

Keeping Up With The Kids



A Publication of The Kids on the Block, Inc.

Winter 2009

KOB in the Classroom: Addressing National and Local Learning Standards

The Kids on the Block, Inc. has always focused on puppet shows as being education presented in an entertaining way. Sometimes it's necessary to remind teachers and school officials how puppetry fits into educational standards in the classroom. The following chart demonstrates which National Learning Standards a general Kids on the Block presentation can address. Use this as a guide to develop your own model. Examine your local standards, keeping in mind that certain programs may address additional learning standards in the fields of health and/or science. For more on this and other useful program implementation tips, visit the Coordinator's Corner section at www.kotb.com.

KOB Presentation Component	Language Arts Standard	Performing/Visual Arts - Theatre Standard
<p>The Kids on the Block Performance which includes an introduction, scripted presentation(s), audience interaction</p>	<p>COMMUNICATION: LISTENING Students will be able to demonstrate the following abilities: follow multistep oral directions, listen for meaning in conversations and discussions, focus attention on a person who is speaking, listen politely without interrupting and listen for main ideas.</p> <p>COMMUNICATION: VIEWING Students will be able to demonstrate the following abilities: recognize details, setting, characters and cause and effect in material from non-print sources, summarize information he/she receives from non-print sources, and make connections between non-print sources and his/her prior knowledge.</p> <p>RESEARCH Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to construct questions about a topic.</p>	<p>VALUING AND RESPONDING Students will be able to demonstrate audience etiquette during a theatre performance, describe emotions evoked by a theatre performance, and explain their personal preferences and suggestions for improvement in response to all or part of a theatre performance.</p>
<p>Classroom Follow-up which includes discussion questions, classroom activities, and dramatic role-play scenarios</p>	<p>COMMUNICATION: SPEAKING Students will be able to demonstrate the following abilities: face an audience, make eye contact, use appropriate voice level, initiate a conversation, respond in complete sentences, participate in and contribute to discussions by responding appropriately, begin giving brief presentations, demonstrations and oral reports, participate in creative dramatics, use oral language to inform, entertain and to compare and contrast different viewpoints, use Standard American English in formal speaking situations and in the classroom, summarize discussions, and begin making appropriate statements to communicate agreement or disagreement with others' ideas.</p>	<p>STORYMAKING/SCRIPTWRITING Students will be able to identify individual elements (who, what, and where) of dramatizations, create scenes and scenarios (with a beginning, middle, and end) by improvising and participating in dramatic role-play theatre games.</p> <p>ACTING Students will be able to describe and compare ways that people react to other people and to internal and external environments, assume roles in a variety of dramatizations, and perform in group dramatizations.</p>

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**KEEPING
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KIDS**

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PUPPETEERING POINTERS

Q: I noticed that some of the KOB headquarters performers wear gloves INSIDE the puppets. Should our puppeteers be doing that?

A: Wearing gloves inside the puppets is a matter of personal preference. Over the years, about half of the performers for the international performing troupe have used gloves inside puppets, and half have not. There are a variety of reasons that some puppeteers like using a glove on their puppeteering hand. Some feel that the glove helps to reduce slippage somewhat. (The gloves sold as part of KOB's hood/glove set MIGHT have this effect for you, but some other gloves, such as Isotoner brand, would likely increase slippage.) Also, during a performance, perspiration can accumulate inside the puppets' heads, and inserting a bare hand into a moist puppet can be unpleasant. Another advantage to wearing a glove on both hands is that there is no need to put on or take off gloves between scripts if performing on different hands during the course of one show.

Those performers who prefer not to wear a glove inside the puppet generally indicate they feel a need to be in direct contact with the puppet to manipulate it confidently.

You may want to experiment in rehearsals with and without a glove inside the puppet to get a feel for it. This isn't something you should try for the first time during a performance. It shouldn't take much rehearsal time for you to figure out which camp you're in.

***NOTE:** The use of hoods and gloves to complete the "silhouette effect" is optional, and the decision to use or not use them should be consistent within a performing team. The international performing troupe has been using hoods and gloves for all of our performances for many years.*

Q: I "get" lip synch-I understand that it means moving the puppet's mouth to the rhythm of my speech. I'm pretty sure I've got the movement right, too, from the wrist, not the elbow or hand. But I just can't seem to get to the point where it comes automatically. I've been performing a while, and I still think about lip synch all the time.

