

On Stage
with
American Family Theater
Study Guide



On Stage with American Family Theater Wizard of Oz

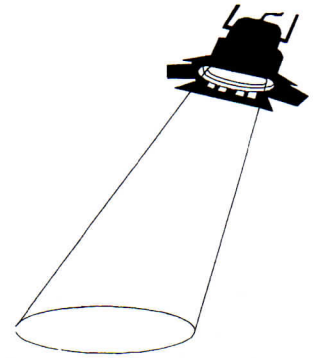


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On Stage With American Family Theater



Letter from
the Producer

Dear Educator:

This guide contains suggested learning experiences for various grade levels. It is intended to help your students enjoy and utilize the theater-going experience. Please select those ideas that best relate to your curriculum and classroom needs. We would appreciate knowing which suggestions you actually incorporated into your lesson plans and how they worked for you.

Share your fun and ideas with us. We will be pleased to receive any projects that grow from this experience... letters, cassettes, original drawings, photos, etc. You may send them to:

American Family Theater, Inc.
1429 Walnut Street
4th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

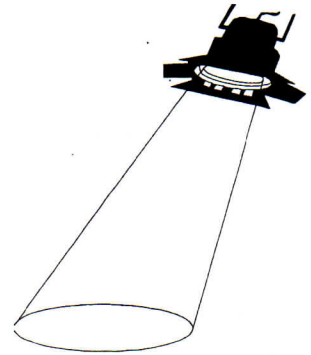
Theater is, indeed, a superb learning tool that you and your students will share, cherish and remember. We look forward to welcoming you and your classes to the theater.

Cordially,



Laurie Wagman
Founder/Chairman

On Stage With American Family Theater




Before You Go:



ASK the students to recall the story of WIZARD OF OZ by telling it informally, as they remember it. Have they recounted the traditional story or an adaptation? Discuss the fact that there are many versions or adaptations of all tales. Identify the main characters and the basic story using the attached synopsis.

DETERMINE if they have seen the story of WIZARD OF OZ performed before (On film? On stage? At school? In professional theater? Maybe on TV or video?) and in what art form. (Play? Ballet? etc.) Maybe they have read the book? Discuss any recollections in terms of similarities and differences. Do the different art forms affect their impressions? If so, try to make them aware of their varying reactions.

SET a part of the classroom aside for a 'Wizard of Oz Corner'. Ask students to bring in various books, CD's, tapes, pictures, dolls, puppets, original drawings, etc. for perusing at their leisure. 

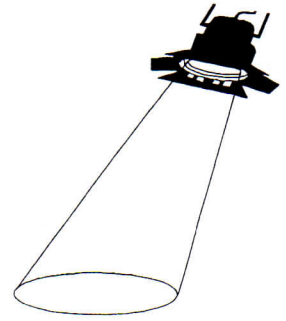
EXPLAIN to students that they are about to see a live, on-stage production of WIZARD OF OZ. There will be songs and dances, as well as acting, to tell the story.

Note: This original musical adaptation is presented by American Family Theater for audiences across the country. Students can expect to see the traditional Wizard of Oz characters.



ENCOURAGE the students to relax and get into the spirit of the play once they are in the theater. Tell them they should use their imaginations freely and feel comfortable to respond openly to the actors on the stage.

