

## ILLUSIONS/MAGIC



Go to your public, school, and classroom libraries and check your home for any books about illusions and magic. Collect all the different materials you can on this topic and bring them to school. Read and research all you can about illusions and magic. Keep a bibliography on all the books you read and record them on your "Incredible Illusions" chart.

Make a chart that tells about five different types of magic. Your chart should be in color. Some things you will want to include are:

- A title
- Labels for each type of magic
- A description of each type of magic
- Some examples of each type of magic
- The names of magicians who performed each type of magic
- A list of some of the materials used for each type of magic
- Illustrations that help support your descriptions or examples

Five kinds of magic you might want to include are:

- Sleight-of-hand
- Close-up
- Illusions
- Escape
- Mentalist

Make a timeline that shows when famous magicians and illusionists lived, special or unique acts of illusion they created, and where they performed. Consider using a creative format for your time line such as the basic dates

on a series of black hats with white rabbit cut outs filled with more information about the illusionist or special tricks.

- Make arrangements to visit a specialized toy store or magic shop. Arrange to interview the store manager or owner if possible. You may also want to try and meet with a local magician or illusionist. These people are often listed in parenting publications for birthday party entertainment and can sometimes be found in the yellow pages under "Entertainment." Use your "Interview Planning Sheet" to help you prepare your questions.
- Choose a stage name, design a costume, and learn several magic tricks. Organize an act and put on a magic show for your class. Use the "Practice-Perfect-Perform" guide to prepare for your performance.
- Make a poster to advertise your magic show. Make a list of all the information that needs to go on the poster. Plan your space carefully and design a poster that will get people excited about coming to your magic performance. Produce your poster!
- Select your favorite magician or illusionist. Research this person and then write a children's biography. You might want to read some of the *Day in the Life of ...* or *A Picture Book of ...* by David Adler to help you get started.
- There are many different famous illusionists and magicians working around the world. Learn more about some of the current illusionists and magicians by researching on the Internet. Select one that particularly interests you and write a letter asking for any information or guidance that he/she might be able to give to a "budding" magician.

