Activity & Resource Guide
For Camp Activities
Dear Campers and Families,

Since camp is geared for play, I’ve created brief videos for each day to inspire campers to go make theater away from the computer. This activity guide, along with the videos, contains theater activities, crafts and more to encourage campers to use their imaginations at home and create “drama” in any space. Some of these activities can be done by campers on their own, other activities will require family participation. And since theater is all about play, community, imagination and fun, I invite everyone to experience Camp Theater in their own creative way. Get Ready, Get Set and Play!

Sincerely,
Lisa Ortenzi
Great Lakes Theater
Director or Educational Programming

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Share Your Camp Theater Adventures With Us!

Send photos and videos of activities and crafts to kflorian@greatlakestheater.org”
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Camp Theater Day 1
Come back tomorrow for more activities
1) During his lifetime, William Shakespeare wrote around 37 plays for the theatre and over 150 poems! No one can say the exact number, because some of his work may have been lost over time – and some may have been written with the help of other people.

2) William was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564, during England’s Tudor period. He was one of eight children born to John Shakespeare, a well-to-do glove-maker and leather worker, and his wife, Mary Arden, an heiress from a wealthy family.

3) Very little is known about William Shakespeare’s early years. In fact, his actual date of birth remains a mystery to this day! But it’s believed he had a good upbringing, attended a good school and enjoyed playing outdoors a lot.

4) In 1582, William married a farmer’s daughter called Anne Hathaway. They had three children together – a daughter called Susanna, and twins, Judith and Hamnet.

5) Come 1585, the mysterious William Shakespeare disappeared from records for around seven years! Historians often refer to this part of the writer’s life as ‘the lost years’...

6) Then, in 1592 he suddenly turned up in London as an actor and playwright. But poor William didn’t have it easy – his jealous rivals, known as the ‘University Wits’, criticised and made fun of his work. One writer, named Robert Greene, referred to him as ‘an upstart crow’!

7) William was part of a theatre company called Lord Chamberlain’s Men, who regularly performed at a place called ‘The Theatre’. But after a dispute with the landlord, they took the building apart, rebuilt it across the river and named it the Globe.

8) A large, open-air theatre, the Globe accommodated for people from all walks of life, meaning that anyone could watch a performance there. If you were poor, you could only afford tickets to the ground floor where there were no seats and you were exposed to the cold, wind and rain that came in through the open top. If you were rich, you could afford to sit in the higher-level, covered galleries in a comfy seat – away from the smelly poor people below!

From: https://www.natgeokids.com/nz/discover/history/general-history/shakespeare-facts/
9) Shakespeare’s plays were immediately big hits! He wrote different kinds of plays, all of which could be divided into three categories:

- **Tragedy** – including *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *King Lear* and *Romeo and Juliet*
- **Comedy** – including *Twelfth Night* and the *The Taming of the Shrew*
- **History** – including *Henry IV*, *Henry V* and *Richard III*

His plays made him very rich and famous. So much so, that by 1598, William owned houses in London and Stratford-upon-Avon.

10) Shakespeare’s plays had the royal seal of approval. Both Queen Elizabeth I and James VI of Scotland and I of England would often hire Shakespeare’s company to come and perform at the royal court.

11) Plays in Shakespeare’s time were different to the ones we have today. There were no female actors (women’s parts were played by men!), and audiences could be very rowdy. They would shout, boo and even throw food at the actors they didn’t like!

12) Plays at the Globe featured lots of exciting special effects, with trap doors, actors lifted on wires, smoke, fire and even cannons! Disaster struck in 1613 when a cannon shot set fire to the roof of the Globe and burned it down! It wasn’t long after that Shakespeare retired from the theatre.

13) Towards the end of his life, William lived quietly back in his hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon. He died on 23 April 1616, aged 52, after falling ill. It’s believed he may have died on his birthday, but without an official birth record, no one can be sure!

14) Written on Shakespeare’s gravestone in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, is a curse written by the famous wordsmith himself. It reads:

> ‘Good friend for Jesus’ sake forbear,  
> To dig the dust enclosed here.  
> Blessed be the man that spares these stones,  
> And cursed be he that moves my bones.’

15) Today, Shakespeare’s work is studied in schools and universities around the world, and his stories are depicted on TV and in films. In 1997, the modern Globe Theatre was opened in London. A reconstruction of the original, it’s just a few hundred metres from where the original one once stood. People can go to watch plays – just like in Shakespeare’s day!
Egeus wants his daughter Hermia to marry Demetrius. Hermia does not want to marry him. She loves another man named Lysander. Hermia and Lysander decide to run away. Demetrius follows them. Helena, Hermia's best friend, is in love with Demetrius. She follows him. All four become lost in the woods near Athens.