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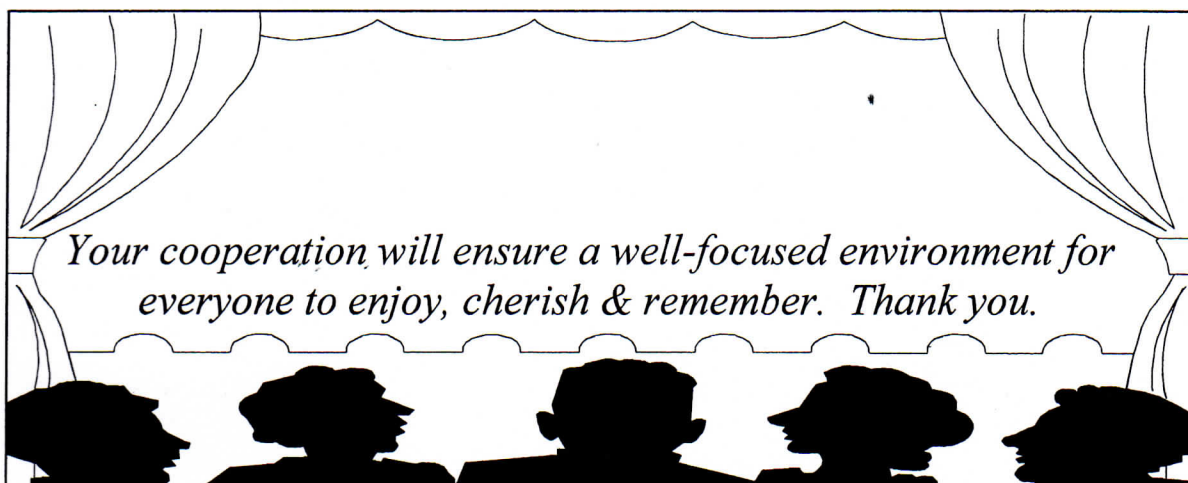
Theater Etiquette:

The audience plays a key part in the overall theater experience. Each audience member affects those around him or her as well as the performers.

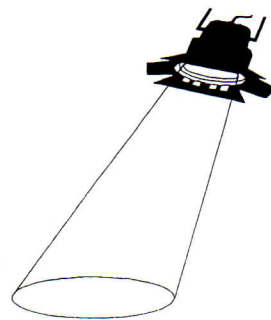
Remind your class that everyone will have an especially wonderful time at the performance by remembering their theater manners.

Here is how students can help:

- ❖ It is important to remain seated throughout the entire performance.
- ❖ Restroom visits are best made prior to seating.
- ❖ Photography and recording during the performance are not permitted.
- ❖ Give your full attention and energy to the performers. In return, the performers give it back to you with a better performance.
- ❖ Don't talk during the show unless you are asked. Sometimes we think that if we whisper, it is okay. But if everyone in the audience whispers, it can be disruptive to the performers.
- ❖ Turn watches, pagers and cell phones to silent.
- ❖ Do not interrupt performers with comments that may disrupt the performance for others.
- ❖ Show the performers your appreciation for their efforts by applauding.



On Stage with American Family Theater Wizard of Oz



Scenic Breakdown:

Book, Lyrics & Music: Don Kersey

CHARACTERS

Dorothy	Ms. Scragg
Auntie Em	Good Witch
Rusty/Tinman	Wizard
Slim/Scarecrow	Bad Witch
Lionel/Lion	Toto
Salesman	

SCENIC BREAKDOWN/MUSICAL NUMBERS

SCENE 1

Auntie Em's in Kansas

"SOUPS ON" Auntie Em

"SOMEWHERE" Dorothy & Farmhands

SCENE 2

Munchkinland

"DUMB" Scarecrow

"FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD" Dorothy & Scarecrow

SCENE 3

Along the Yellow Brick Road

"HEART" Tinman

"GUTS" Lion

"BACK HOME" Dorothy

"ANY WIZARD" Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman & Lion

SCENE 4

Emerald City

"IT'S SO EASY TO BE A WITCH" Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman & Lion

SCENE 5

The Poppy Woods

"BE BRAVE" Scarecrow, Tinman & Lion

SCENE 6

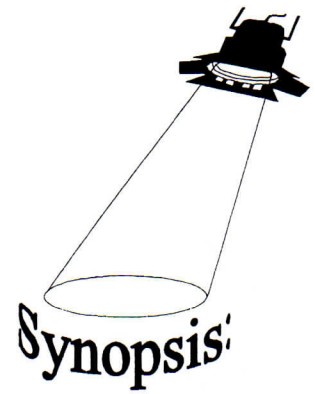
The Witch's Den

SCENE 7

Emerald City

"BACK HOME" (reprise) The Company

On Stage with American Family Theater Wizard of Oz



American Family Theater's production of Wizard of Oz is an original telling of the American classic.