A: Congratulations! You've mastered the hardest part, which is the relaxed movement of the wrist. From this point, getting lip synch to come automatically is easy, but a little time consuming. In general, we find that if you practice for about 20 minutes a day for three to four weeks, lip synch will become automatic. Remember the basic rules for lip synch practice: You don't need a puppet to practice lip synch. Use natural speech, such as your own phone conversations or KOB script dialogue.

Do not use poetry or songs. And do not practice in front of the mirror; also, resist the urge to peek around your arm to watch your hand/the puppet's mouth.

As you start to feel more confident, try closing your eyes to determine if it still feels right. Soon after you can do this, you'll find that you stop thinking about lip synch. And the good news is this- lip synch is like riding a bike. Once you've really got it, you don't have to relearn it. Even if summer or holiday breaks mean long gaps in your performing schedule, lip synch should come back effortlessly. Other features of puppetry, particularly posture, may need a little brushing up to get your puppeteering muscles back into shape. But once lip synch is yours, it's yours forever!

Q: Can you help our puppetry team accomplish more in our group rehearsals? Everyone is working so hard, but sometimes it feels like we don't get very far.

A: Particularly early on in your puppeteering careers, less is more. By that we mean that it's best to work on those four basic features of puppetry one at a time, starting with lip synch, then moving to eye focus, posture, and finally progressing to gesture. One of the most important skills that coordinators and puppeteers alike can learn is effective critiquing. This is more than just developing an eye for skillful puppetry as well as puppetry errors-it's learning to communicate these things in a way that will be useful to the puppeteer.

Let's face it, all beginning puppeteers have quite a bit of work ahead of them to become competent in all four features of puppetry, but if they are bombarded with many weaknesses to work on all at once, it's just overwhelming, and real progress will take more time. That's why effective criticism always begins with one strength, an aspect of the performance which should be repeated (anything from enthusiastic vocal energy to good lip synch rhythm to straight and tall posture) and includes usually one and AT MOST two areas for improvement. If lip synch hasn't been mastered, this should always be addressed first.

This method not only builds confidence in puppeteers, it has also proven itself over many years as the best way to make real progress in puppetry skills. And though it may seem like a slower way to improve, it usually takes much less time because most puppeteers can master each feature of puppetry more quickly when using this building block approach. For puppeteers who need an added boost of confidence, or when working with teen puppeteers, sometimes the "sandwich" method, in which two strengths are presented with a single weakness in the middle, can be even more effective.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

COPYRIGHT RELEASE PROCEDURES

The Kids on the Block copyright is stringent, but it protects each and every troupe in our network by ensuring the integrity and reputation of our programs and characters. The Kids on the Block, Inc. does understand that situations, projects, and opportunities arise when exceptions are necessary and beneficial to individual troupes and the network at large. If you feel you've encountered such a situation, you'll need to request a copyright release. The process for this begins with submitting a copyright release request form, which you can find in the "Getting Publicity" section of your Coordinator's Manual. You may also request a form from our staff. You will likely need to attach an additional sheet with detailed information about your proposed project and/or a complete script

for a public service announcement or other video project. If you have any questions about the type of information we need to consider a request, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Please allow two to four weeks for our staff to process and consider your copyright release request, and please understand that this process is more than just a formality, as it involves protecting the viability of The Kids on the Block on a global level. Do not schedule or begin filming or otherwise embark on any project which requires a copyright release prior to receiving a release in writing from our staff.

For more details about The Kids on the Block, Inc.'s copyright, please see the inside cover of any Kids on the Block curriculum guide.

Calling All Coordinators!

Please remember to update your troupe's contact information. Let us know if you're a new coordinator just taking over as administrator for your troupe, and keep us informed of any changes of address or other contact information. Having current contact information available is essential for performance referrals and information sharing purposes.

If you are new, it's a great idea just to touch base with the headquarters staff so you can get to know us and how we can assist you in implementing Kids on the Block programs in your community!

Please send current contact information to: kob@kotb.com or call us at 1-800-368-5437.

Welcome to the Kids on the Block Family!

