

Make 'Em Laugh: Writing Scripts for Kids

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Why Theatre?

- Theatre engages students because it lets them be involved in the learning process.
- It creates a visual moral, which can be easier to remember, possibly for the rest of their lives.
- Laughter and story draw people in, regardless of age.

Act One: Know Your Audience

1. Start with the basics: age, education, gender.
2. Be prepared for a variety of ages, including adults in the audience.
3. Try to appeal to boys and girls.

Act Two: Know Your Purpose

1. What is your theme?
2. What is the moral of your story?
3. What life lesson do you want the audience to take home?
4. Keep it simple.

Act Three: Know Your Story

1. Characters—This is where the fun starts. If you create characters the kids in your audience can relate to, laugh at/with, and/or cheer for, you're golden.
2. Plot
 - a. Don't get too complicated.
 - b. Let the kids save the day.
 - c. The moral shouldn't overtake the story.
3. Settings—What is the best location to bring your story to life?

Act Four: Know Your Resources

1. Casting
2. Director/Crew
3. The Stage
4. Sets and Props
5. Who can help you?

Formatting overview: Margins, Font, Pages and Word vs. Software