



North Pole FA LA LA LA Follies

This teacher guide is designed to provide both teachers and students with a more comprehensive understanding of theater and live performance.

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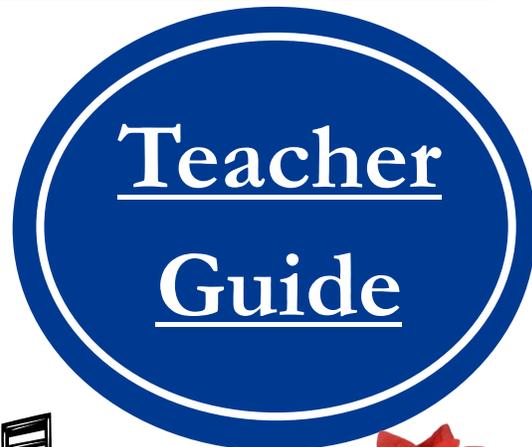
Internet Resources

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Performance Specifics

Show Length: 45 minute show, includes behind the scenes demonstration

Audience: Pre-K thru 5th grade and families for audiences of up to 300

Technical Support: Lighting and sound support provided by the puppeteer

Staging Requirements: Requires indoor space at least 15ft square and close proximity to an electrical outlet.

Show Synopsis

Get ready for hilarious holiday high-jinx as some talented residents of the North Pole perform in their annual talent show. The zany and colorful cast of characters includes a wisecracking fruitcake, a musical goose, tumbling teddy bears, a duo of dancing deer, the "not-so-abominable" snowman and much, much more!

This sparkling holiday production combines music, live vocal performance and a variety of beautifully costumed hand puppets and rod puppets. This show will definitely "sleigh" you!



Curriculum Connections

North Pole Fa-La-La-La Follies includes content from these Common Core and Georgia Performance Learning Standards. (click to view):

* [Language Arts](#)

* [Theatre](#)

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- * Students will identify literary elements of pun and word play.
- * Students will be introduced to elements of live performance including song, comedy, and feats of skill
- * Students will experience live performance through puppetry and audience interaction.

Vocabulary

Folly- a thoughtless or reckless act or idea

Blizzard- a severe snowstorm with strong winds

North Pole- the northern end of the Earth's axis at a latitude of 90° N

South Pole- the southern end of the Earth's axis at the latitude of 90° S

Tradition- the handing down of patterns of behavior, practices, and beliefs

Holiday- a day set to celebrate or commemorate something that happened on or near that date

Fruitcake- a dense cake containing dried fruit such as raisins, currants, and sultanas

Stage hands- a manual worker in a theater, someone who sets up or moves stage sets

Musician- somebody who plays, performs, conducts, or composes music

Carols- a joyful religious song, especially a Christian song celebrating Christmas

Mistletoe- an evergreen bush that grows on trees, has leaves in horseshoe-shaped pairs, and bears white berries in winter

Culture- art, music, literature, and related intellectual activities, considered collectively

Talent- an unusual natural ability to do something well, especially in artistic areas



Internet Resources

<http://www.puppetguy.com>

Visit this site for more information about “That Puppet Guy” Lee Bryan and his many performances. Also, be sure to check out the “Glue & You” Puppet kits!

<http://www.northpole.com>

A Christmas themed site full of activities and information

<http://xmasfun.com/Lyrics.asp>

A great resource for Christmas song lyrics



Reading Recommenda-

Merry Christmas, Stinky Face

by Lisa McCourt

How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

by Theodor Geisel - Dr. Seuss

A Wish to Be a Christmas Tree

by Colleen Monroe & Michael G. Monroe

Fancy Nancy: Splendiferous Christmas

by Jane O'Connor & Robin Preiss Glasser

Merry Christmas Mom and Dad

by Mercer Mayer

Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree

by Robert E. Barry

The Polar Express

by Chris Van Allsburg

The Christmas Toy Factory (No. 27)

by Geronimo Stilton

Corduroy's Christmas

by Don Freeman & B. G. Hennessy

Tacky's Christmas

by Helen Lester & Lynn Munsinger

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

by Barbara Robinson

Holly The Christmas Fairy

by Daisy Meadows

Stanley's Christmas Adventure (Flat Stanley)

by Jeff Brown & Macky Pamintuan

Merry Christmas, Curious George

by H. A. Rey, Cathy Hapka, & Mary O'Keefe Young

Horrible Harry and the Christmas Surprise

by Suzy Kline

Froggy's Best Christmas

by Jonathan London & Frank Remkiewicz

Nate The Great And The Crunchy Christmas

by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat,
Craig Sharmat, & Marc Simont





Grade Level Ideas & Activities

Preschool

- ◆ Click [here](#) to be directed to That Puppet Guy's website with learning extensions for this age group.