The show begins in Kansas with Auntie Em. She calls to Dorothy and her three farmhands, Rusty, Slim, and Lionel. (Soups on) Soon, the evil Ms. Scragg arrives to take away Dorothy's dog Toto. Dorothy and her friends sing (Somewhere) a song about dreams and imagination and a land of lollipops and roses.



When the song ends, a salesman arrives at the farm and shows Dorothy her future through a crystal ball. As Dorothy becomes more and more entranced, a tornado twister is spotted on the horizon. Everyone safely escapes except, of course, Dorothy.

When she wakes up, Dorothy realizes she is not in Kansas anymore but rather in the land of lollipops and roses. She is in the land of Oz. There she meets Glinda, the Good Witch who sends Dorothy off to see the Wizard of Oz, as he is the only person who will be able to get her back to Kansas. Glinda tells Dorothy to follow the yellow brick road. She also gives Dorothy the magical ruby slippers that had belonged to the wicked Witch of the East. As Dorothy is about to head off, the evil Wicked Witch of the West stops her. She wants the slippers and will stop at nothing to get them.

Along the yellow brick road Dorothy meets a talking scarecrow without any brains. (Dumb) She meets a Tin Woodsman with no heart, (Heart) and a Lion without any courage. (Guts) Dorothy insists that her three new friends accompany her to find the Wizard of Oz because she believes that if the Wizard can get her back to her family, then he can help Scarecrow get a brain, the Tin Woodsman get a heart and the Lion, courage. (Follow the Yellow Brick Road)



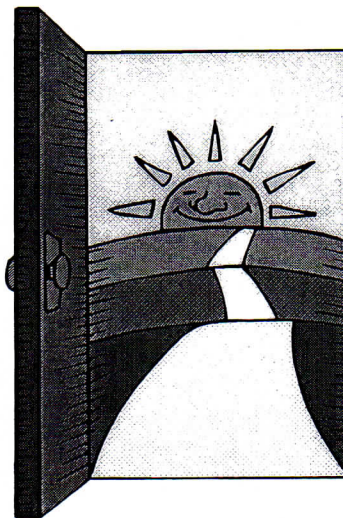
Along the way, Dorothy sings of her home in Kansas and how much she misses it. (Back Home)
Her new traveling companions try to cheer her up by telling her the Wizard can send her back. (Any Wizard)

Soon they arrive in Oz, but receive a cold reception from the powerful Oz. He refuses to help them unless they can destroy the Wicked Witch of the West.



Desperate to get home, Dorothy and her friends agree and set off to find the Witch. (It's So Easy to be a Witch) However, the witch is a step ahead and casts a spell on the friends, which causes them to fall asleep in a Poppy field. When Scarecrow, Lion and Tinman awake, they discover that Dorothy has been kidnapped and rush off to rescue her. (Be Brave)

Using all their "strength", "brains" and "heart", the friends save Dorothy, destroy the witch and bring the witch's hat back to the great and almighty Oz so that he can fulfill his promise to them all. Unfortunately the Wizard breaks his promise and still refuses to help Dorothy and her friends. Disappointed and angry, the gang notices a curtain and sneak around to check it out. They pull back the curtain only to discover that the powerful Wizard is actually a human, who, like Dorothy and her friends, has no powers at all. Though not able to offer magic to help the gang, the "wizard" reminds Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion that what they were all seeking is already inside them. Dorothy clicks her heels and wakes up back in Kansas with Auntie Em, her friends and Toto.



