

The Big Idea: Scripts from page to stage:

Blood Brothers

Key Knowledge:

The play Blood Brothers is a musical with book, lyrics, and music by Willy Russell. The story is a contemporary nature versus nurture plot, revolving around fraternal twins Mickey and Eddie, who were separated at birth, one subsequently being raised in a wealthy family, the other in a poor family.

Originally titled The Divine Tragedies, Blood Brothers is based on the true crime story of Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb, two wealthy students attending the University of Chicago who thought their superior intelligence would allow them to get away with the perfect murder.

Class and Money. Throughout the musical Blood Brothers, the theme of class and money plays a dominant role, controlling characters' actions and determining their lives:

- Nature vs. Nurture
- Superstition and Fate
- Coming of Age
- The Power of the Past
- Violence.

There are many things to consider when taking a piece of drama from page to stage. Choices you make about the way to play the scene are called the **interpretation**. 'Staging' doesn't just mean the set or stage itself; it's everything you do onstage to bring the drama to life. In year 8 the actors will explore a modern play text 'Blood Brothers' By Willy Russell.

Key Language:

Multi-narrative- a story told from the perspective of many different characters.

Narrative - a story.

Perspective- a point of view

Interpretation of the script – the way the actor/director understands the written words.

Blocking – Staging the

Creative intension – what is the point or message of the play.

Stage directions – the voice of the playwright giving directions.

Epic theatre - To encourage the audience to adopt a more critical attitude to what was happening on stage, Brecht developed his '*Verfremdungs-effect*' techniques to remind the spectators that they are in a theatre watching an enactment of reality instead of reality itself.

Key Skills and techniques.

- Confidence
- Interpretation of a script
- Imagination
- Learning lines
- Precision of voice and movement
- Spatial awareness
- Taking direction
- Exploring themes
- Identifying characters intentions
- Understanding the directions intentions

