2014-2015 Study Guide

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About the Performance

- This play is full of zany characters, but we only have 5 actors, so some of the actors will be playing up to six different characters!

- The GTA Repertory Company rehearsed an average of 24 hours a week for four weeks and then 9 hours a week for three more weeks. They spent half of their time rehearsing Shiver Me Timbers and half of their time rehearsing their Shakespearean piece, Shakespeare on Tour: A Muse of Fire.

- The Repertory Company will perform three times a week for 18 weeks across North Georgia between October and April (That’s more than 50 times!)

- A lot of hard work goes into building the GTA Repertory Company. It would not be possible without the following people:

  Ann Demling (Director): is the Director of Theatre at Brenau University. She plans all of the movement around the stage for the actors.

  Sara Dove (Stage Manager): is a sophomore at Brenau University and is in charge of all of the rehearsals for the Repertory Company.

  Deirdre Kunze (Company Manager): is a senior at Brenau University and is in charge of all of the bookings and promotions of the Repertory Company.

  Amanda Seden (Costume Designer): is a senior at the University of North Georgia and has helped create many costumes for GTA shows.

  Actors:

  Rebecca DelPlato was most recently was Alice in Alice in Wonderland and Lucy Steele in Sense and Sensibility.

  Joseph Harris owes much of his passion for theatre to a GTA RepCo that visited his school as a child.

  Skyler Passmore was the Mad Hatter in Alice in Wonderland and Edward Ferrars in Sense and Sensibility.

  Paige Keane is so excited to play with you today! You may have seen her in Alice in Wonderland or Sense and Sensibility.

  Patrick Wade is honored to be part of RepCo, and believes it is an important and special way to do theatre.

About the playwright... Gay H. Hammond

Gay H. Hammond lives and writes in Gainesville, Georgia, where she has been the Artistic Director of WonderQuest, a theatre for young audiences since 1993. If you have come to see one of her lovely WonderQuest shows, such as Alice in Wonderland or Sleeping Beauty, you may remember her as the lady who gives away a free T-shirt to some lucky student at each performance. In the theatre for over 30 years, Gay continues to be a working actor, director and playwright, as well as a professional theatre educator currently teaching at Brenau University. During this time, she has also written more than twenty-eight plays for both young audiences and for the Gainesville Theatre Alliance’s Main Stage audiences. Ms. Hammond loves children’s literature (she is really good at reading a story and making different voices for each of the characters!) and she loves writing plays for children. She loves to play with words and is also the Wordsmith and Emcee for both the Hall County and Forsyth County Literacy Spelling Bees! Underlying all of Gay’s work is the fervent belief that there is no more valuable treasure than that of feeling the connection between ideas and emotions. She hopes that her plays will always inspire that connection.
Fun Facts About the Play and Pirates!

Each of the main characters names are the names of different parts or processes of a vessel!
- Scupper - the holes at the sides of the deck which let the water run off
- Kedge - a small anchor
- Orlop - the darkest deck, below the sea-line
- Careen - turning a ship on its side, to repair or clan; off-kilter
- Sprit - the spar which runs ahead off the ship, off the bow

Pirate Captains loved to dress very flashy. If they thought they might get captured they would change into normal clothes. This way no one would think that they were an important member of the crew. Then they would try and escape.

Did you know that anyone who commits a crime while on the high seas is a pirate? Piracy and pirate crimes can be anything from robbing a ship to attacking a piratey crew.

Did you know that pirates have existed as long as people have traveled by water? Since being a pirate means committing a crime at sea, anyone in any time period was a pirate! For example, Vikings were also pirates.

Have you ever heard of Blackbeard? He was a very famous pirate who’s real name was Edward Teach. He was very scary, so people would give him money to make him leave them alone. He also had a peg leg!

The 19th of September is International Talk Like A Pirate Day You should try it next September.

Did you know that no one has ever discovered a real treasure map?

“Life’s pretty good, and why wouldn’t it be? I’m a Pirate, after all.” – Johnny Depp
Theatre Etiquette

Theatre is a partnership between the actors on stage and the members of the audience. It is a two-sided communication process. An actor’s goal is to give pleasure to his or her audience. A responsive audience reciprocates the cast’s energy, which in turn encourages the actors to give even more back to that audience. The better the audience, the better that performance will be!

Each performance is unique -- like snowflakes, no two are ever the same. Each performance’s life lasts only in the memories of its participants. Many young people have never attended live theatre performance and may have questions as to how they conduct themselves. Listed below are answers to the most common questions asked by new audience members. Please share with your students those answers which your feel are applicable to your class.

How is a live performance different than a movie?