On Stage with American Family Theater Lyman Frank Baum (1856-1919)



Lyman Frank Baum was born on May 15, 1856 in Chittenango, New York. He was one of nine children born to Benjamin and Cynthia Ann Stanton Baum.

Frank suffered from heart trouble from birth so he didn't attend school. Instead received his education at home. Once he learned to read, he couldn't put down a book. He read classics from authors like Dickens and Thackeray. He also liked fairy tales but didn't like the witches and other scary creatures in them. He wanted to create fairy tales that would not scare children.

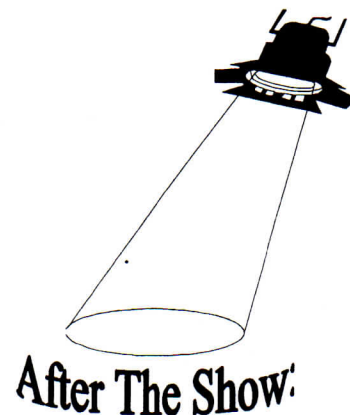
Inspired by a birthday present, (a small printing press!) he and his brother began publishing a neighborhood newspaper. He was only 14! It contained poetry, articles, editorials and even word puzzles. By the time he was 17, Frank had started another newspaper, *The Empire*, and a stamp collectors magazine. On his way to adulthood he would work at many jobs including salesman, reporter, print shop owner, opera house director, and actor.

On November 9, 1882, Frank married Maud Gage. For a while, they toured with the company of the play Frank wrote entitled "The Maid of Arran". The couple eventually settled in Syracuse where Frank worked as a salesman. Later they moved to the Dakota Territory and in May of 1891, drawn by the excitement of the World's Fair that would soon take place, he moved his family to Chicago.

Frank liked to read Mother Goose stories to children but found himself explaining why a cow would jump over the moon! He published those explanations in *Mother Goose In Prose* (1897) but it was *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (1900) that became the best-selling book in 1900 and made him famous. It was so successful that he decided to make it into a musical called "Oz" which toured for 9 years. He went on to write 13 more Oz books before his death in 1919 but the Oz legacy lived on through his oldest son Frank Jr. and Ruth Plumly Thompson who continued to write and produce more books, plays and radio shows. Though these were successful the best know version is the 1939 MGM movie *The Wizard of Oz* starring Judy Garland.



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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Ask the students to express their feelings as they recall the story line of the production.



- How did Dorothy react to Ms. Scagg?
- How did Dorothy get to Oz?
- How was the tornado created?
- Who did Dorothy meet in Oz?
- How did Dorothy get the broom from the witch?
- What happened when they discovered the truth about the witch?
- In what ways were the Lion, Tinman and Scarecrow similar to the farmhands?
- In what ways were the Lion, Tinman and Scarecrow friends to Dorothy?
- How did Dorothy keep her spirits up?



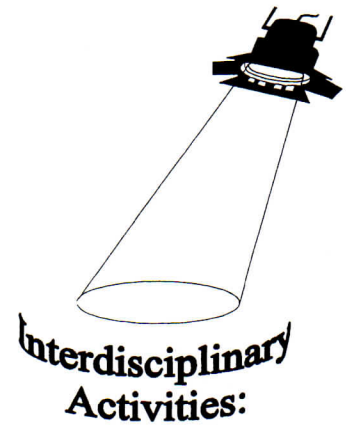
ALTERNATE TITLES

Have the students be creative and think of some other possible titles for the show.

TIMELINE

Create a timeline of events in Frank Baum's life.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

❖ WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:



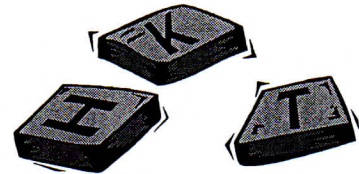
- Write a sequel to the Wizard of Oz story.
- Have students play the character in the show and other students interview them and write articles about them.
- What kind of place would your own yellow brick road take you?

