

The Shaw Festival

Behind the Curtain

Build It

Grades 7 & 8

6-7 days

Focus Questions:

1. How important is a set design?
2. Can the same set be used for every play?

Instructional Resources:

- *The Shaw Festival: Behind the Curtain*
- Pencils
- Drawing Paper
- Rulers (or Architect's Scales if available)
- Paint
- Glue
- Foam Board, Cardboard, Balsa Wood or other building materials

Activity

Choose a production from a Shaw Festival season. Read a synopsis of the play. Research play further if needed. Write a few paragraphs about what the setting of this play is. Choose a scene to design a set for. First complete a scale drawing of the set, and then build a model.

Useful links:

- [Stage Design: Using Visual Elements to Provide Information to an Audience](#) from The Kax Herberrger Center for Children and the Arts
- [The Incredible Scale Model Set Design Lesson Plan](#) from Pioneer Drama Service
- [Theater: Scene Shop](#) from PBS LearningMedia
- [The role of a set designer](#) from *ANNIE: It's the Hard-Knock Life, From Script to Stage*

Learn more about Shaw and the Shaw Festival at www.shawfest.com

Find classroom materials and program information at www.pbs.org/wned/shaw-festival

