

Course Title:	Drama: Props and Sets
Grade(s):	8th Grade

Course Description
Students learn about and research plays and musicals to investigate the purpose and craft of designing sets. After building basic skills in the planning and building of three dimensional forms, students will work collaboratively and in conjunction with the Drama Club to develop and create the props and set pieces for the school play. This course meets every other day for a semester.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Sculpture Introduction	Students review basic color theory, Elements of Art, and Principles of Design. They will learn and practice basic use of tools and sculptural approaches by planning, creating, and reflecting upon a basic multimedia sculpture.	Approx. 2 weeks
Unit 2: Props and Sets Introduction	In this unit, students learn more about set design, specifically, the various roles and creative development required to put together stage plays. Students begin to work collaboratively in small groups to produce work. Students will: • Work in small groups, and research a play or musical of their choice. • Collect basic information about the production, and develop a list of props or set pieces that it would require. • Choose, plan, and develop roles within the group for the construction of a piece for their production. • Reflect upon their work, as well as the successes and difficulties working collaboratively at a larger scale.	Approx. 3 weeks

Unit 3: Props and Sets Part 2	During this phase, students choose a play or musical as a class to research and develop props for. This phase allows students to experience working in both large and small groups toward a common goal. Students will: • Brainstorm a list of the props/set pieces they feel are most necessary for the production. • Choose, plan, and develop roles within a small group for the construction of a piece for the production. • Reflect upon their work after development.	Approx. 3 weeks
Unit 4: Props and Sets for the School Play	Students learn details about the school play and conduct basic background research on it. Key props and set pieces (e.g., backdrop, rolling boards, etc.) are decided, and students break into initial groups to begin planning and developing their work. Students will: • Plan the designs and best approaches for creating prop/set pieces in their initial groups. • Rotate group members and projects over the course of this unit to collaboratively work to finish/continue/create new prop/set pieces. • Reflect on both their skill and project development between their initial and final projects at the end of the semester. They will analyze how those skills impacted the quality and success of what they created for the play.	Approx. 10 weeks