



2003

The Skit Book: 101 Skits from Kids

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MacDonald, Margaret. *The Skit Book; 101 Skits from Kids*. Linnet Books, 1990. ISBN 020802283X. \$ contact publisher. 145 pp.

Reviewer: Hagey, Morgan

Reading Level: Primary; Intermediate;

Rating: Dependable;

Genre: Folklore; Plays; Humorous Plays;

Subject: Drama--Reviews; Skits from Stories; Gross Skits; Skits With Trick Endings

Theme: Humor Through Theater

Production Requirements: The production requirements vary depending on which skits you

Acts: N/A

Run Time: Variable, from 2-3 minutes and on

Characters: Variable

Cast: You really need at least three people to make most of these work.

Time Period: Contemporary

The book is filled with 101 different skits for children that the author collected from different kids. There are different topic categories that can guide your productions. For example:

1. Skits with Trick Endings
2. Skits using Word Play
3. Grossies
4. Skits from Stories

These four examples are just a few of the different categories that this book has. They are usually really funny. For example, there is a skit that takes place at the World spitting competition. There are no specific lines in any of the skits, there is, instead, guidelines to go off of. The rest is up to the performers.

This book allows for creativity within the characters. There are no lines, so improvisation is essential. Using improvisation can allow the performers to relate better to specific audiences. This book would also be good for amateurs. Theater can get quite complex and this book is a simplified introduction to performance. Anyone can get up and do these skits. They are short and have variable cast sizes, which is nice for different kinds of groups. Basically, these skits are far from "great" theater, but they offer kids the chance to try performing without the stress of having to memorize lines and blocking. I would recommend this book for beginning performers, or anyone who wants to have fun fast.