



Workstudy Program for Classroom Use

OVERVIEW

The goal of this Work Study Program is to provide material that will help teachers integrate the five themes of We're Going to Change the World TourSM into the classroom, and help students learn to make a difference through those themes.

★ The five themes are:

- ★ 1. Education
- ★ 2. Dedication
- ★ 3. Hard Work
- ★ 4. No Drugs or Alcohol
- ★ 5. No Hate/ No Prejudice

At the end of the performance the audience members will:

1. Know ways to avoid peer pressure and the false enticement of drugs.
2. Be able to find ways to respect themselves
3. Name the # 1 killer in the drug family.
4. Be able to raise awareness of how to change their world.

LET THE SHOW BEGIN

On Stage

In the opening illusion, Jeff catches the attention of the audience by cutting himself in half during the illusion called "Modern Art".

In the Classroom

Prior to seeing the show, discuss with your classes what it takes to become a magician.



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On Stage

★ Themes 1-5

Illusion #1 - “Newspaper Restoration”

The audience is made aware that the world can be a scary place because of the frightening things we see and read. The news can tear us apart. (*Jeff tears the newspaper into strips.*) Jeff tells the audience that the world we can change is the world inside of us.

How can we change ourselves? Through:

1. *Education* - study, learn. Be the best student you can be.
2. *Dedicating yourself to something.* Get interested in hobbies, sports, collecting, magic, etc
3. *Hard Work.* You can succeed through adversity.
4. *No use of drugs or alcohol.*
5. *No hate or prejudice.* Learn tolerance and forgiveness to people of all color.

As Jeff “restores” the newspaper he states, “The world does not have to be a scary place. Why? Because we can change the world.”

Back in the Classroom

The teacher can lead a discussion about the ways that we can change the world. Some follow-up activities include:

Elementary school

Draw a mural on long paper that depicts each student doing something that they feel will “change the world” and make it a better place.

Middle school

Break the class into groups. Choose a current local newspaper and find articles that depict people who are making a difference in our local community. Invite them to speak to the class and discuss ways they have changed the world.

High school

After a class discussion of ways to improve the world, invite students to volunteer to do community service and report on how that has changed their perspective on the world. This can be incorporated into a class project involving any subject matter.

On Stage

★ Theme #3 - Hard Work

Illusion - “Rope Trick”

This illusion centers around the theme of achieving through adversity. This is the first trick Jeff learned. At the age of 7 his father died suddenly in a boating accident. He was the youngest of six children and many times felt lost in what was a rather safe world. There are most likely children in your classroom that are living a life filled with adversity, such as: trying to learn with a learning disability, living with a physical disability, living with a single-parent, alcoholic parents, parents in jail, etc. During this illusion, Jeff takes three separate ropes of different length and turns them into three ropes of equal length. As he performs the trick, he explains how he began to use magic to overcome the adversity of losing his father at an early age. He could have pitied himself and fell into the habits of alcohol and drug abuse, but found a way to change his world into a better place for him.

Jeff will challenge the students to find the magic in them, perhaps through sports, music, art, magic that will help the students achieve inspite of all that's working against them.

Back in the Classroom

Elementary

The students can answer in the following group of questions, entitled “Here's the Magic in Me!”

Here's the Magic in Me

Here's where I see myself in 15 years.

Instead of doing drugs/alcohol I will be involved in these three things:

1.

How can I achieve this goal?

2.

How can I achieve this goal?

3.

How can I achieve this goal?

Middle School

Invite high school students who are good role models in overcoming adversity to talk to the students in your class

High School

Write a paragraph or short selection about how different their lives could have been if they had made a wrong choice. For example: How would my life be different today if I start drinking alcohol everyday?



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On Stage

★ Theme #2 - Dedication

Illusion - "Bunny Box"

Jeff questions the audience, "What drug kills more people than crack cocaine, marijuana, PCP, alcohol, suicide, homicide and AIDS each year? Answer: Nicotine

At the end of this illusion the students will be able to:

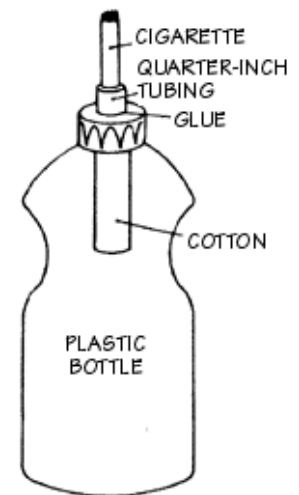
1. Name the #1 killer in the drug family
2. State that nicotine is a very addictive drug

Back in the Classroom

The Truth About Tobacco - Classroom Exercise

Health

Make a Smoking Machine. Gather an empty plastic bottle (such as a two-liter soda bottle), a piece of quarter-inch plastic tubing, and a cigarette. Put the tubing through a hole in the bottle's cap and glue it in place. Loosely fill the tubing with cotton. Insert a cigarette into the end of the tubing. Light the cigarette. Then "inhale" and "exhale" by squeezing the bottle to force air in and out. After a few minutes, have students check the cotton in the tubing to see the tars and chemicals that have been trapped there.



Closure - students should be prepared to answer these questions.

