

## Elementary Acting and Improvisation Syllabus

**Course Overview:** This course introduces elementary students to the basics of acting and improvisation. Through engaging activities and performances, students will learn fundamental acting techniques, explore their creativity, and build confidence on stage. The course will culminate in performances of memorized monologues and scenes, with an emphasis on collaboration and improvisational skills.

### Course Objectives:

- Name and identify the basic stage directions.
- Name and identify the basic elements of acting.
- Perform a memorized monologue.
- Perform a memorized scene with other classmates.
- Demonstrate proper improv techniques with the concept of “yes and.”
- Explain how to bolster the quality of an improv scene and what to avoid in a scene.
- Demonstrate reasonable adaptability in an improv scene.

### Classroom Etiquette:

- **Punctuality:** Students should arrive on time, ready to participate in all activities. Being late can disrupt the learning process for everyone.
- **Respect:** Everyone in the class is expected to be kind and respectful to each other. This includes listening when others are speaking and offering support during performances.
- **Participation:** Active participation is encouraged. Students should be willing to try new things, even if they feel nervous or unsure.
- **Focus:** The classroom is a space for learning and creativity. Students should avoid distractions like talking out of turn or using electronic devices during class.
- **Safety:** Students must be aware of their physical space and act safely, especially during movement activities and scene work.

### Structure of Class:

1. **Warm-Up (10-15 minutes):**
  - Start each class with fun physical and vocal warm-up exercises to get everyone ready to act and move.
2. **Instruction and Demonstration (20-30 minutes):**
  - Learn new acting skills and techniques through explanations, demonstrations, and watching examples.
3. **Practice and Application (30-40 minutes):**
  - Practice the skills learned through activities, games, and scenes with partners or small groups.
4. **Group Work/Pair Work (20-30 minutes):**

- Work with classmates to rehearse scenes, improv games, or other activities that require teamwork.
- 5. **Reflection and Discussion (10-15 minutes):**
  - Share thoughts about the day's activities, discuss what was learned, and ask any questions.
- 6. **Closure/Assignment Briefing (5-10 minutes):**
  - Wrap up the class with a quick review of what was covered and give any homework or practice tasks for the next class.

**Reinforcement:**

- **Homework Assignments:** Simple tasks like memorizing lines, practicing a monologue, or thinking about a character. These activities help reinforce what was learned in class.
- **Peer Feedback:** Students will have the chance to watch each other's work and give positive feedback. This helps everyone learn together.
- **In-Class Performances:** Regular opportunities to perform in front of the class, which helps build confidence and improve acting skills.