

Get Into Theatre Teacher Resource 1

What does a career in theatre look like?

Workshop Brief

This Get Into Theatre careers workshop is specifically designed as an initial, introduction to on and off-stage careers in theatre. It has been devised for young people that do not yet know that they wish to pursue a theatre career, or interested in theatre careers but do not have the knowledge of the types of jobs within the theatre sector.

The workshop is discussion based and is centred on key videos. It can be facilitated within a larger assembly environment or a smaller classroom or studio. The videos can be watched either on a large screen or on digital devices depending on available facilities. The tasks are structured for the teacher/practitioner to facilitate the workshop to suit your needs and style. There are also practical, extension tasks to extend the session.

Workshop Aims

- To introduce the concept of careers in theatre.
- To experience real-life theatre careers case studies.
- To explore a selection of key jobs in theatre.

Student Outcomes

All will...

- Initially understand the idea of careers in theatre.
- Watch and respond to stories from real professionals in theatre.
- Identify a selection of jobs in theatre.

Most will...

- Be able to consider theatre careers as an option for themselves.
- Reflect and respond on stories from case studies they have watched.
- Have a good understanding of certain key jobs in theatre.

Some will...

- Understand that a theatre career is for them and consider their own skills for a job in theatre.
- Reflect and respond to a case study video they have watched and compare it to their own needs if they were to embark on a theatre career.
- Will identify with a certain job type within the theatre sector to pursue further.

Please note, you will need a projector, computer or digital device and access the Internet to play videos for this workshop. All videos are subtitled for accessibility.

1) Hook

a) *In a pair, discuss the question,*

Can you name as many different jobs in theatre?

b) *Read the list of jobs below and ask them to stand up or put their hand up if they mentioned that particular theatre job in their paired discussion.*

Stand up/put your hand up if you mentioned - actors

Stand up/put your hand up if you mentioned – directors

Continue for...

Costume designer

Set designer

Lighting designer

Stage manager

Sound technician

Producer

Stage carpenter

Theatre architect

c) *Play Video: Promo video link [here](#)*

2) Connect

a) This task is based around four videos. You can watch videos 1-4 one after another and facilitate the questions in between. Or you can set up a 'carousel', so that groups watch one of the four videos, respond with the questions and then rotate around to repeat the task with the next videos.

Video 1: Actor

Option 1 – [Emmanuel Kojo](#)

Option 2 – [Amy Trigg](#)

Option 3 – [Gemma Dobson](#)

Video 2: [Set Designer](#)

Video 3: [Lighting Designer](#)

Video 4: [Sound Technician](#)

After watching each video, you can use the below questions to facilitate a discussion to respond to each video.

1. **Describe** – what was the name of the job in the video you have just watched? Where in the theatre do they work?
2. **Explain** - what do they do in their job? What impact does their job have on the play?
3. **Predict** – what kind of skills do you think they use to do their job? List as many as you can.
4. **Compare** – what skills do you have that might be good for this kind of job? Do you think this is similar or different to the person you have watched?

Extension task - Role on the Wall

Divide the young people into groups and give each group a Role on the Wall resource. Ask them to choose a role to explore. They can then generate words and write them inside the role on the wall that describes the skills and attributes of the particular job they are exploring. Then rotate and add to the other jobs.

b) In a pair ask,

Now you have watched all four videos and responded with questions,

1. **Talk about some of the obstacles the people spoke about in the videos.**
2. **How did they overcome these obstacles?**

Extension task – Hot seating

Using one of the obstacles discussed in the last task. Choose one of the various people that were involved i.e. Student, parent or teacher and hot seat this person to better understand what they were feeling during the time the young person in the story faced the obstacle.

3) Demonstrate

1. You'll need to prepare the **Find Your Match Resource** before the workshop.
2. Separate the group into two equal halves and label each group A and B.
3. Hand out theatre jobs to group A.
4. Hand out job descriptions to group B.
5. Then ask the young people to move around the space and find the job that matches their job description (and vice-versa).
6. You can then check these at the end.

Extension task – Guess the role

In groups, ask a young person to perform a mime of one of the theatre job. The rest of the group will have to guess what the job is.

4) Consolidate

a) In a pair ask

Apart from Drama, what other subjects might lead to an on or off-stage theatre career?

b) Site Browsing time, ask:

Log on now to getintothetheatre.org and take the quiz. Find out were a theatre career could take you.

Find Your Match Resource

Job	Job Description
Actor	Auditioning and rehearsing, realising a character on stage and working with the director to bring the script alive.
Set and Costume Designer	Responsible for the scenery of the set and the overall look of the play, from what actors wear to the props they use.
Lighting Designer	Creates designs for the overall visual effects of a piece of theatre, using colour and shade to create atmosphere.
Sound Technician	Works with equipment like microphones and operates speaker and digital systems to enhance what the audience hears.

What does a career in theatre look like?

Role on the Wall Resource

