

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for sixth grade drama and theatre arts education and offers some possible learning experiences students may engage in during this school year.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are ultimately successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas, emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Drama and Theatre Arts Education for Middle Schools (6-8)

The drama and theatre arts standards in the middle school years focus on drama knowledge and skills, and theatre elements, to ensure a solid foundation for more specialized theatrical study in later years. In each grade, students investigate and perform various drama techniques and theatrical genres (scripted /improvisational works), examine character and setting scenarios, determine how to develop ideas as a playwright, develop the ability to describe personal preferences for dramatic and theatrical works, and respectfully critique individual/personal as well as peer performances.

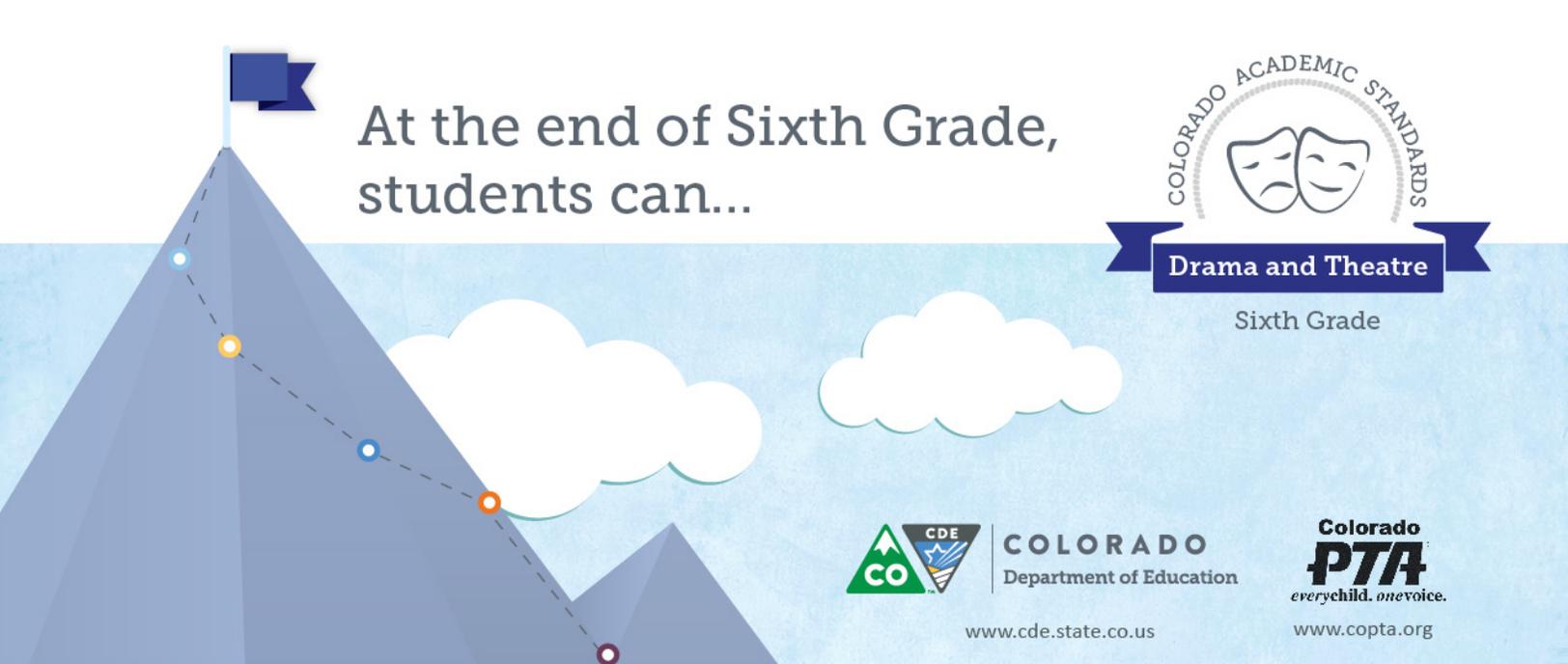
Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, Gates_k@cde.state.co.us



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At the end of Sixth Grade,
students can...



Drama and Theatre

Sixth Grade



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The Colorado Academic Standards in Drama and Theatre Arts
are organized by elements of the Creative Process:

Create → Perform/Present → Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine

Drama and Theatre Arts Learning Expectations for Sixth Grade

Create (Create)

Use basic movement, vocal strategies, and evidence from a scripted text to create characters; create an original dramatic work that applies the skills of imagination and problem solving; describe and design the technical theatre elements (scenery, lighting, props, costumes, sound) of theatre in an improvised or scripted work.

Perform (Perform/Present)

Apply the components of the character development process (analyzing physical, social qualities of character), with confidence and clarity of focus, and contribute as a collaborative and responsible member of an ensemble; demonstrate an understanding of the relationships among the technical theatre elements and acting roles, and incorporate some production elements (props and costumes) creatively in a performance situation.

Critically Respond (Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine)

Identify the elements of drama (plot, character, point-of-view), and the influence of cultural and historical themes in theatrical works; describe the distinct roles and

responsibilities of a collaborative theatrical team; give and accept constructive and supportive feedback, and discuss the criteria for a quality performance.

Throughout the Sixth Grade, you may find students successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Analyzing and discussing the emotional impact of design elements (set, lights, costumes, props, sounds, makeup, special effects, media, publicity) on an improvised or scripted play.
- Demonstrating the components of the character development process such as gestures, movements, and various vocal qualities and tones.
- Identifying the elements of drama in scripted texts from a variety of cultures and historical periods.
- Discussing the importance of constructive criticism and how it helps improve performance.
- Working collaboratively as a team/troupe to develop a performance.