



Big Brum TIE presents

Theatre in Education programmes of work for

EYFS - KS1 - KS2- KS3

Let's Explore Living

A day's Theatre in Education provides a significant artistic and educational experience for children. The most beneficial experiences, however, are those that are part of an ongoing and sustainable relationship between schools and the theatre company.

This is why Big Brum is building a number of partnership development programmes to ensure that our contribution to the school community fulfils its rich potential.

Our programmes	Live Drama	Digital resources	CPD and planning support
Along the Silk Road (KS2/KS3)	✓	✓	✓
The Giant's Embrace (EYFS/KS1)	<i>Digital only</i>	✓	✓
Ripped / Romeo and Juliet (KS2)	✓	✓	✓
Distant (Upper KS2)	✓	✓	✓
The End of Reason (Upper KS2)	<i>Digital only</i>	✓	✓

"I continue to work closely with Big Brum (even in austere financial times) as I am always guaranteed quality engagement with the children and staff from the company. Creative practice to extend and widen children's learning and development is vital if we are to make a difference in their lives. Big Brum consistently gives our learning community creativity and theory – with a great deal of accessibility, the actor teachers work closely with staff to ensure engagement, understanding and connection with the children and their families."

Nikki Shaw, Head of Osborne Nursery School and Children's Centre

Let us know what you are interested in and arrange a chat with us:

tie@bigbrum.org.uk

www.bigbrum.org.uk

0121 742 6321

ALONG THE SILK ROAD

by Chris Cooper

A new Big Brum Theatre in Education programme for children aged 9-13
Key Stage 2 and 3, Autumn 2022

“There is more to value than profit, child.”

A master and servant from the East become teacher and pupil.

“They say there’s riches beyond imagining here. Got to be bold”

Two traders from the West risk everything to find their fortune.

Along the Silk Road tells the story of a chance encounter born out of necessity between people of different cultures. They speak different languages and uphold different values.

This participatory Theatre in Education programme will dramatise how East met West (and vice versa) along the legendary trade route and engage young minds in an exploration of how cultures embody different values and ways of seeing the world.

Through the prism of history, participants will grapple with the profound questions that preoccupied the ancient philosophers then and continue to shape the way we live today. What is the relationship between self and other, identity and difference, and how do we define what it is to be human?

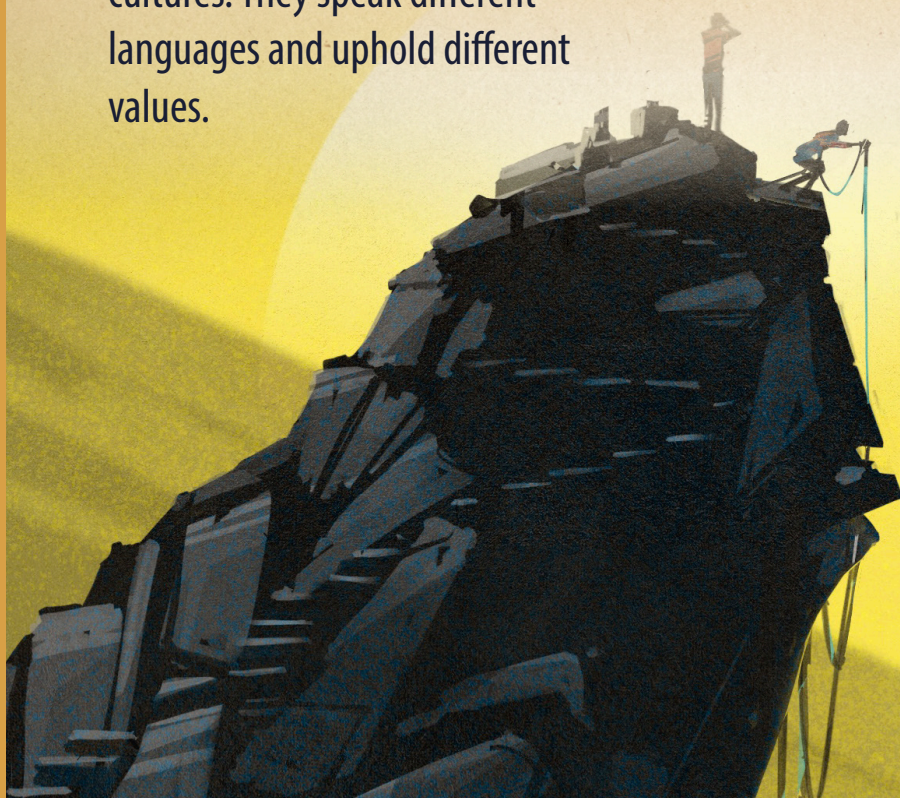
Questions of burning relevance in our conflict-ridden world today, often divided by bitter and polarised narratives.

