

**Crosswalk of Common Core Instructional Shifts: ELA/Literacy**  
Connecting English Language Arts and Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre's  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Preparatory Workshop and Performance of *The Magic Paintbrush*

Shifts According to EngageNY  
[www.engageny.org](http://www.engageny.org)

Shifts According to  
Student Achievement Partners  
[www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org)

**1: Balancing Informational & Literary Texts:** Students access information about Chinese culture, language, and folktales through a common text: the play script. Teachers utilize resources provided in the MGR study guide to provide students with content-rich informational texts.

**1: Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction and informational texts**

**4: Text-based Answers:** Students use the common text (the play script) to make predictions during the workshop and identify major themes in the performance, such as selflessness and bravery. The workshop and performance experiences stay deeply connected to the text, encouraging students to use evidence from the text to evaluate predictions made during the workshop.

**2: Reading and writing grounded in evidence from text**

**3: Staircase of Complexity:** Students complete the Grade 3 “step” of growth on the sequential dramatics “staircase,” linking knowledge of audience etiquette and pillars of good character from previous years’ productions. Actors provide scaffolding and supports to check for understanding during the in-class workshop prior to the performance.

**3: Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary:** The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade shows focus on Fairy Tales, Fables, and Folktales, respectively, providing regular practice with different story telling methods.

**6: Academic Vocabulary:** Students build vocabulary during the workshop and performance and by using the glossary provided in the MGR study guide. These experiences emphasize comprehension of pivotal and commonly found words related to the subject matter, such as “culture,” “folktale,” and “adaptation.”