Kindergarten & First Grade

- ◆ Using a Christmas stocking, place an object inside without the students being able to see. Pass the stocking around to each student. They may shake, squeeze and feel the stocking but may not reach inside or look inside. After all of the students have had a chance to guess, reveal what the "gift" was. Exchange the item for another and repeat as you like.
- ◆ Draw a picture of your favorite puppet from the show. Write a sentence about why you chose this character.
- ◆ Create a Classroom Fa La La La talent show. Encourage students to participate by reading a holiday story or poem, sharing a piece of art, performing, or telling a Christmas joke. Have students design posters to advertise the show and invite other classes to come and enjoy the performance.

Second & Third Grade

- ◆ Prepare four to six "presents" ahead of time by wrapping different objects in various size boxes. Pass the boxes around the class one at a time. Have each student write down an estimation about how much the "present" weighs and what dimensions each box has. Reveal the true dimensions and weights to the class. How close did they come?
- ◆ Without any coaching or sharing of information, have each student write directions on how to make a fruitcake. Let your students use what they know (or don't) about baking and fruitcakes. Then have willing students share with the class what they have written down.
- ◆ [Reindeer Rounding](#) - Rounding to the nearest tens place (page 8)

Fourth & Fifth Grade

- ◆ Using the internet or library resources, have the students work in small groups to research different holiday traditions throughout the world. Each group should prepare a short presentation about what tradition they identified and why they found it interesting enough to share with the class.
- ◆ Write six to eight sentences about your favorite holiday tradition to share with the class.
- ◆ [Talent Show Tabulations](#) - Math Word Problems (page 9)

LIVE PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE

Going to see a live performance is not like watching television or seeing a movie. The artists on stage can see and hear everything that the audience is doing. These performers have worked very hard to provide an enjoyable, entertaining show. Let them know through your actions that you appreciate this. Also, your behavior affects the experience of everyone around you. So respect the other audience members by following the few simple guidelines listed below.

Did you Know?

Stage performers tell each other to "break a leg" before a performance because superstition says that it is bad luck to wish a performer "good luck" before a show!

Thumbs Up !



- Arrive early
- Turn off phones, watch alarms & anything else that would disrupt the show
- Use the restroom before the show
- Applaud where appropriate, after a well-performed song or dance, and at the end of an Act or scene, Also at a curtain call when the performers are taking a bow
- Laugh or giggle politely where appropriate
- Watch closely and listen carefully

Thumbs Down!

- No photos or video
- Do not whisper, talk, sing or hum during the performance
- Do not eat or drink during the performance
- Do not put your feet on the seat in front of you
- Do not boo, heckle or shout during the performance
- Do not leave the theater until the actors have left the stage



STYLES OF PUPPETRY

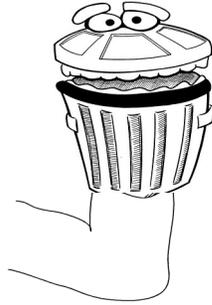
Body Puppets Body puppets are exactly what they sound like. They are larger-than-life and the puppeteer, or sometimes two, are actually inside the puppet. Body puppets can be very simple, like a large costume, or very sophisticated, employing video cameras and robotics. Sesame Street's Big Bird is probably the most recognized body puppet!



Hand Puppets Hand Puppets are puppets that cover the puppeteer's hand. They can either have a moving mouth or not. Hand puppets, or glove puppets as they are sometimes called, cover the puppeteer's hand so that the head is moved by the index finger and the arms moved by the thumb and middle finger. Hand puppets are part of a Chinese puppet tradition.



Rod Puppets are puppets that are controlled entirely by control rods, or sticks. These rods are often attached to both hands with a third rod that is attached inside the head to allow the puppeteer to turn the head or move it up and down. While the puppeteer provides the voice, without a moving mouth much of the puppet's character is expressed through exaggerated movements and actions.

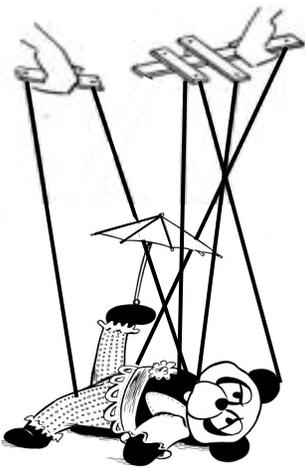


Shadow Puppets When most people think of shadow puppets they picture making a simple bird or dog shadow on a wall with their hands. Actually, shadow puppets can be quite complex. Originating in Indonesia, shadow puppets are often made from dried animal skins which are cut out in very ornate patterns and shapes. Because shadow puppet shows are usually performed at night, they are often considered to be "adult" themed and not suitable for children to attend. Audience members may sit in front of the shadow screen to watch the show, or they may sit behind the screen and see the puppets in the bright light and not as shadows at all!



