



**#YouthTheatreTuesdays** is an initiative of Youth Theatre Ireland. Due to the restrictions of movement and the gatherings of large numbers due to the COVID19 health emergency, this is a way for our community to stay connected and share practice.

Each Tuesday, youth theatre leaders come together through video conferencing to share ideas, insights and inspirational ways to keep their programmes on track.

These facilitated discussions are open to youth theatre leaders, facilitators and assistants. Each week a new area of discussion is proposed and guests are invited to submit ideas and exercises to be shared with the cohort. A volunteer takes the notes and then they are then shared with the group. These notes are more of an aid memoire rather than an extensive write up of any exercise or idea. Using the medium of Zoom software, the exercises make reference to the functionality of that app. i.e. chat boxes etc.

These are the notes from:

### **#YouthTheatreTuesdays Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 12-1pm**

#### **Skill share: Adapting Workshop Exercises for the Online Space**

*Proposal: Following up on our first #YouthTheatreTuesday we're going to go into the nuts and bolts of taking some of your favourite workshop exercises onto the online space.*

#### **Facilitator: Dave Kelly Youth Theatre Ireland**

- Warm up hands rubbing them together and moving them in all directions.
- Pigs in Space based on (Frogs in the Pond), hands in gesture to depict the following
  - Pigs in mud
  - Pigs looking at the stars
  - Pigs in Rocket
  - PIGS IN SPACE!

- Extend by getting members to be one step behind the leader. Ask people to create their own

### ***Volunteer Catherine Sheridan***

- Corona Virus
  - Sanitise Hands
  - Cover Mouth
  - Social Distance
  - Cough in Elbow
- Extend by keeping to the gesture for each one and don't follow what leader says.

### ***Facilitator: Leish Burke – Griese Youth Theatre, Co. Kildare***

Storytelling exercise

One player starts off i.e. 'One day I was in the garden ...' Someone interrupts at a point saying 'funny you should say that...' and must include a word from previous person's contribution.

Relaxation possibly at end of session

Hands in front together (as in prayer) lift over your head like out release any negativity as you bring hands down repeat as necessary then reverse and breathing in something you would like to invite in.

Word Association using chat feature on Zoom. Leader types in a word and then everyone types in a word that associates with this.

### ***Facilitator: Catherine Sheridan – Roscommon County Youth Theatre***

Character creation through Free Writing and Word Association.

Everyone open up chat. Then I type in a word and everyone write the first word they think of that associates with it when I say GO. Repeat as a warm up.

Then commence the exercise. There are 3 rounds.

1st round: use a word or two.

I used "detective mystery".

2nd round a line of dialogue.

I used "She was always jealous."

3rd round a sentence starter.

I used "6 months later you would never guess..."

Then individually go back over each list.

Remind everyone where each piece of text commenced.

Choose 1 piece of text from each round and create a tableaux inspired from the 3 pieces of text.

If you wish add a line of dialogue.

Get people to show!

### ***Facilitator Tony McCleane Fay – Co. Wexford Youth Theatre***

Ask members to share one good thing that happened in the week that broke the boredom for them.

- Game of fetch you ask members to go get something i.e. spoons, pillow, toilet roll, etc. then go in search, whoever is back first wins. You can extend this with asking for things beginning with a letter or number/s in it.

Writing Lists are good i.e.

- I can see ..... (pick something outside window, does it change over time?)
- Questions I have thought about .....

Free Writing

- Title - Lock down - when finished underline five lines you like best and make it into a poem, put it together with other students.
- Choose 3 animals, what are their actions, choose a lead of the jungle, all shout 321 and then do one of the actions if you do the same as the leader you are out.
- One member leaves room / switch off video leader choose the person to start movements, invites person back in and they have to guess who is starting the movement.

### *Suggestions from Orla Gildea- Explore Youth Theatre*

Group count time to 15 (more depending on the group) one number at a time and in sequence, members come randomly, if two say the number at the same time you have to start again. Time delay on zoom will made this more challenging.

Group clap at end again challenging to achieve via zoom but persevere!

Also have a look at this YouTube link, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hA0VvB9qak> which is effective, just do the three actions with your group members no need to go into the science of it but good for you to know. Make sure their hands are washed!

***Links mentioned and shared in this meeting***

<http://www.youththeatre.ie/news/press/safeguarding-young-people-when-working-online>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94EmWunwsY0>

<https://zoom.us/docs/en-us/covid19.html>

*Notes kindly taken by **Orla Gildea Explore Youth Theatre** Additional information by Alan King from Youth Theatre Ireland.*