

Basic Scenic Improvisation

Educational Objective: The students will demonstrate their ability to play scenic improv by performing several scenic activities.

Materials Needed: None

Hook: Teach them this verse:

*You can't ride my little red wagon
The wheels are busted and the axle's draggin'
Chug, chug.
(second verse) same as the first
A little bit louder and little bit worse.*

Repeat it 10 times getting louder and louder. This is to build energy.

Step 1: Play “Layers.” Have five people in the back line. Have one person start a scene. Then one of the back players calls “Freeze” and enters and starts another 2 person scene. Then a third person calls “Freeze” and starts a three person scene and so on until we have five unrelated scenes. Then the fifth person finds a way to leave. When he exits they return to the 4 person scene and the person that started that one finds a reason to exit which throws the group back into the three person scene and so on until they have ended all five scenes. The players must listen and remember.

Step 2: Play “What Are You Doing?” Make two lines on either side of the stage. Player 1 starts by doing some activity (jumping jacks). Player 2 approaches and says “What are you doing?” Player 1 replies by saying something he’s not doing (picking carrots). He goes to the back of one of the lines and Player 2 starts picking carrots. Player 3 approaches and so on. Make it tougher by picking two letters they have to use. P, C – Picking Carrots. A player can be eliminated if he
Says he’s doing the activity he is really doing
Hesitates too long
Reuses anything already used.

Step 3: Play Bind Freeze again. Practicing the editing.

Step 4: Play some short form scene games. Late For Work, Complaint Department, Questions, Number of Words, Alphabet or anything from “Whose Line Is It Anyway?”

Step 5: Discuss the differences between scene improv and short form.