

TDF SCHOOL OF ROCK PRE-SHOW WORKSHOP

LESSON PLAN for a 45 (forty-five) minute long session

Teaching Artists: John McGinty, JW Guido, Alexandria Wailes

Photos/Video: <http://schoolofrockthemusical.com/>

1. **Introduction/Prior experiences of seeing Broadway shows** (5 minutes)
 - a. Teaching artist's introduction: name and intention of visit
 - b. Has anyone seen a Broadway show? If so, which show(s)? Was it a play or musical?
 - c. What's the difference between plays and musicals?
 - d. What is Broadway?

2. **Characters and storyline discussion** (20-30 minutes)
 - a. Has anyone seen the Movie *School of Rock*?
 - i. What did you like best about it?
 - ii. Do you think the Broadway show will be similar?
 - iii. What differences do you think there will be between the movie and the show?
 - b. Characters (share this list on a whiteboard or smartboard and briefly discuss who they are in the show)

Main Characters

Dewey Finn (teacher)

Rosalie Mullins (principal of the school)

Ned Schneebly (Dewey's roommate)

Patty Di Marco (Ned's girlfriend)

Secondary Characters

Shonelle (sings)

Katie (plays bass)

James (acts as the band's security)

Madison (acts as a roadie)

Marcy (sings)

Mason (runs tech)

Tomika (sings)

Freddy (plays drums)

Zach (plays guitar)

Billy (acts as the band's stylist)

Lawrence (plays piano)

Summer (acts as the band's manager)

Sophie (acts as a roadie)

Note: There are also the children's and adult's ensembles.

Plot Points:

Dewey was a part of a band called "No Vacancy," but he gets fired, and replaced by a new man named Snake.

He lives with Ned and Patty, but doesn't always pay his rent. He gets fired from his job at the record store and has a fight with Ned and Patty about not having money.

Dewey takes a phone call for Ned from Rosalie, the principal, and poses as a substitute teacher in Ned's place.

Dewey has no idea how to teach the kids and slacks off but after he overhears the kids in a music class, he uses them to form a new band to compete against No Vacancy in a music tournament called "Battle of the Bands."

Band practice takes place during class time, and Dewey befriends Rosalie, the principal of the school in order to make things seem less suspicious.

Dewey takes the students on a "class field trip" but sneaks them off to the auditions for Battle of the Bands. They are accepted into the tournament.

Dewey and Rosalie go on a date and he convinces her to let the students go to Battle of the Bands.

Ned and Patty discover that Dewey has been posing as Ned in order to get money as a substitute teacher.

“Parents’ Night” is the same night as the tournament, and Patty tells the parents that Dewey isn’t really a teacher. Rosalie has to deal with the angry adults while the children sneak out to the tournament.

The students and Dewey compete at the Battle of the Bands. *Don’t spoil the ending if the kids have never seen the show.*

Possible questions to encourage discussion:

- Throughout the show you will notice cast members playing instruments. What are your special talents?
- One of the students, Tomika, has trouble adjusting to her new school, and is nervous about making friends. Have you ever been nervous in a new situation? What did you do to relieve that feeling?
- Many of the students in this show disagree with the way their parents are making them live (i.e. go to prep school and get top grades to hopefully get into Harvard, etc.). What is your relationship with your parents like? How is this similar or different to the relationship between the students and parents in the show?