

# READERS' THEATER RESOURCES

Barbara Sutton, San Diego County Library

## Books

- *Classic Readers Theatre for Young Adults* by Suzanne I. Barchers and Jennifer L. Kroll – includes background information, presentation suggestions, ideas for props and staging for each script; scripts from classics fit well with this year's theme
- *How and Why Stories for Readers Theatre* by Judy Wolfman – introduction outlines the reasons for presenting Readers Theater, as well as a step by step planning and preparation section; scripts are written at a grade 1-5 reading level, but provide examples of how and why stories that could be adapted for teen readers
- *Presenting Reader's Theater: Plays and Poems to Read Aloud* by Caroline Feller Bauer – published in 1987, this collection of readings includes a section on warm-up exercises you might try to help your performers relax
- *Read! Perform! Learn!: 10 Reader's Theater Programs for Literacy Enhancement* by Toni Buzzeo – contains scripts for 10 picture books; includes activities (games, crafts, other books to discuss), author information and interviews, and suggestions for presentation; teens could perform these for younger children
- *Read! Perform! Learn! 2: 10 Reader's Theater Programs for Literacy Enhancement* by Toni Buzzeo – see above description
- *Readers Theatre for Young Adults* by Kathy Howard Latrobe and Mildred Knight Laughlin – another collection of scripts taken from the classics; includes a section on suggested scripts and how to develop them
- *Silly Salamnders and Other Slightly Stupid Stuff for Readers' Theatre* by Anthony D. Fredericks – contains useful information on how to prepare a Readers Theater performance; includes many very silly scripts that might interest young listeners
- *Tell It Together: Foolproof Scripts for Story Theatre* by Barbara McBride-Smith – good explanation on how to write a script from a book (pp. 185-187); includes creative scripts taken from myths, folktales and fiction appropriate for presentations to elementary school students



## Websites

- Aaron Shepard's RT Page: Scripts and Tips for Readers Theater
  - <http://aaronshep.com/rt/index.html#blurbs>)
  - lots and lots of information on Readers Theater, from how to start, to scripts to use for free (as well as some for purchase)
- California Young Reader Medal
  - [http://www.californiayoungreadermedal.org/teachers\\_and\\_librarians.htm](http://www.californiayoungreadermedal.org/teachers_and_librarians.htm)
  - scripts for each of the nominees at all levels, including YA
- Peachtree Publishers
  - [http://peachtree-online.com/pdfs/When\\_Rain%20Falls\\_Readers\\_Theater.pdf](http://peachtree-online.com/pdfs/When_Rain%20Falls_Readers_Theater.pdf)
  - a Readers Theater script based on *When Rain Falls* by Melissa Stewart
- Readers Theatre Digest
  - <http://readerstheatredigest.com/>
  - a blog with posts on a variety of topics relating to Readers Theater; some great articles in their archives; includes a video of *Three Wishes* <http://readerstheatredigest.com/?p=13>
- Readers Theatre Institute
  - <http://www.readerstheatreinstitute.com/about.html>
  - a resource for information on world-wide Readers Theater, as well as a place to find scripts (for purchase) for elementary, middle, and high school age children.
- Scripts for Schools
  - <http://scriptsforschools.com>
  - offers scripts for all ages for purchase
- South Dakota High School Championships
  - <http://sports.sdpb.org/archive/0708/finearts/oralinterp/aa/readerstheater.htm>
  - a compilation of videos taped during a statewide high school competition; has great ideas for staging Readers Theater.
- Upstart
  - <http://www.upstartpromotions.com>
  - Reader's Theater scripts are available for purchase; literature based, reading levels from grade 2 through grade 5

