Death of Patrick Stewart (November 2, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

ℹ️ **What?** The famous British actor Patrick Stewart has died at the age of 86.

👤 **Who?** Patrick Stewart, a great stage actor known worldwide for his roles as Captain Jean-Luc Picard in Star Trek and Professor Charles Xavier in X-Men.

🌍 **Where?** He passed away at his home in Los Angeles, USA—far from his small hometown of Mirfield, England.

🕰️ **When?** He died on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, and the news was announced the following day.

❓ **Why is it important?** He spent over 60 years performing in Shakespearean plays, films, and television series that have been loved by millions of people of all ages.

🎯 **For this activity, your goal will be to learn a bit more about the life and career of Patrick Stewart—from Shakespearean theater to superhero films.** 🎭

OBJECTIVES

- Discover the life and career of British actor Patrick Stewart
- Identify the major stages of his career in a news report, from theater to film
- Discover William Shakespeare and the sonnet, a form of poem he made famous
- Understand the comparison and poetic images in Sonnet 18
- Search for information in the online profile of a fictional character
- Complete the profiles of Jean-Luc Picard and Charles Xavier

SUBJECTS

- **English**
  - Understanding a news report
  - Reading a poem
  - Simile and metaphor
- **Arts and Culture**
  - Theater and the works of Shakespeare
  - Film and television
  - Fictional characters

COMPETENCIES

- Find information in an audiovisual document
- Read and understand a poem
- Interpret a comparison or an image
- Search for and select information online
- Express and justify an opinion

DURATION

- Approximately 45 minutes

GETTING STARTED

- Ask the students if they know actors who perform both on stage and in films
- Ask them if they have ever seen a science fiction or superhero film, and which one
- Ask them what a poem is, and if they know the name of a famous poet
- Gather their ideas: what is the difference between an actor and the character they play?

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — A Giant of the Stage. Viewing of a CBC News report on Patrick Stewart's career, followed by four short-answer questions and one opinion question.

Q1 — Los Angeles (USA).
Q2 — The Royal Shakespeare Company.
Q3 — Jean-Luc Picard.
Q4 — Professor Charles Xavier (Professor X).
Q5 — Personal answer.

STEP 2 — Patrick Stewart and Shakespeare. Listening to Patrick Stewart read Sonnet 18 while following the text, followed by four comprehension questions.

Q6 — A summer's day.
Q7 — The person.
Q8 — "The eye of heaven."
Q9 — "This" is the poem itself: as long as people read it, the person will live on. (Accept any wording that expresses this idea.)

STEP 3 — Two Major Roles. Research on the Memory Alpha page for Jean-Luc Picard and on Charles Xavier's profile in a Marvel wiki, followed by completing two profiles.

Jean-Luc Picard — Born July 13, 2305, in La Barre, France.
Father: Maurice Picard; mother: Yvette Picard; son: Jack Crusher.
Charles Xavier — Nickname: Professor X; height: 6' (1.83 m); weight: 190 lbs (86.18 kg).
Eyes: blue; hair: bald (formerly blond).

WRAPPING UP

- Review what the students have learned as a group
- Discuss what surprised them the most (a Shakespearean actor who became a starship captain, a poem over 400 years old that is still recited today)
- Ask: was the poet right to say his poem would make the person live forever?
- Remind them that the death of a famous person can make us sad, and that they can talk about it with a trusted adult

FURTHER EXPLORATION

📖 Lisa Bany-Winters. *On Stage: Theater Games and Activities for Kids*. Chicago Review Press