Marionettes (string puppets)

Marionettes are considered the most difficult of all puppets to master. They consist of a full-bodied character whose head, arms and legs are jointed to allow full movement. These are each connected by heavy thread to a cross-shaped controller (called an airplane) that is held in one hand by the puppeteer. By moving the airplane controller and using the free hand to manipulate individual threads, the



puppet can be made to walk, jump, dance, or run. The puppet is always controlled from above. Some stages even have bridges built across them to allow the puppeteer to move back and forth across the scene without ever being seen. A very famous marionette scene was in the movie *The Sound of Music*, in which Julie Andrews sang a song while marionette



"Yule" love seeing 'That Puppet Guy', Lee Bryan, perform with the amazing hand puppets and rod puppets in this show. They are full of holiday cheer and tricks!

Puppets Featured in
North Pole
Fa La La La
Follies

About The Puppeteer



Celebrating 20 years, Lee Bryan "That Puppet Guy", specializes in exceptional school assemblies and extraordinary library programs. He strives to entertain the imaginations of the young *and* the young-at-heart with innovative puppets, original scripts and zany adaptations of classic tales. Lee's solo performances are often featured at the internationally acclaimed The Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta.

He is a two-time grant recipient from the prestigious Jim Henson Foundation, Inc. In 2003 he received a Project Grant which helped produce his original, found-object production of PINOCCHIO.

<http://www.hensonfoundation.org/index.php/grantawards/2000s/2003>

Then, in 2006 Lee received a Seed Grant to further his production of THE SUITCASE CIRCUS a/k/a "Le Cirque du Suitcase."

<http://www.hensonfoundation.org/index.php/grant-awards/2000s/2006>

Professional film credits include work with the Muppets® on the feature film, "[The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland](#)." Recently, The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honored Lee with a Southeastern Regional Daytime Emmy® nomination for his work with Public Broadcasting on the award winning Spanish language series, ¡[SALSA!](#) Current video projects include the role of Hardy Heart for [The OrganWise Guys](#) and most recently the role of Captain Cruller to help celebrate Krispy Kreme's [TALK LIKE A PIRATE](#) promotion.

Professional puppetry affiliations include memberships with [UNIMA-USA](#), [The Puppeteers of America, Inc.](#), and [The Atlanta Puppetry Guild](#).



Curriculum Standards

For

North Pole Fa-La-La-La Follies

Language Arts – Common Core Standards

Literacy.RL.K.2 - With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.

Literacy.RL.1.2 - Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message.

Literacy.RL.2.2 - Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.

Literacy.RL.3.2 - Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

Literacy.RL.4.3 - Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Literacy.RL.5.3 - Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific detail in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

Theatre - Georgia Performance Learning Standards

TAES.1 - Analyzing and constructing meaning from theatrical experiences, dramatic literature, and electronic media

TAES.11 - Engaging actively and appropriately as an audience member in theatre or other media experiences

REINDEER

ROUNDING!

Name : _____

Date: _____

Directions: Round each number to the nearest tens place.

1) 47 = _____

7) 73 = _____

2) 33 = _____

8) 21 = _____

3) 19 = _____

9) 91 = _____

4) 61 = _____

10) 42 = _____

5) 84 = _____

11) 29 = _____

6) 92 = _____

12) 12 = _____

16) 159 = _____

17) 317 = _____

13) 37 = _____

18) 224 = _____

14) 85 = _____

19) 984 = _____

15) 66 = _____

20) 899 = _____



Talent Show Tabulations

Name : _____

Date: _____

Directions: Solve each word problem.
Show work in provided space.
Write answer in the blank



1) Can D. Cane uses peppermint sticks to make his stilts. His stilts are 2 feet long. If he has an 8 foot long candy cane how many pairs of stilts can he make? _____

2) If Prancer and Dancer, the tap dancing reindeer tap their feet 90 times per minute, how many times do they tap in their 3.5 minute act? _____

3) Christmas Carol can play 5,000 songs. If each song is one minute long, approximately how many hours can she play without repeating a song? _____

4) The Tumbling Teddy Bears are each 9 inches tall. When Hans, Franz, Dieter, Siegfried & Roy stand on each others shoulders, how tall are they? _____

5) There are 9 acts in the talent show and a five minute intermission. If the show last for 50 minutes, what is the average length of each act? _____

