



Beloved Burger: Movement Notes

Resources:

1. Movement in your Play In A Day performance: a general introduction video
2. Beloved Burger video 1: Movement Overview
3. Beloved Burger video 2: Movement Sequences

1. Movement in the 'Play in a Day' performances:

Transcript of *introducing movement* video

Introducing movement:

The movement elements in our plays in a day can seem intimidating, on the page, but I'm here to reassure you that they couldn't be simpler. These sections are about telling the story with the pictures we make on stage, rather than the words we say, and for both primary and secondary age groups it's an ideal way to get ideas across, whilst keeping our school audience attention. And of course they can be great fun for you to lead, and your students will love expressing themselves physically, too.

Leading and Teaching movement:

When leading and teaching movement it is important that you enjoy it too – model what you want the students to do, so they can copy you. Make it fun, and use the music included with the play. All our bodies are different, so allow for individual expression, and for students to interpret movement in their own way. Having a clear signal for stopping is also important (a raised hand, a whistle etc.), as these group sections can sometimes be noisy!

Fitting it in:

Movement sections are a great way to pick up the energy after lunch, or after a long period of time learning lines. Rehearsing them little and often, as a warm up, is an ideal way to fit them in.

Keep it simple:

Even if the movement sections will be different every time you practice them, they will still need some rehearsal, so it is important to keep it simple, and repeat, rather than doing something complex only once – I know from experience, this is where even professional performers forget everything!

Its up to you:

I'll give a few options here and there, so if dance, movement or theatre is something you love, or you are just feeling ambitious, then I'll give you ways you can make more of these elements if you want to give them more time leading up to the Play In A Day performance, but there will always be a simple version too, that will work just as well.

Created by Robin Guiver



2. Movement Overview:

This is a great play with huge potential for movement, and some extremely important themes. In this video we are going to talk a bit about how to approach that. It seems to make the most sense to divide up your class into groups for this piece. If you don't have enough students, then they can all learn everything, but otherwise, the first thing you are going to want to do is to cast your actors, across the different groups that appear in the play:

In addition to Lucy, Eartha, Super Burger Man, Peter, and the others, you will also want to split up into groups of:

RAINFOREST, including trees, Jaguar, Tamarin and Macaw. These students will create the calm movement of the rainforests, and animal movements. These actors will spend most of the time working as a separate group to the others.

FARM group – these students will get to be the farm and the cows. It has the potential to be quite funny, but is not very demanding.

SOUTH AMERICAN FARMERS, this group will be the farmers and also create the image of the fire, when the rain forest is burnt.

LUCY'S SCHOOL – both the FARM group and the SOUTH AMERICAN FARMERS can also play the children in Lucy's school.

As you are leading the movement sections with your groups it is important that the students learn the order things happen in – like saying their lines of text in the right order, with the rainforest, for example, first the trees go on stage, then the Tamarins arrive, followed by Jaguar, and finally Macaw – for example.

Rehearsing with the music tracks will really help them learn this, and they become familiar with each section.

3. Movement Sequences:

I'll deal with the rainforest, trees and animals in its own video, but besides that, your actors are going to be busy throughout the play:

- Our mimed skipping rope game can be a great warm up, as well as an important scene.
- Dark and Still, the children crumple – a powerful moment in your play – simple and slow is always most effective
- Transitions from place to place, and making sure EVERYONE KNOWS THEIR CUES (getting up from being a child asleep –assign a leader etc.)
- Final celebration dance!

MOVEMENT FOCUS: The Rainforest

This video covers ways to approach building the rainforest on stage, one part at a time, as well as how to put together your Slash and Burn sequence. We will look at the animals of the rain forest (Jaguar, Macaw, Tamarins), as well as how your class can bring the trees themselves to life.

We will also address the destruction of the rainforest in the Slash and Burn sequence.

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