

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 Kindergarten 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
Kindergarten,
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 Kindergarten

Create (Create)

Use facial expressions and movement to express thoughts and feelings about one's self or a character; use dialogue, actions and objects to tell a story.

Perform (Perform/Present)

Use creativity and imagination to manipulate materials (use classroom chairs as trees in a forest or a pencil as a magic wand); take on different roles in dramatic play situations.

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

Respond to stories and plays; relate theatre terms to everyday life (characters-people, costumes-clothes, sets-locations).

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

- Using a variety of vocal sounds (loud and angry, soft and meek) to imitate characters from stories or movies.
- Showing how people use their bodies and faces to show they are happy, sad, excited.
- Using pantomime (body movements and facial expressions) to tell a story without words.
- Deciding if a character in a story is pretend, imaginary, or real.