The following organizations started their own Kids on the Block programs in 2008:

UNITED STATES

Alaska

Family Advocacy Program,
Fort Wainwright

Arizona

Phoenix Children's Hospital,
Phoenix

Georgia

Camden County High School,
Kingsland

Indiana

Community Health Network,
Indianapolis

Iowa

Early Smiles Project,
Storm Lake

Louisiana

Family Advocacy Program,
Fort Polk

Michigan

William Beaumont Hospital,
Berkley

New Hampshire

Hampstead Middle School,
Hampstead

New Jersey

Wilbur Watts Intermediate School,
Burlington

New York

Five Towns College,
Dix Hills

Ohio

Society for Equal Access,
New Philadelphia

Texas

Family Advocacy Program,
Fort Sam Houston

CANADA

Core Association,
Medicine Hat, Alberta

Ottawa Rape Crisis Center,
Ottawa, Ontario

Association des Handicapés Adultes de la
Côte-Nord, Baie-Comeau, Quebec

KUWAIT

Dasman Center for Research and
Treatment of Diabetes, Dasman

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Salman Center for Disability
Research, Riyadh

WEST INDIES

St. George's University,
Des Building, Grenada

Peace Corps,
Kingstown, St. Vincent



KENTUCKY-- Bowling Green

In-Kind Donations Support Renovation Project

Here's a great example of how thinking outside the fundraising box can keep a KOB troupe going! Troupes spend so much time writing grants and seeking sponsorships that they sometimes forget the value of in-kind donations. In-kind donations can be more than just a free lunch for puppeteers or office supplies because it takes so much more than that to keep our troupes going. Like all non-profit organizations, there are some needs that are just extremely difficult to fund by the traditional means. That's where in-kind donations come into play. KOB of South Central KY used its community connections to help with a recent, much needed office renovation, which included an ADA approved accessible bathroom. Local contractors provided construction, air conditioning and heat, new flooring, and landscaping care for the exterior of the office. Each troupe has its own unique needs, but we provide such a valuable service to our communities, it only makes sense that our communities would want to give back so that we can continue to provide quality educational experiences for every community's most valuable treasures--its children.

NEW JERSEY--Edison

More on Unique Funding: Specialized Grant Support

When it comes to funding, don't forget to think topic specific! Grants for general education projects are great, but always highly competitive. Look for state and local government grants and local foundations with a specific interest in the topics your troupe would like to focus on. The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, which uses The Kids on the Block Programs on Brain Injury and Vehicle Safety, is supported by a grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety and by the NJ Traumatic Brain Injury Fund, which is administered by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Disability Services.



Valerie and Jason with KOB San Diego volunteer Robert Constantine

photo courtesy of Katherine Fountain

CALIFORNIA--San Diego

Local Arts Festival Benefits KOB Troupe, Other Agencies

Kids on the Block of San Diego is a beneficiary of the Torrey Pines Kiwanis Club's annual fund raising event, the La Jolla Festival of the Arts. First presented in 1987, the festival is one of the country's premier arts festivals, and its mission is to "to provide the highest quality arts and entertainment experience for our patrons, guests and participants in support of recreational and educational programs for San Diegans with disabilities." Other beneficiaries include adaptive sports programs, teen and youth programs, and service animal organizations. Several of the puppet kids were on hand at the 2008 festival on June 28 and 29 to meet their supporters.

MARYLAND--Frederick

Kids Serve Their Community Through Summer Program

The Mental Health Association of Frederick County Kids on the Block troupe collaborated with Volunteer Frederick's SummerServe, a five week program that engages young people in volunteering during the summer break from school. Of the 34 students participating in service projects ranging from trail maintenance at a local park to developing a photography exhibit, four served as KOB puppeteers, presenting scripts from The Kids on the Block Program on Combating Childhood Obesity and Overweight to children at local schools and children's centers. This marks the eighth year that the MHA has provided youth volunteers with a service opportunity through SummerServe.



Diabetes educators visited the US for puppetry training and much more.

photo courtesy of the Dasman Center

KUWAIT--Dasman and MARYLAND--Columbia

Diabetes Educators Learn KOB Puppetry Skills During U.S. Tour

A five member puppetry team from the Pediatric Clinic of The Dasman Center for Research and Treatment of Diabetes in Kuwait attended a training at KOB headquarters in Columbia, MD as part of an educational trip to the United States in April, 2008. Columbia was just one stop on their tour, which also included visits to diabetes research and care institutions in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Washington, DC, where the diabetes educators also discussed the latest in diabetes research and treatment. "We were involved in some effective lectures on puppet training. We also visited a health center, where information about diabetes in children and the latest research studies have been developed." Fatima Hassan, a member of the Dasman Center puppetry team, said. KOB headquarters' trainers were thrilled to have been part of this important educational journey for our colleagues in Kuwait.

