

MISSOULA
CHILDREN'S
THEATRE

Playdate

A PRODUCTION OF MCT, INC.

Welcome to Playdate. We hope you enjoy staging your very own Missoula Children's Theatre production.

Here are a few general staging ideas to help make your play fun and exciting.

Remember there are no wrong choices (ideas) when staging a play. You might change your ideas, and that's okay. Every director does that. Just remember to have fun, the most important thing is to tell the story.

A little lingo and education for those that might be new to staging a play. Downstage means toward the audience. Upstage away from the audience.

1. Determine where your audience is. There's not really an audience, unless you're going to record your production, then the camera/phone becomes your audience.
2. All performer should make sure they are facing the 'audience' when they are performing. A great rule would be to make everyone had one foot pointed in that direction; that way they never turn their back to the 'audience'.
3. With two people performing together, it's okay to face each other. Just don't move that one foot.
4. When a third or fourth person joins, try to not make a straight line. Think about shapes that can be made with the cast. Triangles or diamonds. Or small clumps of 2 and 1 or 2 and 2.
5. Remember to use your best, and safest 'outside voice'. No shouting just be loud and clear.
6. Make sure when others are speaking, you are listening to what they are saying. Don't let your mind wonder.
7. When you must leave the playing area, do it quickly, but safely. And try not to make any noise unless the script calls for it.
8. Movement for each song can be simple. Just keep your head up and smile. No one is looking at your feet.
9. Have fun.
10. Share your work with us at MCT. **#MCTplaydate**

