Introduction to Pantomime
Office of Arts and Special Projects
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Grades K-2
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Welcome to Pantomime!
Watch a welcome video from Sherie Rene Scott, an Award-Winning Writer, Actress, and Singer.

What is pantomime?

- Pantomime means acting without words
- Also known as acting without using your voice to speak
- To be a pantomime, you must practice simple, clear, exaggerated movements and big facial expressions
  - Exaggerated means larger than life

Get Ready to be Pantomimes!

Before you begin these activities, please choose a space in your home to be your “stage” and a place for the “audience” to sit.

Now, get ready to play ‘Entrances’

Activity: Entrances
Inspired by The Drama Notebook

In entrances, your audience is trying to guess who you are based on how you enter a specific scene. The actors and audience know the scene, but only the actors know who the characters are.

How you play this activity is up to you and your family. You can have one family member acting and the rest as an audience, you can form teams, or you can all do the acting together.

Here is ONE scene with THREE separate entrances to the scene to try. The scene stays the same, but the entrances change.

Scene: Visiting a SPOOKY old house

- Entrance 1: You and your family enter the scene and you are a ghost buster doing a ghost investigation.
- Entrance 2: You and your family enter the scene, because you are caught in a horrible rainstorm and are seeking shelter
- Entrance 3: You and your family enter the scene, because you are looking to move to a new house and you are considering buying this one
Now come up with your own scenes to act out together and then try at least three separate entrances. As a family, choose a “scene” that everyone agrees on.

Scene ideas:
- Waiting for the dentist
- Riding a slow elevator
- An aerobics class
- An art museum
- A fancy restaurant
- The Principal’s Office
- A trip to the Zoo

What did you decide your scene is? __________________________

Give each individual family member a turn choosing different “entrances” to the scene.

Choose an Entrance 1:  
Choose an Entrance 2:  
Choose an Entrance 3:  

An Extension to the “Entrances” Activity:  

If one of your family members really wants to speak, have one family member narrate the scene while others pantomime it!

Keep taking turns and changing the scene.

Additional Resources:  

Looking for more fun theater activities to do with your family? Visit the sites below:
1. The [New Victory Theater](https://www.newvictory.org) has daily activities for you to do with your family each day of the week.
2. [Trusty Sidekick Theater Company](https://trustysidekicktheatercompany.com) releases top notch FREE performances for kids ages 2+.
3. [The Children’s Museum of Manhattan](https://www.cmom.org) creates fun activities for early childhood friends and families, including “Move and Groove” Tuesdays.