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**Prices starting from
£375**





The Giant's Embrace

(EYFS - KS1)

Once there was a very, very, very greedy Giant, who would eat, and eat, and eat until he could eat no more. It was because of the Giant's greed that the little people went hungry.

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!

Our digital resource includes film, storybook and teaching materials. It will take your children on a journey into the imagination, exploring the themes of responsibility, friendship, family, and sustainability.

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!

What about the little people? What to do? Devised by the internationally-renowned Big Brum Theatre in Education Company, The Giant's Embrace uses role play and storytelling to develop speaking and listening skills, group discussion and interaction focused on creative problem solving ... as your children meet the Giant's embrace head on.



The partnership programme enables staff to experience the story from within, connecting them with the concepts at its heart. Big Brum then provides all the extended resources needed for a full, deep and meaning exploration with the children.

“Working with Big Brum provides our children with live theatre which challenges them in thought and ideas, and demands that their expressive language is extended”

Bob Lee, Head of Pegasus Primary School

Ripped

with *Romeo and Juliet*

Ripped
(KS2)

*Rosie is a good girl, a good student,
but yesterday she did something bad.*

'She was standing still, staring at the dictionary.

Then she knelt and touched the book, stroked it.

Rosie said, "me ..."

She flicked through the pages. Stopped. Read a word.

Then tore it out.'

Spread over several sessions, the drama focuses on Rosie, a child who is on the brink of going to big school and is feeling lost. 'Ripped' gives space for the class to explore what in the world leads her to feel this way and to help Rosie find herself again.

'Ripped' involves immersive work around her situation, developing pupils' empathy, their understanding of story and expressive skills, while giving them space to articulate their learning. Each session deepens pupils' thinking: there are no right or wrong answers, just the need to help.

In exploring Rosie's diary, the class find written,

***"I am young but feel I am old, I am fed and starved,
surrounded by people but lonely. I see this world and hear it,
but it doesn't see me, won't hear me."***

... and in the words ripped from a dictionary in the library,

"My face is not my own."

This entry point can be used to frame the class towards watching a performance of 'Romeo and Juliet', where the 400-year-old story is examined and they explore its relevance to Rosie's life - and their own - in the world today.

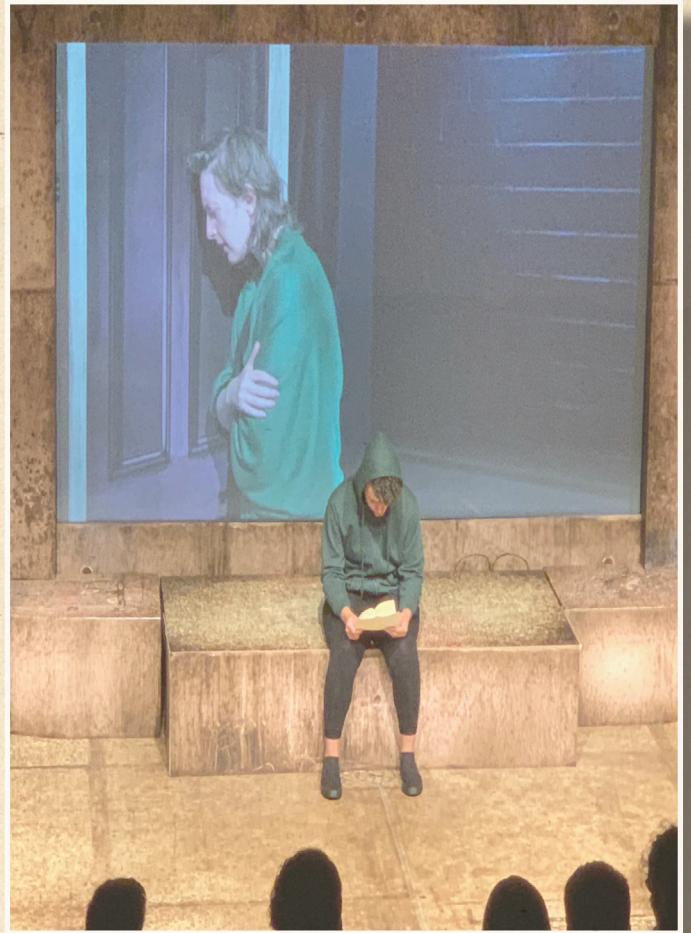
As part of the extended programme of work that comprises 'Ripped', teachers will be supported through CPD and supported planning in developing their skills for using drama with the key texts, and in using strategies such as teacher-in-role, questioning, debating and developing children's presentational skills.