❖ VOCABULARY

Use a dictionary to look up some vocabulary from the show. Be sure to use them in a sentence! *Bravery, courage, storm cellar, tinsmith*

❖ WORD GAMES:

- Have the students find as many words as they can using the letters in:



W I Z A R D O F O Z

- Unscramble these words:

DAIRZW (Wizard)	TORDYOH (Dorothy)
UREAGROC (Courage)	SPIEPOP (Poppies)
CIHWT(Witch)	WERTIST(Twister)
CWORSCAER(Scarecrow)	REDALME(Emerald)

TECHNOLOGY

- ❖ Use the interviews and articles about the show and character to create a newspaper using a word processing program. Include advertisements too!
- ❖ Research Frank Baum on the internet.



GEOGRAPHY

- ❖ Learn/practice map skills by creating a map of your idea of the land of Oz. After creating your map, make it 3D!



PERFORMING ARTS

- ❖ After attending the performance, watch other versions of Wizard of Oz. Compare them to our live production. What are the differences in the way the story was presented? What kind of can you do on film and not on stage? What are the benefits/limitations in each of the art form?

MATH

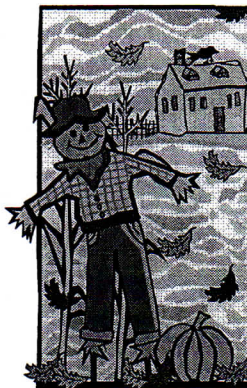
- ❖ Cut out 'yellow bricks' from construction paper.
 - Estimation: Estimate how many 'bricks' it will take to get to particular destinations. How close did you come?
 - Multiplication: Use multiplication to find out the exact number it took.
 - Geometry: Use the 'bricks' to practice geometric shapes.

ART

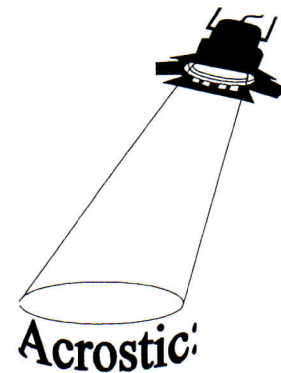
- ❖ Draw each of the Wizard of Oz characters, make a second copy, color them and play the memory game.

CRAFT

- ❖ Make a scarecrow! Get old clothes and stuff them with straw. Don't forget to make a head and fill it with straw.



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An acrostic is a simple poem based upon a single word. Use the words Wizard of Oz and try to find other words or phrases, beginning with those letters, that pertain to our show.

W **ICKED WITCH**

I

Z

A

R

D

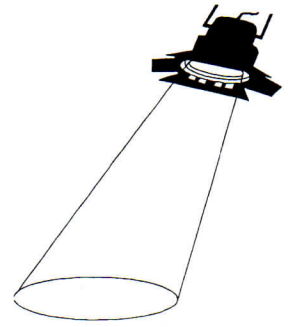
O

F

O

Z

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THINK THEATRICALY:

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION:

- Describe the sets and how they establish the scenes for different parts of the story. (What did you actually see and what did you see with your imagination?)
- How did the addition of music and dance add to the story?
- What kind of dances did you see? (Ballet? Waltz? Etc.) How were they different?
- What did the different costumes tell you about each character?
- What do you think was the funniest part of the show? The scariest? The nicest?
- Have you ever been to a live stage show before?
- What role did the audience play in the production?
- If you could be in the show, which role would you prefer?
- What other stories do you think would be fun to see as a play?

Note: American Family Theater uses highly technical special effects called intellibeams that create special effects with moving patterns of light and color both on stage and in the audience.

HOW ABOUT YOU:

- Do you like to act? Sing? Dance?
- Have you ever been on stage?
- What did you do on stage?
- Share your experience with your class.
- Would you like to be in a show?

