



## **Drama Curriculum – Early Childhood**

**May 2007**

# Introduction

## *Drama Curriculum*

At Baker Demonstration School, Drama is an integral part of the academic curriculum that uniquely integrates major fields of study into its own. Systematic and continued drama/theatre experiences at Baker provide learners with opportunities to master basic skills, to inquire and discover, to create, and to explore values. Drama is a cultural tool for learning. In grades one through five, the Baker Demonstration School Drama Program embeds process oriented drama in integrated units of study to explore curriculum mentally, emotionally, physically and socially.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

#### Concepts

The language of the arts

Works of art are produced through creating and performing

As an art form, drama functions as a part of history, society, and everyday life

Assessments

#### Skills and Processes

- Understands the elements of acting, locomotor and non-locomotor movement, vocal and non-vocal sound and story making.
- Knows the principles of plot, character, setting, conflict and resolution
- Understands the tools of body, mind and voice used to create drama and/or theatre
- Understands the tools of simple visual, aural media
- Understands the process of collaboration in the creation and performance of drama
- Understands the process of practicing and planning used to create and perform drama
- Demonstrates individual skills: vocalizing, observing, listening, moving, and concentrating. Tells stories. Listens and responds to literature and non-fiction. Uses oral language to express feelings and ideas
- Demonstrates group skills—decision-making, planning, practicing, and spacing—necessary to create or perform stories or story fragments
- Participates appropriately in discussions. Listens to others who are speaking
- Can identify the roles of audience and artists.
- Can identify how arts contribute to communication, celebrations, occupations and recreation
- Knows how images, sounds and movements convey stories about people, places and times
- Begins to make connections between drama and other disciplines
- Employs skills and knowledge from drama to deepen communication and express emotion
- Drama is integrated into a curricular unit in collaboration with the classroom teacher, so assessments vary. Assessment tools include anecdotal records: class discussion and participation, videotaping, visual and written work and a variety of performance-based projects