## National Theatre

a backstage tour of the National Theatre

Choose your favourite song. Can you create a story based on the lyrics? Who is singing the song? What is happening to them? Can you perform the song as that character?

Find a picture with people or animals in it. Imagine a conversation between the characters in the picture. Can you write this dialogue creating a short script to perform?

Find a spot in your home to build a story den. Read one of your favourite stories or plays inside it. You have a magical piece of candy. Every time you put it in your mouth and chew, imagine it gives you a different character voice. E.g. robot, witch, bear, queen... How many voices can you do?

Choose a favourite story.
Act it out without using words. Play some fast music as you act it out.
How does your performance change if you use slow music?

Ask an adult if you can have an old pillow case. Cut a hole for your head at the top and two holes for your arms at the sides. Design and make it into a costume for one of your favourite characters.

Cut out a large face shape from a piece of paper.

Design the make up for a magical or monstrous character. Think about the colours you use and what features you include.

Use plastic bags and tape to construct a costume for a character. You could choose a monster, a princess, a superhero or anything else you can think of.

Put on some music that you like. Choose a part of your body. Imagine there is a string attached to it pulling you. Move around to the music letting that body part lead. What shapes and movements can you make? Can you create a dance?

Collect objects from around your home that could make different sounds. What sound effects can you create using them? Can you use them to make the sound effects for a story?

Think of a favourite story. Scrunch and sculpt tin foil or paper into miniature props for your story. Use them to act the story out. Click to find
out about
different jobs
at the
National
Theatre

LET

Why not send this to your friends, then share photos and videos of the things that you create with each other?

Pick a book. Turn to page 5. Read out the first 5 words. These 5 words need to be used in the opening line of your new play. Can you write the rest of the first scene?

Use a lamp or a room with sun on the wall and see what shadows you can create - you can use your objects or cut out shapes and silhouettes. Can you

use them to tell a

story?

Choose 5 places in your home. Choose or make up a story and perform each scene in a different area. You could decorate these areas, creating a backdrop to the scene. Ask your audience to walk between each area.

Find a pair of shoes that are not your own. Put them on and walk in them. How do you walk? What does it make you feel like? Think up a character and see how long you can pretend to be that person for.

Pretend to have an argument with someone using only the word BANANA. How can you show emotion?