green Infant and Nursery School, Chiswick

A thought-provoking session exploring the local environment, with the teacher taking the role of a scientist. Uncovers the environment's impact on our everyday lives and the diversity of flora and fauna that surrounds us.

- Improvising an excursion to a local forest
- Mini-Beast character work and role-play
- Discussing ways we can preserve the environment
- Comparing the differences between large and small plants

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Investigative skills: 2a,c,e-i

Breadth of Study: 1a-b, 2a-b

Geography: 1a,c-d, 2a, 3a,c-d

Geography: 4a-b, 5b

ENGLISH

Children's Literature Workshops



"The imagination, expertise and breadth of Perform activities can be inspirational and transforming. The dedicated staff use their enthusiasm effectively to provide individual and highly enjoyable tasks for all children."

G Casley, Sir William Perkins School, Chertsey

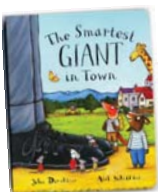
CURRICULUM LINKS: English: 1c-f, 2a,c-f, 3a-e, 4a-c

Sessions are based around a number of popular books and designed to reinforce children's experiences with literature.

- Re-capping and enacting the story
- Hot-seating and character role-play
- Improvisations around the themes of the story
- Group discussion and what we have learnt from the story

Current literature workshops include sessions on the following books:

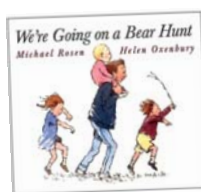
The Smartest Giant in Town
(Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler)



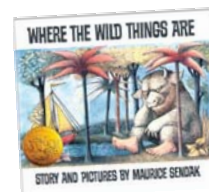
Beware of the Storybook Wolves
(Lauren Child)



We're going on a Bear Hunt
(Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury)



Where the Wild Things Are
(Maurice Sendak)



The Enormous Turnip
(Stephen Holmes)



Years 3 & 4

Walk like an Egyptian: Exploring Ancient Egypt



Thanks for the amazing visit. I don't think the children will ever forget it!

L Collins, Teacher,
The Cavendish School, Camden

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a–b, 2a–b, 3, 4a, 6, 13

QCA 10

An awe-inspiring journey back to the dawn of civilisation in which the children discover what they can learn about ancient Egypt from archaeological studies today.

- Exploring a structured account about life in ancient Egypt
- Learning about Egyptian tombs, pyramids and burial sites
- Using sources of information to deduce facts about Egyptian society, ways of life and religious beliefs

Years 5 & 6

Strawberry Fields Forever: The life of John Lennon



An excellent workshop. Best we have had. The children were captivated by the young lady. She had them in

her complete control! Well done!

J Marriner-Kyle, Headteacher, Dagnall School, Buckinghamshire

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a–b, 2a–b, 3, 4a

QCA 20

A historical exploration of John Lennon through the eyes of a 'super-fan' helping children develop their historical understanding of the period from studying the life of a famous person.

- Improvising scenes from Lennon's childhood, through to Beatlemania and his life with Yoko Ono
- Discussing key social and cultural changes of the post-war period including the features and diversity of popular culture
- Using recordings and images to develop media and information-handling skills

When in Rome: A Roman case-study



Thank you for your inspirational and educational performance. The children were enriched and

enthused by it as were all the staff.

Anne Winstrom, Headteacher,
Whitchurch First School, Stanmore, Middlesex

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a–b, 2a–b, 3, 4a, 6, 9

QCA 6a

This workshop will take children back to the Roman invasion of Britain to find out about life in Celtic and Roman Britain and learn why people have invaded and settled in Britain in the past.

- Using artefacts, sites and interpretations to deduce historical facts
- Improvising scenes to tell the story of the Boudica revolt
- Discussing the effects of the invasion and settlement of the Romans on Britain today.

We are not amused: Life for Victorian children



Emma's energy and enthusiasm captivated the children and stimulated their imagination. I too was inspired. We all

thoroughly enjoyed the session.

The other 3 teachers were also impressed. Thank you! Rob Earrey, Headteacher, Fitzjohn's Primary School, London

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a–b, 2a–b, 3, 4a, 6, 11

QCA 11

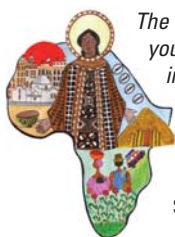
A fascinating journey back to Victorian England comparing school life, home life and attitudes towards children with those of modern Britain.

- Experiencing a Victorian schoolroom firsthand
- Playing traditional Victorian playground games
- Visiting Blackpool with Mrs Dickens, a typical Victorian mum
- Enjoying Victorian seaside activities such as Punch and Judy and donkey rides

Black History Explorers

Years 1 & 2

An African Adventure



The consistently high quality of your workshop leaders remain impressive. The Reception/ KS1 pupils enjoyed every minute of Sophie's fun and energetic workshop.

Sheila Anstey, Welwyn St Mary's School, Hertfordshire

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Geography: 1a, c–d, 2a, e, 4b Music: 1, 5d

A cultural leap to the vast continent of Africa and an exploration of the people, their music, customs and the local flora and fauna.

- Learning an African Chant
- Acting out a traditional African story
- Improvising characteristics of African animals
- Exploring historic African ways of life in different tribes

Years 3 & 4

The "Greatest Black Briton"



ALL staff were very impressed with the quality of Jennifer's work and would use some of the ideas on their own.

