

Puppet Vocal Warm Up

to explore vocal expression, character traits & emotions

Planning

Guiding questions- How can this warm up...

- **help kids make connections?** Has your class been talking about character traits in books? Have they been exploring emotions through the statue game and emotion mapping? Have you been working on oral fluency skills?
- **invite kids to bring their full creative and playful selves into their puppet play** and story making through puppetry?

Choose a simple phrase

The kids will repeat this phrase with their bodies, puppets & voices, expressing a variety of prompts. Choose any simple phrase that connects to your kids' interests & that will inspire story making through puppet play.

Examples:

- Look it started to snow!
- Where did that portal take me?
- Time to go to school!

Choose expressive prompts

What **vocal choices, character traits or emotions** will you use to prompt your students' vocal exploration?

Options:

Vocal quality, volume, speed & pitch:

Soft, harsh, smooth, staccato, shaky, rough, melodic, sing song, robotic, whiny, growly, loud, quiet, slow, fast, high, low

Core emotion words:

Happy, mad, sad, scared, surprised, confused, disgusted

Advanced emotion vocabulary:

See the [Advanced Emotion Vocabulary Resource](#)

Character Traits:

Friendly, sweet, kind, helpful, grouchy, impatient, aggressive
brave, powerful, confident, meek, timid, energetic, relaxed, stuffy
mysterious, wicked, sneaky, tricky, bossy, silly, goofy, clever

continued...

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Preparation

How will you support visual, kinesthetic & multi-language learners in your class?

Options to consider:

- Use a visual aid like an [emotion mapping tool](#).
- Post the repeated phrase on a smart board or chart paper.
- Post images of the character traits you will use to prompt.
- Post illustrations of character from books you are referencing.
- Don't skip the step of the warm up where the kids express the prompts with their own body!

Visit the Bridges Vocal Expression Activities webpage to see video of what this looks like in a classroom or view a video using the QR code below.

