

# Arts Assessment For Learning

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THEATER— 3RD GRADE

## CHECKLISTS: IMPROVISATIONAL THEATER

### THE THREE RULES

- How did the players follow the three rules of improv?
- Always say “Yes, and”.
- Always make your partner look good.
- Always say the first thing that comes into your head.

**NOTE:** It helps to reflect on these three rules often when playing improv games. It helps to keep the players on target, and helps the players learn the rules by heart.

**NOTE:** Not every game requires that the players follow each of the rules. Sometimes the rules overlap. Saying “Yes” usually makes your partner look good.

**NOTE:** I always caution the children regarding the rule “say the first thing that comes into your mind.” Vulgar language is not permitted.

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## CRITERIA FOR *SLIDESHOW* TABLEAUX

- Listen to the storyteller:** Are the players following what the storyteller is saying?  
Does the tableau make sense?
- Move slowly and carefully into position:** Did the players move carefully into their new positions to a count of five?
- Freeze:** Did the players freeze in position?
- Sight Lines:** Can everybody be seen? Is anyone upstaging themselves or someone else?
- Use of Body:** Are the players using large, clear movements to show the action of the story?
- Use of Face:** do the players faces show what the characters are feeling?

**NOTE:** As the work progresses some of these criteria can change. For example, once the children are proficient at forming the tableaux safely, they can move quickly and in character from scene to scene. The tableaux can become animated to show action before a final freeze.