Based on the folk tales of

One Thousand and One Arabian Nights

Adapted for the stage by

Brandon Roberts

Florida Standards

Language Arts
LAFS.4.W.1: Text Types and Purposes
LAFS.K.L.3: Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
LAFS.4.RI.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.3.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.2.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details

Theater
TH.2.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential.
TH.2.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts

Content appropriate for all audiences.

Children two years of age and younger may sit on laps. Older children must have a ticket.
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Educators:

Thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to bring the joy of theatre arts to your classroom. Brandon Yagel, Education Coordinator, and I are well aware of the demands on your time and it is our goal to offer you supplemental information to compliment your curriculum with ease and expediency.

We’ve added **Study Guide Spotlights** for quick reference to the standards addressed in each production.

We have two **NEW MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOPS** for your students.

- **Shakespeare Alive Day 2** includes a mini performance by actors in your own classroom.

- **Text Based Playwriting** helps your students prepare for testing by mapping Shakespeare speeches from *Julius Caesar* to create an acting scene of their own devising.

Additionally, please take a moment to explore our website at orlandoshakes.org/education. We’ve added 10-15 minute “on your feet” activities that you can do in your classroom to supplement your curriculum. We’ve also posted edited of Shakespeare scripts that range from 60 – 120 minutes long that are perfect for school productions. As always, we’ve included Sunshine Standards to assure you that those curriculum needs are being met.

We look forward to hosting you at the Lowndes Shakespeare Theater. Additionally, should you wish to bring our Actor/Educators into your classroom, we will work around your schedule. Feel free to contact us at Orlando Shakes should you have any questions or suggestions on how we can better serve you. We are always learning from you.

Thank you for your tremendous work in nurturing our audiences of tomorrow.
Theater is a Team Sport

The **Playwright** writes the script. Sometimes it is from an original idea and sometimes it is adapted from a book or story. The Playwright decides what the characters say, and gives the Designers guidelines on how the play should look.

The **Director** creates the vision for the production and works closely with the actors, costume, set and lighting designers to make sure everyone tells the same story.

The **Actors** use their bodies and voices to bring the author’s words and the director’s ideas to life on the stage.

The **Designers** imagine and create the lights, scenery, props, costumes and sound that will compliment and complete the director’s vision.

The **Stage Manager** assists the director during rehearsals by recording their instructions and making sure the actors and designers understand these ideas. The Stage Manager then runs the show during each performance by calling cues for lights and sound, as well as entrances and exits.

The **Shop and Stage Crew** builds the set, props and costumes according to the designer’s plans. The Stage Crew sets the stage with props and furniture, assists the actors with costume changes and operates sound, lighting and stage machinery during each performance.

The **Front of House Staff** welcomes you to the theater, takes your tickets, helps you find your seat and answers any question you may have on the day of performance.

The **Theater** is where it all takes place. Orlando Shakespeare Theater In Partnership with UCF is the only professional, classical theater company in Central Florida, reaching students and audiences in the surrounding eight counties.

**Mission:**
To enrich our community with engaging professional theater, inspiring educational experiences, and thought-provoking new plays.
The Actor/Audience Relationship

The Audience is the reason Live Theater exists. At Orlando Shakes, we cherish the Actor/Audience relationship, the unique give and take that exists during a performance which makes the audience an ACTIVE participant in the event. The actors see the audience just as the audience sees the actors, and every laugh, sniffle, chuckle and gasp the audience makes effects the way the actor plays his next moment. We want you to be engaged, and to live the story with us!

There are certain Conventions of the Theatrical Event, like, when the lights go down you know that the show is about to start, and that the audience isn’t encouraged to come and go during a performance. Here are some other tips to help you and your classmates be top notch audience members:

- Please make sure to turn off your cell phones. And NO TEXTING!
- Please stay in your seat. Use the restroom before you take your seat and stay in your seat unless there is an emergency.
- Please do not eat or drink in the theater.
Although the story of Aladdin has gone through many revisions over the centuries, it was originally one of the Middle Eastern folk tales found in *The Book of One Thousand and One Nights*, also known as *The Arabian Nights*.

*The Book of One Thousand and One Nights* is a collection of stories and folk tales from West and South Asia that was compiled during the Islamic Golden Age. It took centuries to collect all of these together and various translators, authors, and scholars have contributed.

The original core of stories came from Persia and India in the eighth century. After being translated into Arabic, they were called "Alf Layla", or *The Thousand Nights*. There were significantly fewer stories in the collection at that time. In the thirteenth century, additional Syrian or Egyptian stories were added, and as the years went on, more tales were added by authors and translators until the total was indeed brought up to one thousand and one.

