

Carnival



The Woodcraft Folk



Forword

Carnival is all about having fun with drama, story-telling and poetry. It's not supposed to be a masterclass, just a chance to have some fun acting or speaking, and the idea is to give Elfins some confidence performing in front of their friends. Some children are more confident than others so Elfins should be gently encouraged rather than forced to take part.



Learning Objectives

- To learn that acting is fun.
- To encourage confidence in performing.
- To encourage children to be creative and imaginative.



Tests

- 1) To take part in a play.
- 2) To tell a story
- 3) To write a poem or sketch





Activities

- **Putting on a play:**

This doesn't need to be a long play! It could just be a few minutes long, although you need to make sure that all the Elfins get to take part and have a line or two to say. The play could be just a bit of fun, or it could relate to a theme such as peace, friendship, equality. This could also count towards another badge like I Am, I hike, or almost any badge with a little imagination! A nice example of a play would be one about Rosa Parks and the bus boycott in the USA, there are lots of versions on the internet so pick one that you think would work with the group of Elfins you have.

- **Writing stories:**

Start out by reading a short story to the Elfins (feel free to provide a drink and a biscuit...). Then get the Elfins to think a little bit about the story – how there was a beginning, a middle and an end. Then get the Elfins to write their own short story (these can be quite short, only a minute or 2 to read). Encourage the Elfins to take turns reading out their stories to the group (you could do this the following group night if you've run out of time), but don't force anyone who's not comfortable. The stories could be linked to a theme and so could count towards another badge.





Activities

- **Writing poems (limericks, haiku, rap/hiphop) (link to Peace Messenger):**

Either give out, or read out yourself, some different poems in different styles. Discuss what's different about them, which ones they liked and why? Then ask the Elfins to write their own poems. Again, these poems could be linked to a theme and so could count towards another badge.

- **Story telling session, or poetry recital:**

You could ask Elfins to bring in their favourite short stories or poems to share with the rest of the group. You could make it a nice relaxing atmosphere by providing hot chocolate, or even by having a pretend campfire to sit around (you can make one easily using red and orange crepe paper and a bit of cardboard, or by painting some cardboard). You could even invite parents to stay and listen as well

