


BASIC COSTUME DESIGN LESSON PLAN FOR 3RD-4TH GRADE

TH 517 Final Project: A Sample
Lesson Plan by Kallie Marrison

Note: This lesson plan can be slightly modified
for students ranging from K-5th Grade





Step 1: Find two classmates and work together to think of five different characters/scene from plays, movies, TV shows, or books and write these down on a piece of paper.

1

Step 2: Write 3 sentences describing what happens during the scene your character is in, then answer the following questions:

- 1) Where is your character?
- 2) What is the time period?
- 3) What happens there?

2

Step 3: Choose one of your characters and walk around the room as the character; say “hi” to other classmates as your character

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

WHAT IS A COSTUME DESIGNER AND WHAT DO THEY DO?



When I Grow Up: Costume Designer | How To Design Costumes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPrqciU-T8>

COSTUME DESIGNERS

Costume Designer: “the person who comes up with all the cool costumes you see on stage, on TV, and in the movies” (from “When I Grow Up” YouTube video)

A costume designer decides and creates what actors will wear on stage, TV, and movies as their characters. Costumes help actors transform into their characters and tell the audience who the character is.



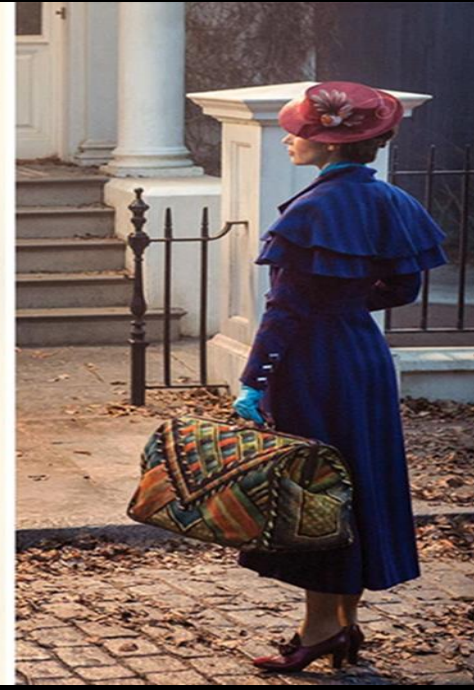
COSTUME RENDERINGS

Costume Renderings: “To get their ideas on paper, costume designers create a colored sketch called a rendering. This rendering is used as the guide to make the clothing you see in the play”



Retrieved from <https://ardentheatre.org/programs/arden-online/education/education-kids/let-s-create/theatrical-design/>.

MORE COOL COSTUME RENDERING EXAMPLES

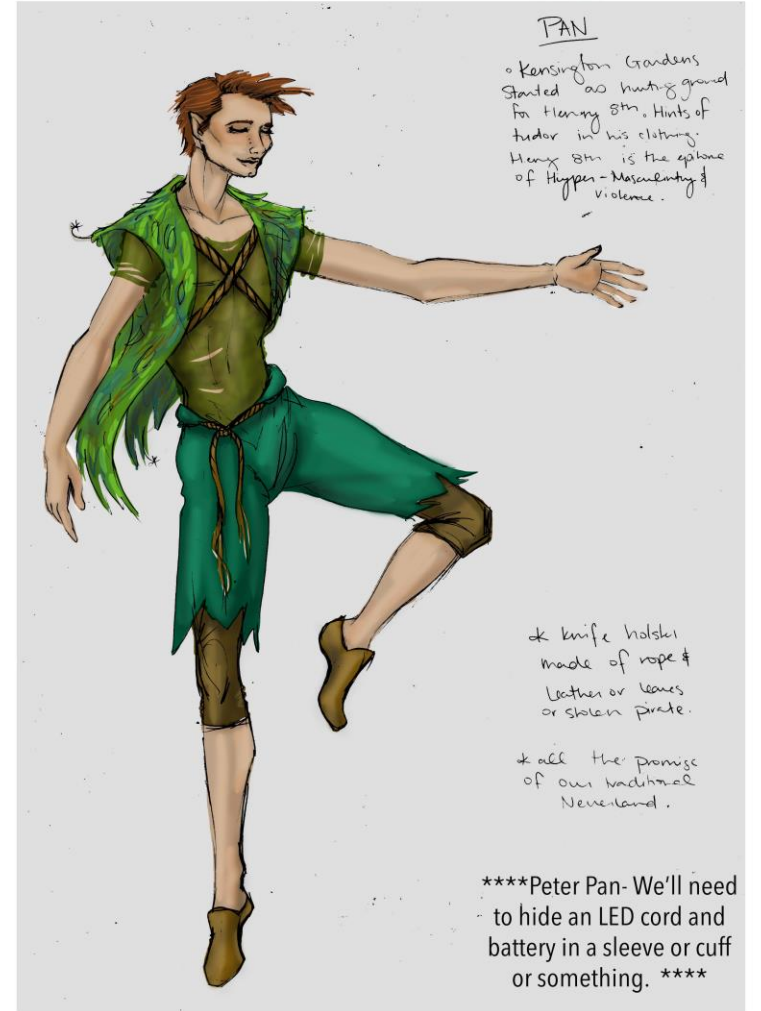




COSTUME
DESIGN
COLLEEN
ATWOOD



Snow White
4
Dean Holt



Wendy and Peter Pan | STC 19
Peter/

Costume Designer | Loren Shaw





Let's Be Costume Designers: Continued Research

Using your introductory activity character, take a few minutes to close your eyes and use your imagination to see your characters. Then write down the answers to the following questions on a piece of paper:

- 1) "What season is it? For example, are they wearing a winter coat or summer shorts?"
- 2) What colors represent your character's personality? For example, would they wear happy bright colors or gloomy dark colors?
- 3) What does your character do? For example, are they a superhero or a student?"