BE A REPORTER FOR "KEEPING UP WITH THE KIDS"

Do you have a story or photos you'd like to share? We'd love to hear about special events or activities your troupe has participated in! Send stories, story ideas, and/or photos to editor@kotb.com.



NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS...

PUPPET HOSPITAL TEMPORARILY CLOSED

The puppet hospital in our workshop is temporarily closed. That is, we are currently not scheduling any puppet repairs due to an extremely busy production schedule. This is a temporary situation, so we do hope to reopen to repair work soon. As always, if you have a puppet in need of repair work, you must call our staff to request a quote and schedule the repair. You will be required to cover shipping both ways in addition to the cost of repairs. When shipping puppets for scheduled repairs, always remember to insure them for their full replacement values. (See current puppet order form.)

Simple repairs, cleaning, and other basic maintenance can usually be done more cost effectively by the troupe. Please contact us for basic care and repair instructions. While troupes are encouraged to regularly maintain their own puppets, any alterations to the puppets' appearances or mode of operation is a violation of KOB, Inc.'s copyright. If you have concerns about your puppets' appearances or are having difficulty manipulating them effectively, please contact our staff.

BY POPULAR DEMAND... KOB LOGO STAGE BANNER!

For many years, associate troupes have been clamoring for KOB Headquarters to offer a stage banner. Now, with the help of our on-line partner, CafePress.com, we are pleased to offer this full color banner perfect for display on your stage or in your office. Once you get it home, you can customize it with the name of your sponsor(s).

Banner measures 44" x 30" (and weighs in at 13 ounces). With a durable, weather-resistant construction that's ideal for draping outdoors or indoors, these handy banners feature four metal grommets for easy hanging. The KOB logo is printed on one side.

Banners are \$49.99 plus shipping and are available exclusively on-line. Navigate from www.kotb.com by selecting the "Exclusive On-line Store" on our home page. You'll also find fun gift, office, and clothing items available for on-line purchase.

WANT TO LINK UP?



If you'd like to be featured on www.kotb.com's links page, please send your link to kob@kotb.com. Our staff will review your site and create a link after the content has been approved. Please be advised that the following statement MUST appear on brochures, newsletters, and other informational material describing or marketing any KOB program. All KOB troupes with websites must post the statement in the text of their homepage and/or main page describing their KOB program. The copy size/color/font must be the same as the general text on the page:

(YOUR TROUPE'S FULL NAME)

is an affiliate and limited licensee of The Kids on the Block Incorporated, Columbia, Maryland, USA. The asterisked footnote (below) must appear at the bottom of the same page as the aforementioned statement.*

**©The Kids on the Block, Inc. All puppets and program materials are protected by United States and other copyright laws. Unauthorized use is prohibited. All Rights Reserved.*

Further, the phrase, The Kids on the Block, Incorporated must be hyperlinked to www.kotb.com wherever it appears.

Supplemental Shipping Charges (Effective 1/31/08)

Continental U.S. Shipping Charges for Supplemental Orders

Up	to	\$10.00	\$6.25
\$10.10	to	\$25.00	\$8.25
\$25.01	to	\$50.00	\$9.95
\$50.01	to	\$75.00	\$10.95
\$75.01	to	\$100.00	\$11.95
\$100.01	to	\$200.00	\$15.45
\$200.01	to	\$300.00	\$18.95
\$300.01	to	\$400.00	\$22.45
\$400.01	to	\$500.00	\$25.95
\$500.01	to	\$600.00	\$29.45
\$600.01	to	\$700.00	\$32.95
\$700.01	to	\$800.00	\$36.45
\$800.01	to	\$900.00	\$39.95
\$900.01	to	\$1,000.00	\$43.45

Performance Tip...

