A joyous King and Queen welcome a baby girl - the Princess Snow White - when suddenly the Queen falls ill and dies. The King, forlorn and lonely, eventually marries a new Queen. This, Snow White’s stepmother, is vain and evil. She looks to her magic mirror and asks “Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is the fairest of them all?” When one day the mirror does not give his usual answer (“Why you, my Queen.”) but instead says that Snow White is the fairest, the jealous Queen is enraged. She calls upon her Huntsman to kill Snow White. The Huntsman can do no such thing, and warns Snow White to hide in the forest. Here, Snow White meets seven dwarfs, who befriend her.

The evil Queen, however, discovers that Snow White is still alive, and disguises herself as a peasant woman and poisons Snow White with an enchanted apple. The dwarfs find the Princess, and, heartbroken, make a glass casket for her. In the end, a Prince breaks the evil Queen’s spell when he kisses the Princess and brings her back to life. In the end, they live happily ever after.
What is Genre?

Genre is a particular type or category of literary, musical, or artistic composition. The play, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs is an example of a fairy tale. These are characterized by themes of good vs. evil, magic or 'luck' elements, and a basis in an oral tradition. Work in small groups to classify the following story titles according to what genre you think they belong to. Draw lines to match the titles with the genres.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Story Titles</th>
<th>Examples of Genre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Life and Times of Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>fairy tale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Dragon and a Fairy</td>
<td>science fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Story of My Life</td>
<td>biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mystery of the Blue Heron</td>
<td>autobiography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecos Bill and Paul Bunyan</td>
<td>legend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aliens Attack!</td>
<td>tall tales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</td>
<td>mystery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use what you’ve learned about genres to complete the following:

1. A story where the author describes the life of another person is called a ____________.
2. If the author is also the person about whom the book is written, it is instead called an ________________.
3. A play or book based on a story that is handed down over the years by members of a culture is a _____________.
4. Outrageous tales that attempt to describe natural phenomena by developing characters with supernatural abilities is a _________________.
5. Stories that take place in space or a futuristic settings are called _________________.
6. Sometimes called a ‘whodonit,’ a ________________ keeps the audience wondering what will happen until the very end.
What a Character!

Character traits are made up of physical traits and personality traits. Think about the character of Snow White from the play Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Use this graphic organizer to record both physical (outside) and personality (inside) traits for the character.

Ready Resources:
Character Traits
agonized  alluring  amicable  anxious  arrogant  avid  awestruck  bashful  benevolent  blissful  bold  bored  brave  candid  calm  carefree  cautious  confident  concerned  considerate  courageous  cruel  cunning  curious  curt  defeated  demure  depressed  determined  devious  disappointed  disapproving  disbelieving  disdainful  disgusted  distracted  eager  ecstatic  enraged  envious  exhausted  flustered  focused  frank  frightened  frustrated  gallant  gentle  gleeful  glum  grieving  guilty  happy  harmless  haughty  hilarious  humble  hurt  hysterical  idiotic  impish  indifferent  innocent  inquisitive  interested  jaded  jealous  kind  livid  lonely  meditative  melancholy  mischievous  miserable  miserly  modest  negative  nervous  nosey  obnoxious  obstinate  odd  opinionated  optimistic  pained  paranoid  perplexed  pessimistic  petty  playful  prudish  puzzled  radical  regretful  relieved  sad  satisfied  selfish  selfless  serious  sheepish  shocked  shy  skeptical  sly  smug  spiteful  surly  surprised  suspicious  sympathetic  tedious  tenacious  terrified  thoughtful  timid  trustworthy  undecided  unpleasant  unwilling  wary  willing  wily  withdrawn  wretched  wretched  zealous

Challenge:
Create a Venn Diagram comparing the character traits of Snow White and the evil Queen.

Journal Question:
Characterization by Possession
What do your possessions say about you? If someone looked through your backpack, what would they find? What would they think about your personality or hobbies based upon the things that you own?
The Theatre Team

Actors learn the play and perform it live on stage in front of you.

The Director tells the actors when and where to move on the stage and oversees the work of everyone involved in the play.

The Stage Manager is responsible for calling lighting and sound cues and for supervising the technical crew.

The Playwright writes the play. What they write tells the actors what to say on stage.

The Prop Master is in charge of the objects used by the actors on stage.

The Costume Designer plans the clothing the actors wear, called costumes. Costumes give clues about when and where a story takes place, and about the characters who wear them.

The Set Designers plan the scenery for the play.

YOU Have an Important Part to Play

It wouldn’t be a play without you! Your part is to pretend the play is real. Part of this includes accepting certain theatre ways, or conventions:

1. Actors tell the story with words (dialogue), actions (blocking), and songs.
2. Actors may sing songs that tell about the story or their feelings.
3. Actors may speak to the audience.
4. An actor may play several different characters (“doubling”) by changing their voice, costume or posture.
5. Places are suggested by panels on the set, and by props.

How to Play Your Part

A play is different from television or a movie. The actors are right in front of you and can see your reactions, feel your attention, and hear your laughter and applause. Watch and listen carefully to understand the story. The story is told by the actors and comes to life through your imagination.