

Big Before Broadway Creative Challenge: The One Minute Story

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Activity Overview

Grade Level: High School (9th – 12th) **Materials Needed:** Timer, toy microphone (optional), director slate (optional)
Subjects: ELA/Literacy, Playwriting
Estimated Time: 15 - 20min **Activity Format:** Group

Summary: This learning activity will help students develop communication skills and verbally free their expressions from self-censorship.

Activity Guide

1. Invite one student to the front of the classroom to be the Star.
2. Assign one student to be the Director and one student to be the Timekeeper. The Director will be responsible for telling the Star when to start speaking. The Timekeeper will time the Star for one minute.
3. Ask the class for a topic that they think the Star knows absolutely nothing about.
4. Explain to the Star that they have one minute to teach the class or talk in-depth about the topic. The Star will have to use their imagination to discuss all aspects of the topic.
5. Tell the Star there are no restrictions, except classroom rules. They may not stop talking until “time” is called. (You may need to encourage the student to keep talking if they get stuck. For example, remind the Star to stay on topic or keep speaking about an aspect of the topic they might be ignoring.)
6. Ask each Timekeeper to set the timer for one minute, and announce that time starts when the Director says “action”. Invite as many students to be the Star as time allows.



THE NATIONAL THEATRE
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