BIG QUESTION:
How can you set the stage for your story?

By the end of this lesson, the young storyteller will use sound, light, and scenic elements to create an environment for their story.

Materials:
- Pen/ Pencil
- Paper
- Colored pencils/ markers/ crayons

Optional Materials:
- Flashlight
- Pie tin/ tin foil
- Fabric/ colored plastic/ tissue paper
- Colored pencils/ crayons/ paint
CHAPTER
SEVEN

STEP 1: FINISHING TOUCH

LEARNING ABOUT LIGHT

Have you ever noticed that the light through our windows changes as the day passes? As the sun moves, light shines from different angles. Light can also affect mood and tone.

Choose a room in your house with a window. Over the course of the day, observe the way the light changes. Pay attention to the following:

• Is the room bright? Dim? Dark?

• Does the room change color at all based on the light?

• Do the shadows in the room change?

• What is the light source? Ex: The sun, a streetlamp, overhead light

• What direction is the light coming from?

• What tone does the light set? How does the light make you feel?

Record your answers on the next page.
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### STEP 3: FINISHING TOUCH

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<td>Late Afternoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Night</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Late Afternoon**

**Evening**

**Night**

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**BALTIMORE CENTER STAGE**
Did any of the lighting you observed make you think of your story?

Why or why not?
STEP 5: FINISHING TOUCH

NOW, IT’S TIME TO DESIGN THE LIGHTS FOR YOUR STORY!

*DO the following with the assistance of your caregiver*

How can you create lighting effects that mimic what you see from your window?

- Can you move a flashlight so that the light shines at a particular angle?
- Can you put fabric, tissue paper, or colored plastic over a flashlight to change the color of your light? *Try this only using a flashlight, NOT a lamp.*
- Do you have a pie tin or tin foil at home? Try poking holes in it or cutting out a shape, then putting it over a flashlight. You can create stars, the moon, or anything else! Then put your pie tin over a flashlight and shine the light on any surface.
- Does your story take place at different times of day? In different places? Change the lights to change the setting.
How do you plan to use lights to tell your story?

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Chapter Seven
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
Sound offers another layer to our stories, making them richer and revealing new information to our audience.

Find a comfortable place to sit quietly for 5 minutes. Close your eyes for a moment. Listen to the world around you. Make a list of everything you hear. Not just the big sounds like a dog barking or a plane going by overhead, but the little sounds too. Repeat this listening activity in two more locations.

Location 1:
What do you hear?
Big sounds? Little sounds?

Location 2:
What do you hear?
Do you hear any of the same sounds you heard in Location 1?

Location 3:
What do you hear?
Do you hear any of the same sounds you heard in Locations 1 or 2?
CHAPTER SEVEN

DEVELOP YOUR LISTENING SKILLS

How different was each location from the others? Were there any sounds that you heard everywhere?

When you closed your eyes, which sounds stood out the most?

What sounds are most important to your character?

Which sounds remind you of a specific location?

In sound design, important sounds are often the only ones highlighted with pre-recorded tracks. Some designers create soundscapes or musical compositions to play in the background throughout the story and set the scene. Other stories use live sound effects made by the performers on stage. Which style fits your story?
STEP 9: FINISHING TOUCH

SETTING THE SCENE

Scenic artists imagine and build the set surrounding the main character. This can help the audience feel like they are with you in the story.

What does your main character’s world look like? On a separate page, start by drawing a miniature version of your character. Where are they?

- The beach
- The grocery store
- In a computer game
- On the moon
- Other ___________________________
CHAPTER SEVEN

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DESIGNING YOUR SET

Where do you want to set your story?
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

What items from your house can you use to create this location?
Ex: Umbrella and towels for “The Beach”
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STEP 10: FINISHING TOUCH
SHARE YOUR STORY!

WE’D LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATED!

With your parent or guardian’s consent, share your light, sound, and scenic design with us on social media using #BCSCampAtHome or email it to us at storytelling@centerstage.org

Coming up next...

CHAPTER 8:

• Edit
• Rehearse
• Record