

WICKED IDEAS FOR VET ENTERTAINMENT YEARS 10-12

In order to stimulate thought on the DESIGN AND BACKSTAGE requirements for the performance, undertake some of the following drama activities **before seeing the production**.

PRE-PRODUCTION PHASE

Pre-teaching activity – look at the “Behind the Emerald Curtain” online videos on “WICKED Scenery” at <http://www.emeraldcurtain.com/webisodes.html>.

1. Design and construct a set design in a model box, of a general set or backdrop, which could remain on stage throughout WICKED so that additional set elements and props could be trucked on OR complete the next activity.
2. Using the online videos as a guide, construct a 2D or 3D model of a WICKED stage set, or come up with your own design for one of the scenes. Think about colour, texture, size, shape and depth as you do so, and be able to explain your decisions artistically.
3. In WICKED, two special effects occur that also feature in the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz* – Glinda descends in a bubble, and Elphaba (The WICKED Witch of the West) departs on a flying broomstick. Come up with a 3D model of how you could make this work on stage. Look at the “WICKED Special Effects” video from “Behind the Emerald Curtain” for more ideas from the WICKED team!
4. Using cogs, pulleys, cams, gears, levers and control systems, build a working model of either the Dragon or the Head of the Wizard.
5. Look at the following website to see how they bump in WICKED on tour.
<http://www.broadwayworld.com/board/readmessage.php?thread=974579&mobile=on&page=2>
6. Make a list of the personnel required to ‘bump in’ a large scale musical such as WICKED.
7. What WHS regulations would apply during the pre-production phase?

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PRODUCTION PHASE

8. Elements of Production

In groups, devise and perform a scene where a traditional 'WICKED witch' is about to do an evil deed but has second thoughts and changes her mind. Then, add or plan appropriate lighting for your devised scene and use/discuss the use of a haze or fog machine if one is available. Introduce the scene with music. Perform the scene and then discuss how colours create mood and atmosphere and how music creates emotions. How do lights and music affect an audience?

9. Look at this image of the set and lights for WICKED. List some of the lights that would be used to achieve this lighting state.



Photo by Jeff Busby.

POST-PRODUCTION PHASE

WICKED is a show that tours from one city to another. What considerations would the Production Manager need to take into account in the bump out phase of the show, if the show is moving from Sydney to Brisbane, for example?