



# DEVISING A PLAY IN THREE DAYS

Proposal for a theatre and arts project to devise a performance with P 6 and 7 children from Ardeer Primary School for the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival exploring its theme of 'In/Visible'.

GRAPEVINE THEATRE  
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## Project information:

Project name: 'Devising a Play in Three Days'

Details: This project will consist of three days of workshops with fifty 9–11-year-olds from Ardeer Primary School. These workshops will begin with exploring the festival's theme of 'In/Visible' where the young people can create their own responses and begin developing stories- using Shaun Tan's 'The Red Tree' as a stimulus for their creative work. We will use this to facilitate them building a performance, adding together ideas from the young people with ensemble work. The project will end with a show back on the afternoon of the last session, to parents, carers and guardians along with the wider school. This project will focus on the process to get to the performance, putting the young people's learning and development in the forefront of the work. The act of making the performance, and exploring the themes is as important as the performance itself. We will delve into drama skills and explore mental health themes, ensuring they are relevant for their ages, for example, friendships and community. We would like to engage the wider school community by getting other classes to help with prop making, so they can feel connected to the performance even if they aren't onstage themselves. This prop making will use origami to create paper boats to be used within the performance, this is a motif from 'The Red Tree'. The young people will then be asked to write on their boat what tools they use to 'stay above water', what do they do to ensure they are maintaining their wellbeing? Drama is a brilliant tool to build community spirit, as each performer can present something they are proud of and share it with their audience of supporters who will come out of the event with a shared experience that can bring them together. This is why it is so important we bring this project to Ardeer Primary and their community.

**Aim:** To use theatre and drama to explore themes of mental wellbeing and emotional literacy with 9–11-year-olds.

## Objectives:

- To develop performance skills in young people
- To use storytelling to explore themes of mental health and emotional literacy
- To develop a performance displaying the young people's thoughts and ideas
- To engage young people who may find it difficult to express themselves in a classroom setting
- To engage parents/carers in the process and in the arts

## Resource Analysis

Resource	Detail	Source
Workshop Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pens</li> <li>• Wallpaper</li> <li>• Paper</li> <li>• Bean Bags</li> <li>• Bluetooth speaker</li> <li>• Scissors</li> <li>• Masking tape</li> <li>• Printing ink</li> <li>• Drum</li> </ul>	Existing Supply Highstreet shops Online
Performance Materials *As we haven't finalised what the performance will look like these are subject to change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fabric</li> <li>• Hair ties</li> <li>• Glue</li> <li>• Paper</li> </ul>	Existing Supply Highstreet shops Online

## Deliverables

We will gain creative feedback from the young people to assess any changes they have made throughout the process. The performance, along with the script will also be able to be handed over to the school and festival.

## Budget

Item	Details	Amount	Cost
Theatre Facilitators (x2) Delivery	£80/day/facilitator	3	£480
Theatre Facilitators (x2) Planning	£30/session/facilitator	5	£300
Travel	Trains	2 adults	£100
Workshop materials			£40
Performance materials			£80
<b>Total</b>			<b>£1,000</b>

Two experienced theatre facilitators from Grapevine Theatre will be used to plan and run the sessions with young people and aid in the creation of the performance. These facilitators are experienced in work with young people on sensitive topics, recently finishing theatre-based work with a group of young people living in Palestine. They are also well versed in creating performances with young people, balancing the process of creation with building the performance itself. Recently their work devising with young people was showcased in the Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot.

[For a breakdown of the materials please see the resource analysis.]