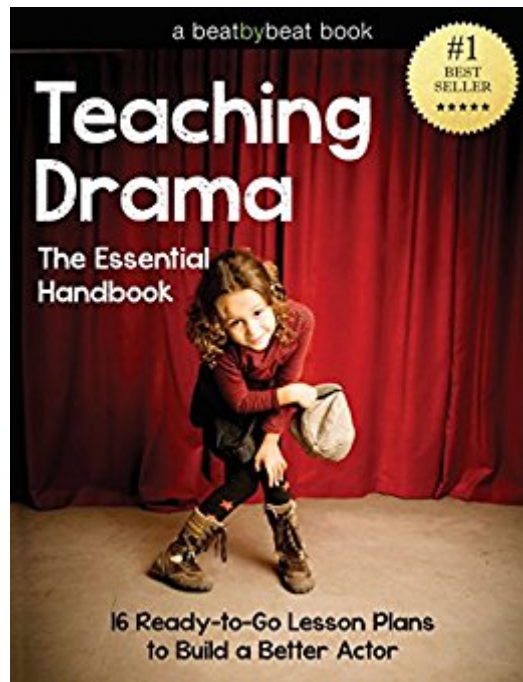


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# Teaching Drama: The Essential Handbook: 16 Ready-to-Go Lesson Plans To Build A Better Actor



## Synopsis

Teaching Drama: The Essential Handbooks is a brand new resource with 16 ready-to-go lesson plans that will transform the way you teach acting to kids! Whether you're a new drama teacher looking for help laying out your first year, or an experienced teacher looking for refreshing new ideas, this resource will give you the tools you need to build your kids into incredible actors. It contains a semester's worth of cumulative detailed lesson plans, notes on how to introduce basic acting concepts to kids, activities for both "younger" and "older" students, how to transition between activities and from lesson to lesson, and contemporary new games like a "Facebook Character Profile".

**NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR** When I first started teaching theatre, I knew there were tons of resources out there, but none of them seemed to give me the practical advice I needed on a lesson by lesson basis. What were the specific tricks and tools I could use to go beyond having fun to actually building better actors? Eventually I realized the thing that was most helpful to me was to watch other amazing teachers in action. Nothing could replace the experience of being in the classroom and seeing what worked and what didn't. This book is designed to recreate that experience. I've condensed 10 years of experience (with over 20,000 students in the NYC public school system) into 16 lessons of drama teaching gold. After you've read through all the lessons, you should feel like you've sat in on an entire semester of observing an expert drama teacher introduce the basics of drama to a classroom of students.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR** For nearly a decade DENVER CASADO has worked as an arts educator with New York City's leading theatre organizations including Disney Theatricals, New York City Center and Young Audiences New York. Denver's innovative approach to exploring theatre with kids has earned him invitations to speak at the national conferences of the American Association of Community Theatre and the American Alliance for Theatre Education. In 2011 he was honored with the All Stars Projects Phyllis Hyman award, in recognition of his important contribution to the creative growth and development of over 20,000 young people in the NYC public school system. Denver is a graduate of New York University's Steinhardt School of Education.

**LESSONS OVERVIEW** Below are just a few of the topics covered in the lessons:

- “What is Theatre? Students explore how theatre is the art of telling stories through live acting.”
- “Creating an Ensemble: Students learn to work together, build trust, and involve every member in a performance.”
- “Movement & Space: Students explore how pantomime and behavior can help tell a story.”
- “Character Development: Students explore what makes characters unique and how to create compelling characters onstage.”
- “Objective & Tactics: Students will think about the why behind every action.”
- “Using Your Voice: Students will understand the importance of

articulation, projection and voice variation.â€œ Listening/Reacting.: Students will understand how listening and reacting are an important part of being an actor.â€œ Stage Directions and Blocking: Students will understand the â œprinciples of blockingâ • and how to stage a scene without instruction.A RESOURCE YOU CAN TRUSTâ€œ Since launching in April of 2011, Beat by Beat Press has helped hundreds of teachers in over 16 countries bring exciting new content to their communities.â€œ Over 800 people a day visit Beat by Beatâ™s website for high-quality drama resources, so rest assured the materials youâ™re receiving are top-notch.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Absolutely LOVE this little book. I was worried at first because it was thinner than I expected, but it is PACKED with good stuff. I will use this every week with my Fundamentals of Drama class. Activities have a purpose-which I love- they are not just random activities to occupy the class. I know my kids will love what I take from this book as well.

Was a nice resource for teaching a drama camp this summer. Though I didn't really follow the

lesson plans, I did use many of the suggested activities. May look more into the plans for our coming drama class this year.

I wasn't sure about this because it didn't have many reviews, but this book has saved me SO much time planning my drama classes. A couple of the activities I already knew but most of them I didn't. For me, the best part was how they were organized and grouped into acting concepts. I used this as the basis for my classes then just put my own spin on things. It would've taken me weeks to plan out the same thing. The activities themselves are genius and really push kids to think beyond just having fun. Highly recommended!! :)

This looks like it will be perfect for my new high school drama club. The lessons are not too childish so that the high school students will be turned off. No lessons where you pretend to be a melting ice cream cone, lol. Instead, the lessons are designed to open students' eyes to the acting they see all around them. It teaches them to be more observant of how people communicate, using gesture, facial expressions, tone of voice, etc. Very nice handbook for a beginning drama teacher.

Teaching Drama: The Essential Handbook is a great book of ideas to teach in class or camp.

Basic, essential, and clear. Not every drama teacher will want to follow the plans to the letter, but this book is chock full of ideas to get you started.

Great resource! Just what I needed to teach a creative drama summer class to some elementary kiddos. Each of the 16 lessons take about 45 minutes to teach.

Absolutely wonderful! Exactly what I was looking for and it met all my needs. I wish he had a part two.

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