

The Big Jump

Readers' Theatre

The GFI play *The Big Jump* can be used alongside either or both of the GFI stories *Constructing Big Air*, which is about the building of a snowboard jump, and *Intense Surf*, an exciting rescue story. The play includes three characters plus two narrators.

After the students have read either or both of the stories *Constructing Big Air* and *Intense Surf*, the play can be used with them as follows.

- Whole class (with one copy of the play per student or two students sharing one copy): Choose five students to read aloud each of the five parts; as these students read, the remaining students silently follow the text. Ask for new volunteers to read the part of their choice.
This exercise is excellent for developing oral reading skills.
- Group work (with five copies of the play per group): Five students choose a part each from the play, then read it through and prepare to present it to the other students in the class..

Following the reading and/or performance of the play, students can undertake one or more of these activities.

- Discuss the presentation of each of the characters:
In what ways does the actor's speech reflect his/her character?
In what ways does the actor's behaviour reflect his/her character?
- Write a review of the play performance. Have the actors interpreted their character realistically?
- Choose one of the characters and write a personal response to the actor who represented that character, explaining what was best about his/her performance as well as what could have been improved and how.