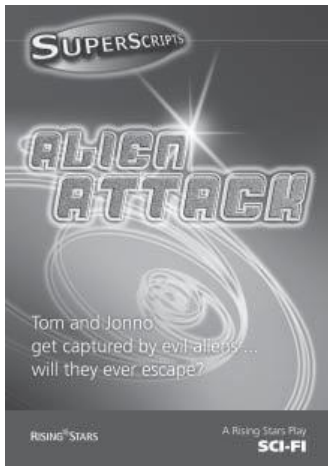


ALIEN ATTACK



Catherine Baker

Literacy/English framework links

Renewed Primary literacy framework strand 4: Drama

- Year 4: create roles showing how behaviour can be interpreted from different viewpoints;
- Year 5: reflect on how working in role helps to explore complex issues;
- Year 6: improvise using a range of drama strategies and conventions to explore themes such as hopes, fears, desires.

Secondary National Strategy English Framework: speaking and listening – drama

- Year 7: 15) develop drama techniques to explore in role a variety of situations and texts or respond to stimuli;
- Year 8: 15) explore and develop ideas, issues and relationships through work in role.

Setting up the group

In this play, the parts are all at a similar reading level. Tom, Jonno and the Narrator have the longest parts. Baz has a slightly shorter part, and Zik and Gargo have the shortest parts.

If you have fewer than six pupils, you could take the Narrator's part. Alternatively, ask half the group to read the parts of Tom, the Narrator and Gargo, and half to read the parts of Jonno, Baz and Zik.

Warm-up

Ask pupils to imagine they suddenly saw an alien space ship in the sky above them. What kinds of creatures might the aliens be? What do they think might happen?

Choose pupils to read the different parts, and give each reader the appropriate character card (page 32). See page 4 for ideas for getting into role.

The reading sessions

Each scene should take about 15–20 minutes to read as a group, so you can split the reading into four sessions. All characters appear in each scene.

Teaching and learning focus

Use drama techniques such as hot seating and freeze frame (see page 4) to focus on the characters and their motivation. For example, after scene 2, put Baz in the 'hot seat' to find out why he behaves as he does at the start of the play. Why doesn't he like Tom and Jonno? Put him in the 'hot seat' again at the end of the play. What has changed?

Act out the scene on pages 40 and 41, and freeze frame at the end of page 41 to find out what the characters are thinking. What do pupils think will happen next?

As pupils read, focus on their word recognition skills and help them to use their phonic skills to read the words as necessary.

Performing this play

This play takes place in three main locations – the street, the building site and inside the spaceship. You could use simple scenery, e.g. streetlamps, outlines of cranes and buildings, and a simple white space for the spaceship interior. Tom, Jonno, Baz and the Narrator can wear casual clothes. You could use masks for Zik and Gargo, and water guns to be their blasters!

Extension ideas

- Ask the group what they think will happen to Tom, Jonno and Baz after the end of the play. Could they be friends now? What has changed for them during the play, and why? Role play a further adventure involving these three characters.
- Give pupils copies of Photocopy Masters 15 and 16 for follow-up.

True or false?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read the sentences below. If they are true, draw a ring around the T. If they are false, draw a ring around the F.

At the start of the play, Baz doesn't like Tom and Jonno. T F

Tom wants to run away when he first sees the alien spaceship. T F

Zik is a friendly alien. T F

The aliens do something strange to Tom. T F

Baz says he will help Tom, if Tom gives him his mobile. T F

Jonno guards Tom and Baz in the prison. T F

Baz turns the metal cogs in Jonno's head. T F

Jonno has a special key to unlock the prison door. T F

Baz takes Tom's mobile at the end of the play. T F



Zik and Gargo

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. With a partner, imagine you are Zik and Gargo.

You have just found out that Tom, Jonno and Baz have escaped.

What will you do?

Read the ideas below.

Which idea do you like best? Decide what you think will happen.

- Zik and Gargo will come back and get the boys another time.
- They will give up and go back to their own planet.
- They will go on a trip to another planet.

2. Write some notes on what you think will happen next.

Decide what Zik will do and what Gargo will do.

The aliens will decide to

Zik will

Gargo will



3. Act out your new scene for your teacher, or for another group.