



talk like
Shakespeare!

powered by
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

Shakespeare's Backpack

Choose a character from *Romeo and Juliet* (or any Shakespeare play you're studying). As you read the play, collect materials that you think your character would carry around in a backpack. Once you've finished the play, present the items in your backpack—and explain why you chose each item. Other students in your class should be encouraged to ask questions: "Was that item a gift? Who gave it to your character?" and so on. An actor must be as specific as possible in creating a character. For example, Tybalt would not just carry any old piece of fabric on which to wipe his sweat— but he *might* carry a piece torn from the sleeve of the first Montague he fought!

(Illinois English Language Arts Goals 1c, 2a)