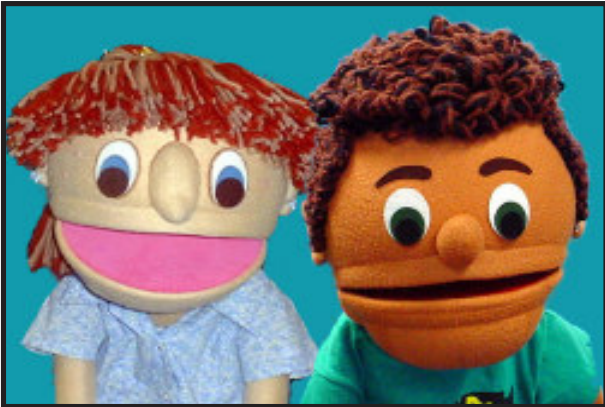
Thanks to our friends at Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System in West Palm Beach, FL for suggesting the use of a CD player with a remote control to operate music during performances. Tuck the remote into a pocket or a black fanny pack for easy access. No need to fumble around backstage or bring along a sound assistant!

Shipping Estimate Procedures

Because the fixed shipping charges listed to the left are for supplemental items shipped to the continental U.S. only, many troupes need shipping estimates to plan properly for their funding needs. To request a shipping estimate for puppet and program orders or for supplemental orders to be shipped outside the continental U.S., please contact our staff at kob@kotb.com or 1-800-368-5437. You'll need to let us know exactly what you plan to purchase and the actual shipping address. Please allow our shipping department 1-3 business days to develop your estimate.

Meet Some of The Kids on the Block

Many of our KOB Associates request information about members of The Kids on the Block family. We'll feature different "kids" in some issues of Keeping Up With the Kids. Cut and paste the articles to create your own KOB Character Reference Book!



Joanne and John work together at Dynamo Video.

Meet Joanne Spinoza

Joanne Spinoza, 14 years old, is the only child of divorced parents. Involved in a variety of activities, including soccer, cheerleading, the school newspaper, and working at Dynamo Video, a video store, Joanne loves to be a part of the action. She is often home by herself after school since her mom, Lena, works full-time as a real estate agent.

Joanne is a survivor of sexual abuse. She has received counseling and is a positive example of life after abuse. However, Joanne sometimes struggles with issues of self-esteem, as many children her age do. She is working on feeling better about herself, ultimately demonstrating that young people can develop positive self-esteem despite negative experiences and outside influences.

Joanne can be quite naive at times, and her interest in gossip and popular opinion tends to provide her with misinformation about a variety of issues. However, through her openness and her attempts to "do the right thing," Joanne is representative of children who are searching for the right choice and are willing to learn as they grow.

Joanne is featured in The Kids on the Block program on sexual abuse. Joanne also appears in the programs about AIDS, autism, childhood cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, hemophilia, ostomy, spina bifida, alcohol, tobacco & other drug prevention, fire safety, gangs, violence & prejudice prevention, multiculturalism, physical abuse, sexuality and teenage pregnancy, and vandalism.

Meet John Sanchez

John Sanchez is a 15 year-old Hispanic boy who extricated himself from a neighborhood gang when he was at the "wannabe" level. Because of his experiences with a gang and its activities, John is very aware of problems resulting from violence, vandalism, and more serious crimes. During his wannabe involvement, John witnessed illegal activities and lost his best friend to gang violence. After his friend, Hector, was shot, John decided against joining the gang and now makes a concerted effort to improve his surroundings and contribute to the community.

He works part time at Dynamo Video, is involved in school activities, and coaches his brother's little league team with Mack, an adult who has served as John's mentor. "I try to be involved in whatever I can, so I can make the most out of my life. I think about my friend Hector, too. I think of him a lot and what a mentor like Mack could have done for him and what I can do for other kids when I get the chance--the chance that Hector didn't have." John is close to his family, which includes his parents, his 14 year old sister, Clare, and his 10 year old brother, Marty. He is very involved in neighborhood activities and volunteers at the local youth center, coaching different teams and organizing activities.

John appears in The Kids on the Block Program on Vandalism Prevention and is featured in The Kids on the Block Program on Alternatives to Gangs, Violence, and Prejudice.

Meet Justin Campbell

Justin Campbell is a 14 year old student at Woodburn Junior High School. He lives with his parents and ten year old brother Andy. Justin recently sustained a brain injury in an automobile crash.



Justin is featured in the program on brain injury.

After a week-long hospitalization and three weeks of care at an inpatient rehabilitation facility, Justin is continuing his various therapies on an outpatient basis.

Due to the fatigue that the brain injury causes, Justin now attends school for a shortened day, which includes continued therapy and other special education services.

While it is impossible to "cure" a brain injury, through continued rehabilitation and educational efforts, Justin will learn compensatory strategies to allow him to do many of the same things he did before his injury, although in a different way.

