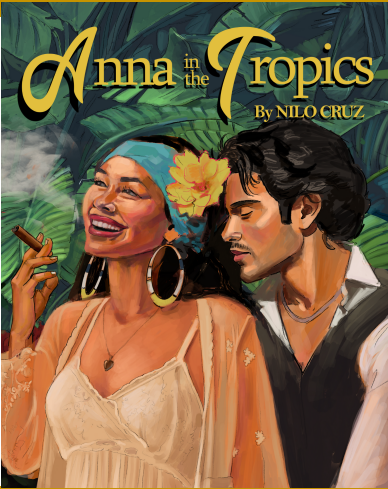


Spotlight Guide 2025-2026



In Ybor City, (Tampa) Florida, 1929, cigars are rolled by hand as Cuban factory workers listen to the voices of lecturers reading aloud great works of literature. When a handsome new lector begins reading Anna Karenina, he ignites a powder keg of passions. Longing, love, and betrayal spark a volatile flame that signals the end of an era.

Lesson Plan and Activities

Historical Context

Learn the history of cigar factories and lectores.

Discussion & Themes

What is the role of tradition and gender dynamics in the story?

www.miaminewdrama.org/education

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

Florida Standards

Language Arts

ELA.6-12.RL.1.1
ELA.912.R.1.2
ELA.912.R.3.2
ELA.912.R.3.3
ELA.912.R.3.1
ELA.912.R.2.3
ELA.912.C.1.3
ELA.912.C.1.4
ELA.912.C.2.1
ELA.912.C.2.2

Theatre

TH.912.F.2.2
TH.912.C.1.3
TH.912.C.2.1
TH.912.S.1.4
TH.912.H.1.5
TH.912.H.3.3
TH.68.S.1.1
ELA.912.R.1.1 / R.3.1
ELA.912.R.1.1 / R.3.1



PG-13

Language, Use of Alcohol & Cigars, Sexual Themes, Violence

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