The work is LIVE. The action that you see is happening right now with people just like you. you should treat the performers the way that you would want to be treated if you were on the stage with a lot of people watching you. Wouldn't you want them to listen and pay attention? To laugh when you were funny and applaud when they like what you were doing? (Also, snacks and drinks are not allowed in our theatres!!)

Do I have to stay in my seat and be as quiet as possible?

Not necessarily! You shouldn't have personal conversations during the play, but you do not have to be completely quiet. If something funny is happening on the stage then you should laugh! If the character asks you a question then you should answer!

When should I clap my hands?

In a live play, you should applaud whenever the show is especially spectacular or entertaining -- remember that applause is the way of that you show the actors you like what they are doing! Also, you should applaud when the play is over and when the actors take their bow. Most of all HAVE FUN!!
Fun Things To Do

Ideas to Discuss or Write about

- One of the important themes of *Shiver Me Timbers* is the importance of friendship and adventure. Friendships will guide us through life and often you will find that friends will be with you during the greatest adventures of life. Think of a time that you and a friend when on an adventure. What made this adventure most special? Was one of the best parts the fact that your friend was with you?

- The characters of the play spend a lot of their time looking for buried treasure. Treasures can be anything that you love, not just gold and jewels. If you were to bury 5 things in a treasure chest to keep safe, what would you bury? What about these items make them so important?

- The characters in *Shiver Me Timbers* find themselves in a debate of what the perfect pet for a pirate is. They think of several pets that could be a perfect pet and consider the positives and negatives of that pet being a pirate’s pet. In the end, the pirates decide that a parrot is the perfect pet for a pirate. Think of your dream job. What pets do you think would be good companions for your job? Go through the positives and negatives for each pet to decide which pet is the best!

- Storytelling was the first form of passing family history. Oral communications (storytelling) were usually accompanied by music. This type of storytelling is also known as folklore and often has jokes and heros. This is how the traditions of a culture or family are passed to the next generation. In two minutes, share with your class an important family highlight through a quick story.

- Plays are stories about characters and characters are based off of people! Characters are some times silly, fun, or even scary!! Take a moment to write down 5 adjectives that describe your character. Write a definition for each word and then think of an antonym for that word.
Can you find all of these pirate words??

Captain  Matey  Parrot
Treasure  Mermaid  Pirate
Flag  Ocean  Ship

What did you think of the show? What were your favorite parts? What do you want to be done differently? We want to hear from you! Send any ideas or drawings to:

500 Washington Street SE
BUCB 605
Gainesville GA 30501
Draw one wave of water.

Draw a treasure chest with squares. Draw 5 doubloons and 1 diamond. How many items are in the chest?

Draw a parrot. Use 1 circle for the body, 1 for the head, and 2 for eyes. Then use 2 more circles to draw wings. How many circles did you draw?

If you have a treasure chest with 78 doubloons and Black Beard takes out 16 doubloons, how many doubloons are left? What percentage of the doubloons did he remove?

You have 40 sailors, 7 captains, 15 parrots, and 8 treasure chests. If you have three ships that you must fill evenly, how many sailors, captains, parrots, and treasure chests can you put on each ship? How many of each will you have left over?

If eye patches are $10 a piece and there is a buy-one-get-one free sale, how much will eye patches cost you for 12 pirates?

Captain Salt loves cake and will make which ever sailor brings him the least amount of cake walk the plank. If the Billy brings \(1\frac{5}{9}\) pieces of cake, Bobby brings \(2\frac{4}{9}\) pieces of cake, and Frank brings \(29/9\) pieces of cake. Who brought the most cake? How much cake was there all together?
How to Make a Fizzing Treasure Chest

The Ingredients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baking Soda</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Plastic Bins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jell-O</td>
<td>Gems/Treasures</td>
<td>Plastic Spoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glitter</td>
<td>Ice Cube Trays</td>
<td>Condiment Bottles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vinegar</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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The Recipe

3 parts baking soda + 1 part water + Jell-O Powder (However much desired)

The Instructions

When mixing, you will want it to turn out like a paste. It creates the best fizzy consistency.

After the desired consistency is achieved, pour the paste into a mold (we recommend a simple ice cube tray).

Once you have filled your mold, add little “gems” or “treasures” into the mixture. These can be little beads, pennies, etc.

Before freezing, add glitter to the top of the paste.

Freeze the molds over night for best results.

The next morning they will be ready for the experiment! Put vinegar in the plastic bins and bottles so that all of your students have a chance to try the experiment.

Hand out the molded mixture to your students and have them drop them in the bins or spray them with the bottles. Use the spoons to stir them in the buckets so they fizz quicker.

The Jell-O makes it smell pleasant and they will love watching the cubes fizz!

For more information visit: