Spotlight Guide 2020 - 2021

A Midsummer Night's Dream
by William Shakespeare

"Lord, what fools these mortals be!" Four young lovers wander into an enchanted forest where the king and queen of the fairies are having a dispute of royal proportions. When mischief-maker Puck gets a hold of a love potion, he sets in motion all the comical misunderstandings that arise from the young lovers' chase through the woods. Shakespeare's classic comedy charms everyone who enters its magical realm – but all's well that ends well in this glittering heartwarming favorite that celebrates ideal love.

Orlando Shakes' production of A Midsummer Night's Dream is part of Shakespeare in American Communities, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Lesson Plan and Activities

Page to Stage Lesson Plan
In this lesson, students will read and analyze an excerpt from Act III, Scene 1 of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* using the included handouts.

Shakespeare Taboo
Students will gain a new appreciation for Shakespeare's contribution to the English language.

Paraphrasing
Students unlock Shakespeare's text by rewording of the meaning of the lines into their vernacular.

Write a Review
After seeing the production, have each student write a review of Orlando Shakes' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream.*

Discussion & Themes
What is the role of Love, Jealousy and Transformation in the story? What role does Magic play in these?

See the full study guide for expanded lesson plan and activities.

Florida Standards

LAFS.910.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
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LAFS.1112.SL.1: Comprehension and Collaboration
LAFS.910.W.1: Text Types and Purposes
LAFS.1112.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.910.RL.3: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
TH.912.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts
TH.68.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential.

PG-13 Elizabethan curse words, alcohol references, sexually suggestive scenes, Elizabethan duals, mildly frightening content

Most appropriate for Grade 8 and up. Children under 5 will not be admitted to the theater.