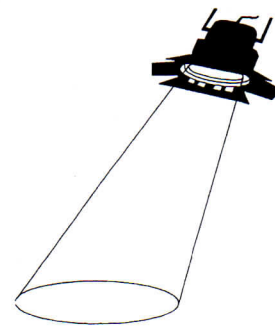


CREATE YOUR OWN MUSICAL:

Write your own story or choose a favorite storybook and make a musical out of it. Start by writing a script, music & lyrics. Decide who will play each part, who will sing and who will dance.

Choreograph the song(s). Have the students not playing parts design sets and costumes and make them. Give everyone a job that best suits their capabilities! Perform your play for another class or grade.

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Fan Letter:

Write a letter to your favorite actor in the show. Express how you feel about the character in the show.



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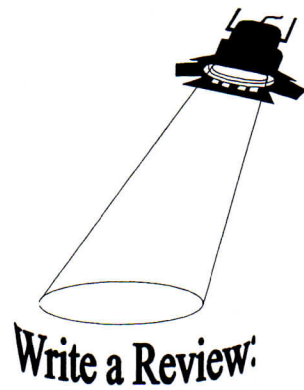
Theater Arts Vocabulary



Here is a list of words about the theater for you to get to know!

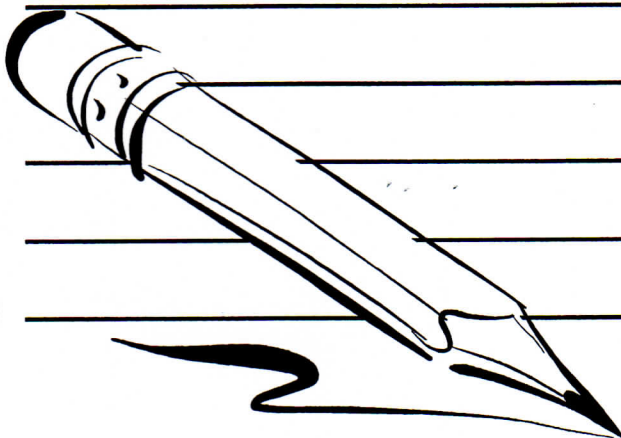
Actor	A theatrical performer.
Applause	Approval expressed by the clapping of hands.
Back-Stage	The area behind and to the side of the part of the stage where the action of the performance takes place.
Choreographer	The person who develops and arranges the dance movements for the dancers and actors.
Composer	A person who writes music.
Costume	A style of clothes, including garments, accessories and hair style, characteristic of a particular country, period or cultural, worn on-stage during a theatrical production.
Crew	The group of people who run the various technical operations during a performance, including the lighting, curtain, set, scene changes, sound effects and props.
Designers	Individuals who create the set, costumes, lighting and sound effects for the performance.
Director	The person who supervises all the artists during rehearsals and instructs all dramatic aspects of the production.
Lyricist	The person who writes the words for a song.
Musical Theater	A play that uses music, song and dance to tell the story.
Play	A staged representation of an action or story.
Playwright	The person who writes plays.
Props	All the objects used in a theatrical production.
Score	The sheet music that the actor memorizes and performs.
Script	Pages from which the actors read their lines.
Stage Manager	The person who assists the director during rehearsal and supervises the physical aspects of a stage production.

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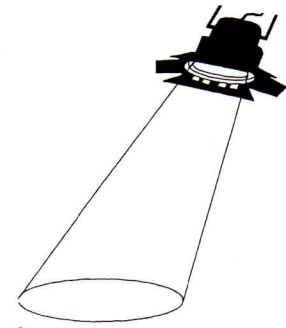


Compose Your Own Review. Use the words below for some ideas.





Actors	Choreography	Makeup	Props	Singing
Cast	Costumes	Music	Set	Special Effects
Characters	Lighting	Plot	Set Designer	Theater

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. A pencil is positioned diagonally at the bottom left corner, pointing towards the center of the page. The pencil has a light-colored body and a dark eraser at its tip. The rest of the page is empty, providing space for writing.

