

# Big Idea: Storytelling

Storytelling describes the social and cultural activity of sharing stories, sometimes with improvisation, theatrics, or embellishment. Every culture has its own stories or narratives, which are shared as a means of entertainment, education or instilling moral values. In year 9 the actors will study 'Oedipus Rex' not only exploring the narrative but the style of Greek Theatre where modern theatre was established. Students will use minimal set and staging to convey their own interpretation of events throughout the module.

## Greek Theatre – Oedipus Rex

### Key Knowledge

Oedipus Rex, also known as 'Oedipus the King', is part of a trilogy of plays by Greek playwright Sophocles that are still studied today by actors and known for the characters, traditional tragic style and dramatic narrative.

[This Athenian tragedy](#) by [Sophocles](#) that was first performed around 429 BC and would have been performed in grand amphitheatres. **Ancient Greek drama** was a [theatrical culture](#) that flourished in [ancient Greece](#) from 700 BC. It's where modern theatre originated with the three dramatic genres to emerge there being tragedy, comedy and satire. In Year 9 students will explore the text, and consider how the evolution of modern theatre has come about from the performances of ancient Greece.

### Key Language

**Actor/Narrator:** An actor who delivers a commentary accompanying a play, film, broadcast, piece of music, etc.

**Cross-cutting :**Two scenes happening on stage at once.

**Minimal set:** Permanent set, that remains in place throughout the production.

**Conveying Emotions:** To convey information or feelings means to cause them to be known or understood by someone.

**Lehrstucke:** Learning Plays

Brecht wanted his audience to take something away and have learned something from the play – not just feel emotions.

**Still Images:** This is a frozen picture which communicates meaning.

**Devising :**Devising is a group collaboration in response to a stimulus leading to the creation of an original performance.

### Key Skills and Techniques

- Audience awareness
- Responding to a brief
- Staging
- Physicality
- Space
- Levels
- Communicate a setting
- Interpreting a speech
- Adapting your Voice
- Pause
- Power
- Pace
- Pitch