Meanwhile, Oberon and Titania are having an argument. Oberon decides to teach Titania a lesson. He puts a love potion into her eyes while she is asleep. This potion will make her fall in love with the first thing she sees when she wakes.

Oberon finds Helena and Demetrius. He tells Puck to give Demetrius some of the love potion so that he will love Helena. Puck makes a mistake and puts the potion in Lysander's eyes. When Lysander wakes up, he loves Helena instead of his real sweetheart Hermia!

The workmen are practicing a play in the woods for the upcoming marriage of Theseus and Hippolyta. Puck plays a trick on Nick Bottom by giving him donkey ears. The other actors run away, so Bottom goes to sleep. He is sleeping near Titania. She wakes up and falls in love with him.

Oberon realizes everything is all mixed up. He gives some of the love potion to Demetrius. Now Demetrius and Lysander both love Helena. Sad and confused, all the lovers fall asleep. At last, Puck rights all the wrongs. He makes Lysander love Hermia again, and makes Demetrius love Helena. Everyone is happy.

The workmen perform their play after the wedding of Theseus and Hippolyta. Oberon has stopped Titania being in love with Bottom. They are happy with each other again. The fairies use their magic to bless all the lovers.

from: https://kids.kiddle.co/A_Midsummer_Night%27s_Dream
Characters from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

**The Court at Athens:**
- Theseus, Duke of Athens and the betrothed of Hippolyta
- Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons and the betrothed of Theseus
- Philostrate, Master of the Revels at the Court
- Egeus, father of Hermia

**The Lovers:**
- Hermia, beloved of Lysander and daughter to Egeus
- Lysander, beloved of Hermia
- Helena, in love with Demetrius
- Demetrius

**The Fairies:**
- Oberon, King of the Fairies
- Titania, Queen of the Fairies
- Puck, Oberon's servant
- Peaseblossom, a fairy serving Titania
- Moth, a fairy serving Titania
- Cobweb, a fairy serving Titania
- Mustardseed, a fairy serving Titania

**The Rude Mechanicals:**
- Nick Bottom, a weaver
- Peter Quince, a carpenter
- Robin Starveling, a tailor
- Francis Flute, a bellows mender
- Snug, a joiner
- Tom Snout, a tinker

*Photos: Great Lakes Theater, A Midsummer Night’s Dream.*

Bottom, turned into a donkey by Puck’s magic

The Rude Mechanicals performing “Pyramus & Thisbe”

Lysander & Hermia
# A Midsummer Night’s Dream Word Sculptures

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## Adjectives

- Beautiful
- Frightening
- Magical
- Green
I do wander everywhere, Swifter than the moon's sphere
Spurn me, strike me, neglect me, lose me; only give me leave to follow you
She withholds the loved boy, crowns him with flowers and makes him all her joy
Are not you he that frights the maidens of the villager?
Thou speak'st aright; I am that merry wanderer of the night.

These are the forgeries of jealousy
To dance our ringlets to the whistling wind
That the rude sea grew civil at her song
To die upon the hand I love so well
And run through fire I will for your sweet sake
The deepest loathing to the stomach brings
Sometime a horse I'll be, sometime a hound
Mine ear is much enamored of thy note
Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful
And pluck the wings of painted butterflies
To conjure tears up in a poor maid’s eyes
I will shake thee from me like a serpent
I jest to Oberon and make him smile
The king doth keep his revels here to-night

Tear impatient answers from my gentle tongue
Which Lion vile with bloody mouth did stain
Wicked wall through whom I see no bliss
A very gentle beast, and of a good conscience
By thy gracious, golden, glittering gleams
That your frowns would teach my smiles such skill

Swift as a shadow
Neighing in likeness of a filly foal
Dead and drowsy fire
That yet we sleep, we dream
The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
Quail, crush, conclude, and quell
Her passion ends the play
Following darkness like a dream
With bloody blameful blade
Sword Craft Activity
How to make a cardboard sword

In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, the Rude Mechanicals put on the play of Pyramus & Thisbe for the Duke. Bottom will need some props in order to play the role of Pyramus. He must be a gallant youth, so we’re going to give him a sword and shield.

Materials
- 1 Cardboard tube from a roll of wrapping paper
- 1 Cardboard tube from a roll of toilet paper
- Clear tape or masking tape
- Scissors
- Craft items to decorate sword such as markers, paint, crayons, glitter, duct-tape, glue or anything that makes you happy

Step 1
Get a roll of wrapping paper and take out the cardboard tube from the middle of the roll of wrapping paper.