- What did you learn in this lesson that you think a smoker should know?
- What are some of the things you enjoy doing that a smoker might have trouble doing?
- Why should nonsmokers be concerned if they're in a room with lots of tobacco smoke?
- Why do you think tobacco is called a "dead-end" drug?

Elementary

Complete the worksheet

What can you do when someone is smoking around you? List three things you can do. Don't be rude.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



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On Stage

★ Theme # 5 - Respect for each other

Illusion - “Head Cutter”

In this illusion Jeff asks for an assistant from the audience. This “assistant” will put his or her head into a guillotine-like apparatus and Jeff explains how he will make the blade go through the assistant's neck without harming him.

After the illusion, Jeff asks the audience, “Where do you go for help? If someone at home is drinking, using drugs, or hits or touches you inappropriately?” Jeff then tells the audience that, “The one person you can always trust to help you is someone here at school. Perhaps that person is a teacher, school nurse, principal, or guidance counselor.”



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On Stage

★ Theme # 5 - Family members pressure

Illusion - “Sword Cabinet”

Through this illusion Jeff discusses ways that someday you may *look like* your parents, but you don't have to *act like* them if they are abusing drugs, alcohol, or if they abusing you.

The central issue here is if your parents hit, hurt, don't care or just aren't there, there is hope. That the world that lives inside us is a better place. We can make the world better. You don't have to model parents and friends who hate or hurt.

In this illusion, Jeff will put an “assistant “ in a box. Three other assistants watch so the first assistant doesn't escape. Swords are thrust through all sides of the box. When the front door of the box is opened the assistant's “middle “ is missing. Jeff removes the swords and restores the assistant. At the end of the illusion, Jeff and his assistants agree that everyone had fun. They experienced something new and exciting and did not need the crutch of alcohol and drugs to get through it.

He asks his assistants, “How did you feel about getting applause? Did it make you feel good?”

On Stage

★ Theme # 4 - No Drugs or Alcohol

Illusion - “Multimum -in- Parvo”

This is performed only at a high school show.

During this illusion Jeff takes a small glass of water and fills larger glasses of water, which in turn fill larger glasses of water. While performing the illusion Jeff discusses the “alcohol equality” of various drinks. For example, we find that a 1 1/2oz. shot of 85 proof whiskey has the same alcohol content as a 5 oz. glass of wine or 12 oz. of beer, or a standard size bottle of wine cooler.

This illusion tries to wipe away the myth that whiskey is stronger than beer and educate the students about the dangers of drinking and driving.

In the Classroom

Invite state police troopers to speak to your class and bring along vision impaired glasses to illustrate how our senses can become impaired through drinking.

View a video that illustrates what an alcohol-impaired driver experiences.

On Stage

★ All Themes

Illusion - "Ladder Levitation"

In this illusion Jeff talks about what students may dream of doing. He asks the audience "Have you ever dreamed of being a doctor, lawyer, teacher, professional athlete, or famous movie star? Has anyone ever dreamed of floating or flying?"

He then levitates a member of the audience. At the conclusion of the illusion, he explains that he is a magician and can't really make anyone fly or float, but our dreams don't have to be tricks or illusions, they can become reality.

How? Through Education, Dedication, Hard Work, No use of drugs or alcohol, and no hate or prejudice.

In the Classroom

(All levels)

Lead a discussion concerning what it takes to become a doctor, lawyer, teacher, actor, and athlete. What will it take for the students to achieve their dreams?

Have the students write their responses on paper or cards in the format below and display them on a bulletin board.

In my dream I see myself as a _____

I know I will need to work hard. Here's what I can do now to get started.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____



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On Stage

★ All Themes

Illusion - “Ladder to Success”

In this illusion, Jeff produces an 8-foot ladder, (as well as other things), from a brief case on a thin table. Jeff discusses how some people value material things as a measure of success. What really determines a person's success is:

1. Education
2. Dedication
3. Hard work
4. Not using drugs and alcohol
5. No hate or prejudice

As Jeff discusses each theme he pulls out another section of the ladder from the brief case. He encourages the audience not to be thrown by material things. Success is measured by what you do. Examples are the respect of others, honesty and personal integrity. He discusses that steps must be taken to realize one's dreams.

In the Classroom

Elementary and Middle

Construct a ladder on large craft paper. Have the students fill in each rung of the ladder.

The ladder can be entitled “Our Ladder to a Successful _____”. The blank can be filled with any objective you want to gain as a group. For example, “Our Ladder to a Successful Marking Period”. Each student can fill in a rung of the ladder with his or her own plan.



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On Stage

“All Good Things Must Come to an End” The Grand Finale

★ All Themes

Closing Illusion - “Rain”

Everyone in the audience must work together for this illusion to work. Jeff tells the audience that sometimes we may feel insignificant or small in this world of 5.2 billion people. We might even ask, “How do we make a difference in the world?”

Imagine 5.2 billion people in the world working together for one common good. If we all work together to break down the borders of prejudice and hate we can create a powerful experience. Regardless of age, race, or background, when we work together it's an incredible experience.

Jeff conducts the rain illusion with all audience members participating from their seats. By working together the audience sees that they can accomplish the illusion. This illusion really needs to be experienced to be appreciated. It leaves has a impression on the audience. Many teachers have written to tell Jeff that they do this in their classroom to bring everyone to attention. Some have used it at school assemblies.

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