Some of the cognitive changes he has experienced are short-term memory loss, difficulty learning new information, impaired executive functioning (the ability to organize, plan, initiate, and terminate activities), occasional word-finding problems, and decreased attention abilities. Emotional changes include lack of insight, inappropriate laughter, emotional lability, lack of control, and difficulty tolerating chaotic situations.

Justin is a talented artist who has been painting as a hobby since he was eight years old. Since his brain injury, his art has become even more important to him. Justin is glad to have an expressive outlet to deal with the feelings of loss, frustration, and anger that he has about his brain injury. While he's fairly certain that his future career will be related to his art, Justin is currently focusing on some short term goals, like mastering his compensatory strategies, learning what situations cause him problems, and developing stamina to extend his school day.

Justin is the featured character in The Kids on the Block Program on Brain Injury.

WHAT'S UP

KEEPING YOUR PROGRAMS CURRENT

At KOB Headquarters we're constantly working to provide you with the most up-to-date curricula.

KOB curricula are updated in one of four manners:

Inserts: New information included in a free handout.

Updates: Existing scripts/materials are rewritten to reflect current information.

Revision: Existing scripts/materials rewritten plus new scripts added.

Program Replacement: Existing program replaced with all new scripts and materials.

Here's a complete list of inserts, updates, revisions, and replacements to date. **BOLD** titles indicate recent availability.

AIDS/HIV -- UPDATE, 2008

Asthma -- revision, 2002

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs -- replaced Substance Abuse program, 1995

Arthritis -- revision, 1998

AUTISM -- UPDATE, 2008

BULLIES & SCHOOL SAFETY -- INSERT, 2008

Cerebral Palsy -- update, 1995

Childhood Cancer -- revision, 2000

Deafness -- revision, 1997

Diabetes -- update, 1997

Divorce -- update, 1997

Down Syndrome -- (formerly

Mental Retardation) -- revision, 2005

Emotional Disturbance -- update, 2006

Epilepsy -- revision, 2001

Fire Safety & Prevention -- revision, 2005

Gangs, Violence & Prejudice -- update, 1997

Healthy Eating -- revision, 2006

Learning Disabilities -- revision, 2005

Multiculturalism -- replaced Cultural Differences program, 1997

Physical Abuse -- revision, 1996

Sexual Abuse -- revision, 2005

Sexuality and Teenage Pregnancy -- revision, 2001

Sibling of a Child Who Has a

Disability -- revision, 1998

Spina Bifida -- revision, 1999

Sun, Heat and Water Safety -- replaced Pool and Water Safety program, 2004

Vehicle Safety -- replaced Safety on Wheels program, 2002

Visual Impairment -- revision, 1996

RECENT UPDATES

AIDS/HIV

A newly updated version of The Kids on the Block Program on AIDS/HIV is now available. The program, which was originally released in 1988 and won the Surgeon's General's Medallion for Excellence in Service to Public Health in 1989, provides children with information about viruses, healthy choices, and living with HIV/AIDS.

Changes throughout the curriculum reflect the many changes in scientific knowledge and medical treatment that have come to light since the program's previous update in 1994. The most significant changes are to the history and timeline of the featured character, Natalie Gregg, to more realistically reflect the current experiences of a person living with HIV/AIDS. "There was a time when people thought of AIDS as a death sentence," Natalie declares. "HIV has changed my life, but I still have a life, and I'm going to concentrate on living it."

All troupes with the program should contact The Kids on the Block, Inc. to purchase the updated teacher's guide (\$15.00 each plus shipping). Updated rehearsal audio is also available (CD, \$12.00 plus shipping).

BULLIES AND SCHOOL SAFETY

The Bullies and School Safety Program recently received a face lift to help it keep up with the times. Information about the growing problem of "cyber bullies," who use electronic communication as a means of harassment, has been added to both the "What Teachers and Other Adults Should Know" and "What Children Should Know" sections of the curriculum guide. Also, a detailed answer to the question, "What if you are getting bullied on the computer?" has been added to the "Questions Children Ask" section.

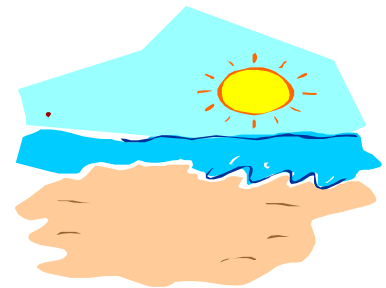
Additionally, an article in the Winter 2008 issue of Keeping Up with the Kids, outlined some slight alterations which allow the two scripts, "Rescue or Report" and "You're Not the Boss of Me!" to be performed together for older elementary school audiences.