Step 2
Get a roll of toilet paper and take out the tube from the middle of the roll of toilet paper.

Step 3
Cut 2 holes on opposite sides of each other in the middle of the toilet paper roll. The holes should be big enough for the wrapping paper tube to slide through.

Step 4
Slide the wrapping paper tube through the toilet paper tube.

Step 5
Tape the toilet paper tube to the wrapping paper tube so it doesn’t slide off.

Step 6
Decorate your sword.

Step 7
You are ready to be Knighted and have fun!
Shield Craft Activity
How to make a shield with a Coat of Arms

Materials
♦ 1 Piece of Poster Board, white or any color that you choose
♦ Masking Tape or Duct Tape
♦ Glue
♦ Scissors
♦ Pencil with erasure
♦ Craft items to decorate sword such as markers, paint, crayons, glitter, duct tape, glue or anything that makes you happy

Step 1
Use one of the shield templates to design your shield with a Coat of Arms first. Look at the information about Coat of Arms to make yours personal.

Step 2
Get a piece of poster board and draw the shape of your shield on it making it big enough to hold in front of you. Transfer your design onto your poster board shield in pencil.

Step 3
Cut out the shape of the shield.

Step 4
On the back of the shield, tape a length of poster board on it to use as a handle and secure with glue and/or duct tape and let it dry.

Step 5
Finish decorating your shield.

Step 6
You are ready to be Knighted and have fun!
What the symbols on coats of arms, family crests and seals mean

A coat of arms is a unique heraldic design on a shield, surcoat (loose outer coat or gown) or tabard (tunic or cape garment). Medieval knights used coats of arms to identify the wearer. Heralds, or announcers, would introduce knights at competitions and spectators could distinguish each knight by the design adorning his shield, helmet and armour. A knight's battle gear was so prestigious and spoke to all of his achievements, so the coat of arms evolved into a status symbol that provided commentary on one's family history, property and profession or occupation.

Colors
Gold: generosity
Silver or white: peace
Red: warrior, strength
Blue: truth and loyalty
Green: hope, joy
Black: constancy or grief
Purple: royal, justice
Orange: worthy ambition
Maroon: victorious

Animals
Bear: strength, cunning, protection
Dolphin: swiftness, diligence, charity, love
Eagle: noble nature, strength, bravery
Elephant: great strength, wit, royalty
Fish: true, generous mind
Fox: wisdom, wit
Horse: readiness for king and country
Lamb: gentleness, patience
Leopard: valiant, hardy warrior
Lion: dauntless courage
Stag: peace, harmony, strength
Swan: light, love, grace, sincerity, perfection
Tortoise: invulnerability
Tiger: fierceness, valour

Mythological Creatures
Centaur: high rank in the battlefield
Dragon: valiant defender of treasure
Griffin: death-defying bravery
Mermaid: eloquence
Pegasus: poetic genius, inspiration
Phoenix: symbol of resurrection
Sphinx: omniscience and secrecy
Unicorn: extreme courage, strength

Fruit & Flowers
Apple: peace
Bay leaves: poet
Berries: happiness
Grapes: generosity
Laurel leaves: triumph
Oak tree: strength
Olive branch: agreeable
Rose: red rose is grace and beauty and a white rose is love and faith

Objects
Anchor: hope
Bells: power
Chains: reward
Fleur-de-lis: France
Hand: justice
Harp: mystical
Feathers: peace
Scallop shell: traveler
Sword/dagger: traveler
Torch: life

https://www.genesreunited.co.uk/blog/genes-reunited-blog/archive/2013/11/7/what-the-symbols-on-coats-of-arms,-family-crests-and-seals-mean

Coat of Arms
Duke & Duchess of Cambridge
Design A Shield With Your Own Coat of Arms
Design A Shield With Your Own Coat of Arms
William Shakespeare Coloring Page
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Page 4:

The Droeshout Portrait of William Shakespeare, from the First Folio

Page 5:

Creator: Joe Daniel Price

Page 6:

Illustrator: William Heath Robinson (1872-1944)

Page 7:

Photos: Roger Mastroianni, Great Lakes Theater’s 2017 A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Page 8:

Artist: Arthur Rackman (1867-1939)

Page 9:

Artist: Edward Robert Hughes (1832-1908)

Page 10:

The Accolade (1901) by Edmund Leighton

http://happyvirtue.blogspot.com/2013/01/january-craft-better-cardboard-swords.html

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Artist: Dante Gabrielle Rossetti (1828-1882)

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Joan on horseback in a 1505 Illustration