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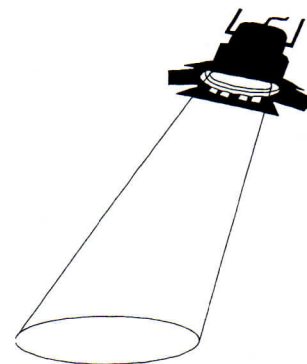
Careers in the Arts:

Accompanist 	Computer Graphics	Illustrator	Props Designer
Actor/Actress	Composer	Instrumentalist	Publisher
Artist	Concert Singer	Librettist	Scenic Designer
Artistic Director	Conductor	Lighting Designer 	Special Effects
Art Teacher	Costume Designer	Makeup Artist	Stage Director
Band Director	Critic	Music Teacher	Stage Hand
Casting Director 	Dancer	Musician	Stage Manager
Choir Director	Dialect Coach	Orchestrator	Theater Director
Choreographer	Extra	Painter	Camera Operator
Cinematographer	Fashion Designer	Producer	Vocalist 

Active Learning

What career would you consider interesting? Where do you think you could go to learn more about it?

On Stage With American Family Theater



Word Search:

American Family Theater brings many wonderful classics to life on stage. Each musical production is filled with beautiful dance, costumes, sets, song and special effects to tell the story.



Find and circle the names of favorite characters from the word bank below. The names can go up, down, diagonal, backwards or forwards.

A	I	E	V	A	N	K	N	W	E	M	I	T	Y	N	I	T
P	A	C	A	L	T	U	N	Y	T	A	N	Q	N	O	U	A
S	B	N	G	I	V	O	I	S	C	T	S	A	E	B	P	Q
C	R	B	N	R	J	Z	D	M	L	V	H	M	M	D	L	D
R	Q	U	E	E	N	G	D	K	C	V	P	A	A	N	N	S
O	D	S	T	U	F	K	A	I	F	T	P	L	B	O	I	F
O	I	D	H	M	H	R	L	U	Z	R	I	L	G	T	E	T
G	A	O	O	W	D	B	A	W	I	A	N	E	N	W	A	V
E	M	R	D	O	E	X	Y	N	C	X	O	R	R	I	L	X
Q	R	O	N	R	J	U	C	J	K	K	C	E	K	Z	I	T
P	E	T	S	C	F	E	H	D	E	Y	C	D	N	A	C	M
Y	M	H	B	E	A	U	T	Y	K	F	H	N	B	R	E	F
N	E	Y	H	R	V	W	E	K	D	K	I	I	G	D	C	C
I	L	G	R	A	Z	Q	X	P	J	F	O	C	W	O	U	S
O	T	R	J	C	E	X	F	I	K	H	O	F	C	F	W	L
G	T	Z	Q	S	J	G	Y	C	R	M	L	L	I	O	N	Q
L	I	D	M	E	Z	Z	U	V	J	I	B	B	X	Z	P	H
A	L	Y	S	W	I	H	T	O	M	S	A	W	Y	E	R	A
G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	G	N	O	L	I	P	P	I	P

Word Bank

Aladdin

Alice

Anne Frank

Beast

Beauty

Cinderella

Dorothy

Huck Finn

Knave

Lion

Little Mermaid

Pinocchio

Pippi Longstocking

Prince

Queen

Scare Crow

Scrooge

Tin Man

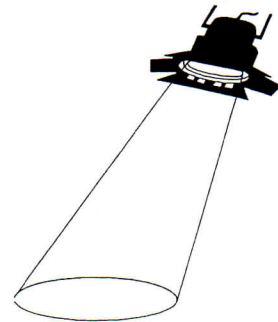
Tiny Tim

Tom Sawyer

Wizard of Oz



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Be Creative!

Make a picture of your favorite scene in the performance. Be sure to show costumes, the set and the actors you like best.

