TEACHING STATISTICS WITH THEATER:
SOME EXPERIENCES WITH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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This paper presents a strategy for the teaching of statistics through the creation of dramatic plays by the students, which is used as a tool to assimilate statistical concepts in a dynamic and entertaining way. Basic links between statistics and theatrical creation are put forward.

Three plays were originally implemented with primary school students, dealing with exploratory data analysis, probability, and statistical inference respectively. Each play is accompanied by didactic guides and an analysis of the hierarchy of the concepts introduced. One of them has been staged with professional actors, with performances given both with a specialized statistical audience and with a general public. Judging from the opinions of the audience, the play seems to have been successful in conveying the statistical concepts. Another play, created by undergraduate statistics students is also described and evaluated.