In order to keep costs down for associate troupes using the Bullies and School Safety Program, the cyber bullies information and line-up changes have been compiled into a downloadable PDF "Insert." To obtain the insert, email kob@kotb.com. We'll provide you with a password and link to download the password protected document from our website.

If you do purchase replacement teacher's guides, (\$15.00 plus shipping) you will notice these changes, and the new copyright insignia date will read 2008. Many thanks to all the troupes who have been sharing the valuable information and insight this program offers with children all over the world!

Editor's Note: All "Kit A and Kit B" scripts were reprinted into separate teacher's guides for each topic between 1980 and 1982.

ON THE HORIZON...



PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMORS

We're pleased to announce that **The Children's Cancer Hospital at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center** has recently committed to sponsoring a new program that addresses pediatric brain tumors. The program is in the earliest stages of development, and we anticipate that script material will address issues such as the social and emotional impact of these tumors, preparation for school re-entry, details of cancer treatment and side effects, and myths about brain tumors. Like all KOB programs, this new curriculum will model supportive friendships and positive interactions, while encouraging children to discuss their feelings and ask questions.

Watch www.kotb.com for an announcement of the program's completion!

KOB MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of The Kids on the Block (KOB) is to provide an educational puppet program which enlightens all children on the issues of disability awareness, medical/educational differences and social concerns. By extensively researching and developing relevant and timely topics, KOB addresses a wide range of issues that affect today's children. KOB has a strong commitment to supplying communities around the world with programs that address children's questions, concerns and needs about these issues. The type of education The Kids on the Block programs provide will help to create positive attitudinal and behavioral change for present and future generations.

To find out how you can inspire the children in your community to be more understanding and appreciative of differences, call the Kids on the Block. Use the toll free number listed below!

The Kids on the Block, Inc.

9385-C Gerwig Lane
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410-290-9095
FAX: 410-290-9358
Toll free: **1-800-368-KIDS(5437)**
Continental U.S./Canada

www.kotb.com

PROGRAMS NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE KIDS ON THE BLOCK

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| <p><i>Updated!</i></p> <p><i>Updated!</i></p> <p><i>Updated!</i></p> | <p>AGING</p> <p>AIDS/HIV</p> <p>ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & OTHER DRUGS</p> <p>ARTHRITIS</p> <p>ASTHMA</p> <p>AUTISM</p> <p>BEREAVEMENT</p> <p>BRAIN INJURY</p> <p>BULLIES & SCHOOL SAFETY</p> <p>CEREBRAL PALSY</p> <p>CHILD OF DIVORCED PARENTS</p> <p>CHILDHOOD CANCER</p> <p>CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH/ADHD</p> <p>COMBATING CHILDHOOD OBESITY & OVERWEIGHT</p> <p>COPING WITH CRISIS/DEPLOYMENT</p> <p>DEAFNESS</p> <p>DIABETES</p> <p>DOWN SYNDROME</p> <p>DWARFISM</p> <p>EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIORAL DISORDER</p> <p>EPILEPSY</p> <p>FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION</p> | <p>GANGS, VIOLENCE & PREJUDICE</p> <p>GIFTED AND TALENTED</p> <p>HEALTHY EATING & DENTAL CARE</p> <p>HEMOPHILIA</p> <p>LEARNING DISABILITIES</p> <p>LIFE LESSONS</p> <p>LITERACY</p> <p>MULTICULTURALISM</p> <p>MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY</p> <p>ORGAN DONATION/TRANSPLANT</p> <p>OSTOMY</p> <p>PEDIATRIC HOSPICE</p> <p>PHYSICAL ABUSE</p> <p>SEVERE BURNS</p> <p>SEXUAL ABUSE</p> <p>SEXUALITY AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY</p> <p>SIBLING OF A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY</p> <p>SPINA BIFIDA</p> <p>SUN, HEAT AND WATER SAFETY</p> <p>VANDALISM PREVENTION</p> <p>VEHICLE SAFETY</p> <p>VISUAL IMPAIRMENT</p> |
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Attention Recipient: Please route this publication to your Kids on the Block program coordinator and puppeteers.

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