

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Fifth Grade Drama and Theatre Arts. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Drama and Theatre Arts Education for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The Drama and Theatre Arts standards in the elementary years focus on general drama knowledge/skills and basic theatre elements to ensure a solid foundation for more specialized study in later grades, including technical theatre, acting/writing/directing, and film studies. In each grade, students investigate techniques, perform theatrical works, examine characters and settings, consider the work of playwrights, discover and describe personal theatre preferences, and explore constructive ways to provide feedback on the performances of their classmates.

Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, Gates_k@cde.state.co.us



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At the end of
Fifth Grade,
students can...



The Colorado Academic Standards in Drama and Theatre Arts
are organized by elements of the Creative Process:
Create → Perform/Present → Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine

Drama and Theatre Arts Education Learning Expectations for Fifth Grade

Create (Create)

Use improvisation to tell stories, express ideas, create characters, and solve problems; actively explore complex ideas and common themes in literature and life.

Perform (Perform/Present)

Meet deadlines and pay attention to individual and group needs in a performance; depict characters through the use of authentic movements, vocal sounds, and facial expressions.

Critically Respond (Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine)

Explain the roles of actors, playwrights, directors and designers; use strategies to give self and others feedback in a respectful and constructive manner; explain how theatre has affected and is reflected in the culture, traditions, and history of various countries; identify cultural themes and character relationships in a theatre piece.

Throughout the Fifth Grade, you may find students successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Working in small groups to determine how to adapt a story source (short story, book excerpt) into a dramatic performance (skit, scene).
- Taking on various roles for a theatre production (stage/set designer, director, actor, playwright).
- Examining the origin of a script (where it was written or who wrote it) and analyzing the different cultural parts of the story (traditions, language use, setting).
- Sharing peer feedback to improve the quality of the class or group performance.