

## **EXERCISE: TABLEAU TRIO**

**GRADES:** 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up

**TIME:** 10 minutes

**SET-UP:** This exercise works best in an open space, but can also work in other configurations—with students coming to the front of a room, for example.

**SUPPLIES:** None

In *James and the Giant Peach*, James and his creature friends undergo a magical transformation and go on an action-filled journey. In the exercise below, students will explore two of the themes of the show—transformation and environment

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

If you have the open space for it, gather your students into a standing circle. One student steps into the middle of the circle and makes a frozen shape of a tree with their body and says “I am a tree.” Another student joins the tableau making their own frozen picture that adds to that environment (e.g. “I’m a bird’s nest”). The third student adds another frozen picture (e.g. “I am a bird”). The first two students leave the tableaux and the next round starts with the third student restating, “I am a bird.”

What sort of patterns and connections did your students notice? What environments did you create? How did the starting images transform as other students joined the tableau?