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CREATING A VISION BOARD

After doing research on our characters and the story, we will create a “Vision Board” before creating our costume renderings.

What is a Vision Board? A Vision Board is a “physical or digital collage of ideas...it can include just about anything – photography, designs or illustrations, color palettes, textures, descriptive words – anything that helps you define the direction of your project.”

For your “Vision Board” – collect 3-5 images/art that

- ❖ Represent the theme, character, and setting of the story
- ❖ Show the feelings of the character/places that are in the story
- ❖ Match the time period and setting of the story

By creating this “Vision Board”, it will help you choose an image or two to help inspire your costume rendering. The key question to ask yourself is, **“What object or image speaks to you which might best express your design?”**

Retrieved from <https://learn.schooltheatre.org/creating-a-set-design>.

VISION BOARD EXAMPLE: ELSA FROM FROZEN





Creating Costume Renderings

Now that we have researched our character/story and created our "Vision Board", it is time to create our Costume Renderings!

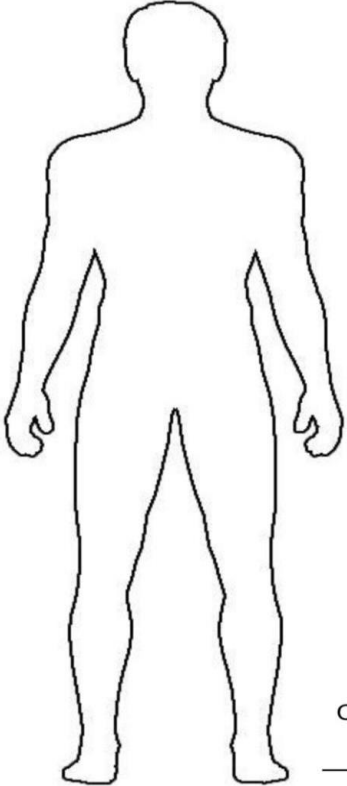
We will use the Costume Rendering Character Template worksheet (see next slide) to create your character's own costume rendering by using crayons, markers, colored pencils, or paint.

Retrieved from
<https://ardentheatre.org/programs/arden-online/education/education-kids/let-s-create/theatrical-design/>.

COSTUME RENDERING CHARACTER TEMPLATE WORKSHEET

Arden
DRAMA SCHOOL

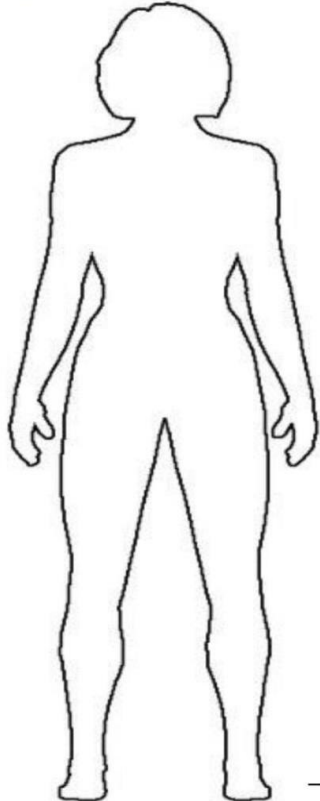
COSTUME DESIGN



Character's Name: _____

Arden
DRAMA SCHOOL

COSTUME DESIGN



Character's Name: _____

Note: These will be handed out to each student

Retrieved from <https://ardentheatre.org/programs/arden-online/education/education-kids/let-s-create/theatrical-design/>.

Closure: Sharing Time Discussion

► Sharing Time: Everyone will go back to their small group from the “Introductory Activity” and share their research, vision boards, and renderings with each other. Then, everyone will have the opportunity to individually share their research, vision boards, and renderings with the whole class.

► Class Discussion Questions:

- 1) What is a Costume Designer and what do they do?
- 2) What is a Costume Rendering and what important research needs to be done first before creating a Costume Rendering?
- 3) What is a “Vision Board”?
- 4) How can character/story research and vision boards inspire costume design elements?
- 5) Why are costumes so important to a character and the story?





Homework Assignments

Homework Assignments:

- Write a 1-page paper on what you learned from this lesson
- Bring your costume rendering to life by finding clothing or materials around your home that look like your design. Bring your findings to class and be ready to interact with other classmates as your character.

Retrieved from

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REFERENCES

When I Grow Up: Costume Designer | How To Design Costumes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_iPrqciU-T8.

Kids Education Arden for All Online :

<https://ardentheatre.org/programs/arden-online/education/education-kids/let-s-create/theatrical-design/>.

Creating a Set Design: <https://learn.schooltheatre.org/creating-a-set-design>.