*The Arabian Nights* uses common motifs of magic and fantasy, intending to pull readers from their own lives into an exciting world where these things can exist. Flying is a common theme as well, as is a rise from poverty to riches and a fall back down again. Random events that can change the course of an entire story or a character's life show up repeatedly, expressing the truth that fortune can change rapidly and suddenly. Overall, considering how self-contained each story is, *The Arabian Nights* is remarkable for its cohesion, both in terms of theme and the use of framing devices.

Image Source: Amazon.com - Origin info: Gradesaver.com

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**Brandon Roberts**

Brandon has been working as an actor with the Orlando Shakespeare Theater since 2005. *Aladdin and the Magic Lamp* is the sixth script Brandon has composed for Shakes' Children's Series. Last summer, his adaptation of *Beauty and the Beast* was wildly popular among both young and old. Brandon has also helped to write four original shows for PB&J Theatre Factory, for which he is also Artistic Director, as well as seasonal scripts for Odd-o-Ts' Entertainment, who handles much of the entertainment for Sea World Orlando.

Image Source: Orlandoshakes.org

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LAFS.2.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
In this "choose your own adventure", interactive adaptation of One Thousand and One Aladdin Nights, four actors tell the story of a young boy named Aladdin living in a Middle Eastern Kingdom in the early 1700's. The story is narrated by the Genie of the Ring (a genie who can help influence our decisions when faced with two choices). Aladdin has fallen in love with the beautiful, kind Princess Adara and must now find a way to marry her, even though he is poor. The Genie of the Ring, along with the help of the audience, influences Aladdin's decisions and sets him on the right path to marry Princess Adara. Along the way he experiences many exciting adventures meeting such colorful characters as the Vizer Hasna, the Sultan, and eventually the Genie of the Magic Lamp. Will Aladdin marry the princess? Come help us decide during Orlando Shakespeare Theater's production of Aladdin and the Magic Lamp.
Read students a short story, stopping to clearly show any pictures or illustrations to the students. When finished, ask the students to illustrate the plot/action as it occurred throughout the story. Have students volunteer to share their illustrations with the rest of the class.

**Somebody:**
Who is the main Character?

**Wanted:**
What did the character want?

**But**
What was the problem?

**So:**
How did the character try to solve the problem?

**Then:**
What was the resolution to the problem?
Discussion Questions

*Asking questions that lead students up the “thinking ladder”.*

Use the following pattern in asking questions:
1. Ask OPEN questions to encourage and engage children.
2. Ask FOCUSED questions to elicit and organize specific information.
3. Ask CONNECTING questions to help children learn to see the relationships between events, characters and ideas.
4. Ask broad questions to help children GENERALIZE/learn to draw conclusions.
5. Accept, record and read all responses on the board, chart or overhead for all to see.

**OPEN question examples:**
- What did you notice at the play today….What did you see?
- What about the play was different from the book/story?
- What surprised you?
- What impressed you?

**FOCUSED questions:** *(questions that probe children’s’ insights)*
- What did Aladdin wish for? (_______).
- How was his wish granted? (_______)

**ANALYZING/CONNECTING questions:**
- What did Aladdin learn about choices?
- Why do you think Aladdin wanted to marry the princess?
Ask students to complete the word search. Words may read forward, backward, and diagonal.

1. ALADDIN
2. ADARA
3. GENIE
4. JEWELER
5. LAMP
6. PRINCESS
7. RING
8. SULTAN
9. TREASURE
10. WISHES
**OBJECTIVES:**
This lesson teaches children the five parts of a friendly letter. After visiting various websites to learn more about writing friendly letters, your child will be able to write a friendly letters utilizing the writing process.

The student...
Uses the writing process to develop friendly letters.
Uses the Internet to learn more about writing friendly letters.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**
- Poster board or Paper
- Markers
- Examples of friendly letters
- Computer with internet access

**PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES:**
1. Visit the following websites:
   - pbskids.org/arthur/games/letterwriter/letter.html
   - readingrockets.org/article/22319/
   - educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson281.shtml

2. Take time to discuss each part of the letter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friendly Letter Check List</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I used capital letters &amp; punctuation correctly.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter has a heading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter has a greeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter has a body</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter has a closing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter has a signature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My letter is ready to be checked by the teacher.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Heading
Name_____________________________
Address___________________________
City, State, Zip code__________________

2. Salutation
Dear _____________,

3. Body
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

4. Closing
Sincerely,

5. Signature
Your Name__________
Tell us what you think!!

After watching the play, write Orlando Shakespeare Theater a “Friendly Letter” and tell us what you think! Tell what you liked or disliked about the story, the characters, costumes, or set. Make sure to use the 5 parts of the letter listed in the lesson and to support your thoughts with examples and reasons.

Mail to: Orlando Shakespeare Theater
Education Department,
812 E. Rollins Street, Orlando, FL 32803.

Teacher and Parent comments are also Appreciated!