

Ways to Integrate the Freshman Year Reading into Class
365 Days-365 Plays By: Suzan-Lori Parks

- Show student some of the plays from YouTube clips of theater groups performing some of the 365 plays.
- Have students write their own plays that address their own experiences.
- Have them as groups act out different plays from the book.
- Get students to imagine how the plays could be staged or realized. How do you stage a talking window, e.g.?
- Have students get into groups analyze what the play means.
- Have students pick their favorite plays (or plays that moved them in some way). Have them explain why they liked/selected that play.
- Divide class into four groups. Assign each group a season. Have each group pick a play from that season to act out, reflect on, and talk about.
- Connect each lesson topic to a different play. (See topic list).
- Ask students, “Do you see yourself in any of these situations?”
- Ask students how they would interpret the different stage directions.
- After the author visits it usually makes students excited about the book. Use that opportunity to engage students with the book again.
- Ask students to think about the parts of the book that they do not like. Encourage them to think more about why that part is there. Encourage them to look deeper into the text.