Roz Bartlett, Iver Village School, Buckinghamshire

CURRICULUM LINKS:

History: 1a–6, 2a–b, 3, 4a QCA: 10

A look at the life of the pioneering nurse and heroine of the Crimean War who not suffered from the restrictions placed on women at the time, but was also hindered in her nursing career by the colour of her skin.

- Improvising and sequencing the main events in Mary's life.
- Role-playing to understand why Mary made the choices that she did
- Discussing the reasons why Mary Seacole is remembered today

Years 5 & 6

Amazing Africa: A Celebration



As always, the leader was inspiring as well as holding the pupils' full attention, enabling them to enjoy the activities whilst maintaining full control. L McMeekin, Carrington School, Buckinghamshire

CURRICULUM LINKS: History: 1a, 2a–d

Geography: 3a–g, 6d Music: 5e

A sweeping journey across the geography and history of Africa illustrated with songs, music and dancing. From its role as the birthplace of humanity, this workshop investigates the way Africa colonized the world and the challenges facing the continent today.

- Discovering the early African Kingdoms of Kush and Axum, the Medieval Kingdoms of Sudan (Mali, Songhay, and Ghana) and the Kings of Mali and Egypt.
- Learning songs and dances from each region, African children's games and traditional African dishes.

Emma's energy and enthusiasm captivated the children and stimulated their imagination. I too was inspired. We all thoroughly enjoyed the session. The other 3 teachers were also impressed. Thank you! Rob Earrey, Headteacher, Fitzjohn's Primary School, London

For more information or to book an Explorer Workshop, please call 0845 400 4100

Dance Explorers

Perform4Schools **Dance Explorers** are lively and dynamic workshops which help children use movement to explore and communicate ideas, issues and their own feelings and thoughts. Each workshop has sections on acquiring, developing and evaluating skills, the importance of fitness and health and the historical and cultural origins of different dances.

Year 1: First steps

In First Steps, the children explore basic body actions and use different parts of their body to make movements. They create and repeat short dances inspired by themes such as clowns, penguins and folk dance.

- exploring movement ideas and responding imaginatively to a range of stimuli
- moving confidently and safely in their own and general space, using changes of speed, level and direction
- composing and linking movement phrases to make simple dances with clear beginnings, middles and ends

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 1**

Year 2: Finding Your Funk

Finding Your Funk focuses on creating and performing short dances that communicate different moods, feelings and ideas. Their work is inspired by a range of subjects, including some based on different times and cultures.

- composing and performing dance phrases and short dances that express and communicate moods, ideas and feelings
- exploring, remembering, repeating and linking a range of actions with coordination, control and an awareness of the expressive qualities of the dance
- watching, recognising and describing how different dance activities make them feel

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 2**



Year 3: Growing Grooves

Growing Grooves sees the children perform dances, focusing on creating, adapting and linking a range of dance actions. These are inspired by a variety of subjects, including some traditional, social and/or historical dances. They work with a partner and in small groups.

- improvising freely on their own and with a partner, translating ideas from a stimulus into movement
- creating and linking dance phrases using a simple dance structure or motif
- performing dances with an awareness of rhythmic, dynamic and expressive qualities, on their own, with a partner and in small groups

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 8**

Year 4: Rhythm & Moves

In Rhythm & Moves, the children focus on creating characters and narrative through movement and gesture. They gain inspiration from a range of subjects, and work in pairs and small groups.

- exploring and creating characters and narratives using simple choreographic principles to create motifs and narrative
- performing more complex dance phrases and dances that communicate character and narrative
- describing, interpreting and evaluating their own and others' dances

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 9**

Year 5: Breaking Out

Breaking Out introduces the children to different styles of dance and focuses on dancing with other people. They create, perform and watch dances in a range of styles, working with partners and groups.

- exploring and improvising ideas for dances in different styles, working on their own, with a partner and in a group
- composing dances by using, adapting and developing steps, formations and patterning from different dance styles
- performing dances expressively, using a range of performance skills

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 21**

Year 6: Dance Fantastic

Dance Fantastic focuses on using different visual images as the starting point for composing, performing and watching dance.

- exploring, improvising and combining movement ideas fluently and effectively
- creating and structuring motifs, phrases, sections and whole dances
- beginning to use basic compositional principles when creating their dances

CURRICULUM LINK: **PE QCA 22**

Creative Learning INSET Days

Perform4Schools **INSET Days** have been running successfully in schools for over seven years and, during that time, have been honed and developed to provide a focused and inspiring set of skills, best practices and resources on the use of drama to inspire creative ways of teaching across the curriculum.

There are two Creative Learning INSETS available: the **Basic INSET** best suited to teachers who have never used drama in the classroom before and the **Advanced INSET** for more experienced teachers. Both workshops include detailed information, advice and examples of physical and vocal warm-ups, ice-breaker games, control commands, role-play improvisation exercises and movement expression.



Perform Inset Days provide a toolbox of techniques to demystify the process of injecting drama into everyday lessons.

In particular, the following areas are explored:

- The use of drama to inspire creative ways of teaching across the curriculum
- Creative lesson planning and structure
- How to identify G&T students
- Team building for teachers
- Speaking and listening, confidence and teamwork
- Overcoming behaviour and discipline issues
- Effective communication and team support within the school environment

All INSET workshops include the **Perform4Schools Toolbox** (a detailed resource pack for each member of staff participating) and are available at a cost of £250 (half-day) and £410.00 (full day) (both plus £10.00 travel if beyond the M25). All prices are subject to VAT.

For more information or to book a Creative Learning INSET Day, please contact us on 0845 400 4100