Romeo and Juliet

tours to Primary Schools for Years 5 and 6

Jan - Apr 2023

Big Brum is touring a fresh new multimedia adaptation, faithful to Shakespeare's tragedy, but playing to themes relevant to children today, such as isolation, repression and civil dissonance.



An excellent and accessible production that will resonate with children aged 9 to 11.

"Stunning! The performance thoroughly engaged all of the pupils and provided much food for thought."

"The children have talked endlessly about your performance and how the play came alive for them."

"Very few of our children had ever seen professional theatre before and were hooked by the whole experience."

DISTANT

(Years 5-6, KS2)

Ayesha's mother was a nurse.

She looked after people when they were ill.

She was one of the carers we clapped for during lockdown.

But Ayesha's mother died, and now it's only her and Dad.

Right now, talking and listening to each other has become more important than ever.

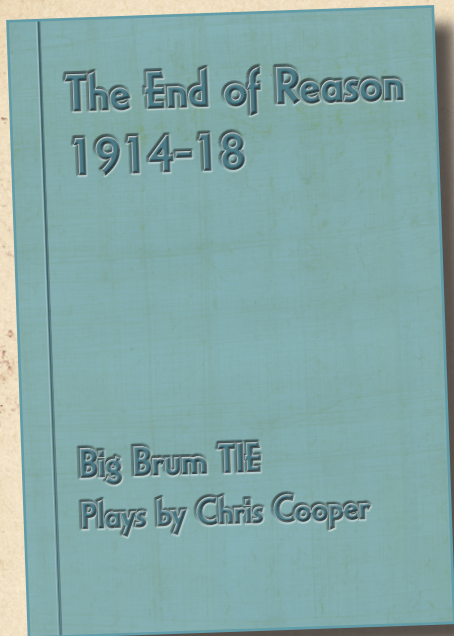
'Distant' explores the concepts of isolation, disconnection and repression familiar to us all. This interactive drama gives teachers and students alike space and time to make meaning together, find creative ways to express what we have lost and what have we found.

We have developed 'Distant' as part of a Europe-wide project on drama and wellbeing, which includes online, film and print materials as well as online and face-to-face work with teachers and children. All of these materials form a resource to our 2022-23 'Distant' programme.



"They were able to see themselves in the drama, they could see their parents in the drama, I could see myself in the drama, we were all seeing something in that drama that we could relate to. It allowed us to articulate our feelings through it. That's the beauty of working in a classroom like this"

Teacher, Benson School.



The End of Reason 1914-18

(Years 5-6, KS2)

"A wonderful opportunity for young people to learn about seismic events at an equivalent moment in the last century and so to explore war, empire, power, poverty and identity from both a global and personal perspective, both then and now."

Shami Chakrabarti.

'*The End of Reason 1914-18*' is a cycle of five plays, marking the centenary of the First World War and exploring the connections between these events and our lives today.

The plays were written by Chris Cooper for Big Brum to use as part of an integrated Theatre in Education experience for young people.

We are now offering them, including CPD support, digital recordings and printed teaching materials, as a resource to schools, teachers, young people, and practitioners in Birmingham and beyond.

The plays:

Part One (1914). *Home Front - Front Line*

Part Two (1915). *Sepoy's Salute*

Part Three (1916). *Over The Top*

Part Four (1917). *The Land Between Two Rivers*

Part Five (1918). *Worlds Apart Together*

