

The Children's Theatre OF CINCINNATI

TEACHER CURRICULUM & ACTIVITY GUIDE

Sleeping Beauty ^{ZZZZ}

April 27-May 6 at the Taft Theatre

A rock musical comedy adaptation of the classic fairy tale, packed with humor, heart, and a powerful message. Different from the other Princesses (including Snow White, Cinderella, Little Mermaid, and the Snow Queen), the impulsive, but courageous, Princess Aurora (Rory) defies tradition, and, instead of attending "Princess School", sets out on her own to discover all that the Kingdom of Basille has to offer. She encounters her evil fairy Godmother, the magnificent Magnilda, who placed a curse on Aurora, causing her to fall into a deep sleep. This sleeping beauty can only awaken with a kiss from her one, true love: the former frog, Prince Phillip - ready to rock, and begin a quest to defeat Magnilda, and restore order to the Land of Fairytales!



CURRICULAR TIES

FINE ARTS

MUSIC is studied and sung to tell a story. Aural learners will connect with the rhythms and melodies inherent to this project-based learning.

DANCE is brought to life through the show's choreography. Kinesthetic learners will embrace the movement of the show.

DRAMA is investigated through character work and storytelling. Linguistic and interpersonal learners will engage with the written word, and collaborative process.

VISUAL ARTS are explored through set and costume design. Visual learners will delight in the physical construction of the world of the play.

LANGUAGE ARTS

LITERATURE/WRITING/LANGUAGE

Students can read, comprehend, and analyze the construction of the story's text, as well as its relation to the fairy tale source material; additional opportunities exist to discover and study information regarding the history of fairy tales, and The Brothers Grimm. Through dialogue, and song, students will acquire new vocabulary, and explore figurative language, while building domain-specific literacy.

THEMATIC CONNECTIONS

TRADITION/GENDER ROLES

In the story, Princess Aurora defies tradition, choosing an unconventional path not typically offered to girls of the Kingdom.

SELF-ESTEEM

Despite being different from the other Princess and Princes of the Land of Fairytales, Rory and Phillip learn to have confidence in their uniqueness.

SUGGESTED READING

FOR GRADES K-6

- "Random House Book of Fairy Tales" by Amy Ehrlich and Diane Goode

FOR GRADES 7-12

- "Grimm's Complete Fairy Tales" by The Brothers Grimm

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS & ACTIVITIES

GRADES K-2

THE TALE OF THE FAIRIES: SLEEPING BEAUTY is a fairy tale. In fairy tales, there are magic beings and magical spells that don't actually exist in the real world. Also, there are good characters and bad characters, and there is a beginning, middle and end to the story. What did you notice about Sleeping Beauty that proves it is a fairy tale?

1. With your class, make a list of the things that make this story a fairy tale. Are there good/bad characters? Is there magic? Does good conquer evil?
2. Discuss how the story would be different if you took out some of the things that make Sleeping Beauty a fairy tale.
3. Now discuss what would make the story even better. Would you put the story in a different time period or place (setting)? How would the story be different if all the boy characters became girl characters, and all the girls became boys?
4. In groups, create your own fairy tale. Include good/bad characters, magic spells, and make sure your story has a beginning, middle and end. Once you're done, act out your fairy tale plays for your class!

SUBJECTS Writing, Critical Thinking, Comparison of Cultures over Time, Reading, Public Speaking, Genres, Sequence of Events

GRADES 3-6

WHAT KIND OF KINGDOM?: SLEEPING BEAUTY takes place in another time and place, a kingdom far away, a long time ago. It is "once upon a time." There have been movies, TV shows, and books all centered in different kinds of kingdoms for fairy tales. If it were up to you, would you rather live in the world you know, or in a world of fantasy?

1. Using a web browser, visit the Kingdom Name Generator, <http://www.namegenerator2.com/kingdom-name-generator.php>. Click on "Generate Kingdom Names" to get the random name of your imaginary kingdom!
2. Based on the name and what you already know about fairy-tale kingdoms, brainstorm at least 10 things about your kingdom that are different from yours.
3. Make a Venn Diagram of the real world and your kingdom. In each circle, list the differences between, but where the circles overlap, put the things they would have in common.
4. Based on these similarities/differences, would you have preferred to live in the real world or in the fantasy kingdom? Why? Discuss with the class.

SUBJECTS: History, Social Studies, Writing, English, Research, Critical Thinking, Comparison of Cultures over Time

GRADES 7-12

BEHIND THE SCENES: SLEEPING BEAUTY is about a Princess who lives in a magical place. If you came to see this show, you have also been to a magical place—the theatre! You may not have realized it, but there is a lot of backstage "magic" and fun in a theatre, from the actors and dancers to the technicians, managers and designers who make all the adventures come to life. Your teacher should have a copy of the program. all the jobs in theatre? Pick one—maybe a costume designer, or a choreographer. What must their jobs be like? Even if you don't have access to the person, you can still learn about their job.

1. First, type in the job name ("Costume Designer," for example) in a search engine. What results come up? Maybe a Wikipedia article, or images of famous people who hold that job. Browse a little. What do you learn about this person?
2. Use your imagination. If you had that job, what do you think, based on your research, you would have done as part of? Write down a journal entry as a day in the life working in this job. Share with a partner!

SUBJECTS: Literature, English, Public speaking, Local history, Social studies, Research, Vocations