

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Production- *Emilia and the Heart of the Amazon* Aligned with Common Core Shifts

ELA 1: Balancing Informational & Literary Text	Students access information about the rainforest, natural resources, and conservation through a common text: the play script. Teachers make connections to ELA Module 2A and use informational texts from that module to reinforce content from the play and workshop.
ELA 3: Staircase of Complexity	Students complete the Grade 5 “step” of growth on the sequential dramatics “staircase,” linking application of audience etiquette and imagination from previous years’ productions. Students develop empathy and tolerance by building knowledge of the Ticuna culture through the eyes of the character Adao. Actors provide scaffolding and supports to check for understanding during the in-class workshop prior to the performance.
ELA 4: Text-based Answers	Students use the common text (the play script) to reinforce their classroom experiences with ELA Module 2A. Students use the play script and texts associated with Module 2A to explore the play’s themes and build knowledge of the Amazon rainforest, Ticuna culture, threats to the rainforest, and conservation efforts to combat these threats.
ELA 5: Writing from Sources	Students respond to writing prompts from ELA Module 2A, using evidence from the performance and workshop to inform written arguments about the Amazon Rainforest.
ELA 6: Academic Vocabulary	Students build pivotal vocabulary during the workshop and performance, including “rainforest,” “natural resources,” and “conservation,” as well as Portuguese vocabulary words. These terms are closely linked to key vocabulary used to access texts in ELA Module 2A.
Math 1: Focus	Students focus deeply the Amazon Rainforest and the importance of conservation. Students use ELA and Science skills to reach strong foundational knowledge and deep conceptual understanding, while practicing proper audience etiquette.
Math 2: Coherence	Students build on knowledge gained from exploring different cultures during previous MGR performances (China in 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade and Haudenosaunee in 4 <sup>th</sup> ). Actors reinforce audience expectations and encourage empathy and tolerance. Concepts of Ticuna culture and conservation methods explored during the preparatory workshop are extended into the performance.
Math 4: Deep Understanding	Students activate prior knowledge to access rainforest conservation from the perspective of an indigenous Brazilian tribe, the Ticuna. Students experience concepts from ELA Module 2A and Science come to life and understand how theatre can be used to access different cultures.
Math 5: Application	Students apply content from the preparatory workshop, such as information about Amazon Rainforest and the Belo Monte Dam, to the viewing of the performance. Actors encourage students to apply conservation efforts to their own lives, such as recycling, reusing, and turning off the tap while brushing teeth.

Source: engageNY.org

### *Emilia and the Heart of the Amazon* & The 4C’s: Super Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

#### 1. Communication

Students practice listening skills by actively viewing the play and engaging with actors during the in-class preparatory workshop.

#### 2. Collaboration

This play highlights how every living creature works together to keep the rainforest healthy. This theme is illuminated through the lens of the collaborative art form of theatre.

#### 3. Critical Thinking

Students make connections between current events and the play. They investigate cause and effect as pertaining to the Amazon Rainforest crisis.

#### 4. Creativity

Students are exposed to a performance that includes professional sets, props, and costumes. They are encouraged to create new ways of helping the environment.

Source: Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills