



WALNUT STREET THEATRE

Freckleface Strawberry

The Musical



STUDY GUIDE



SHOW SYNOPSIS

Strawberry is a regular little girl who loves being seven! But she doesn't love when her friends tease her about her freckles. Through singing, dancing, and a story of friendship, kids discover that you can have big ears or freckles—we're all different! Filled with loveable characters and songs, this musical is fun for everyone!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE THE SHOW

- Has anyone ever been to a live play before? How was it different from television or a movie?
- What is the difference between a play and a musical?
- Have you ever of Freckleface Strawberry? If so, what have you heard about?
- Have you ever had to deal with a situation where you or someone you knew was being teased?
- What's is something unique about yourself?

AFTER THE SHOW

- Did you enjoy this performance? What was your favorite part?
- Who was your favorite character? Why?
- What would you do if you were the only kid in school with freckles? How would you deal with other people making fun of you?
- Do you think it is important to stand up for yourself? What are some positive ways to stand up for yourself?
- Why do you think it is important to love the unique characteristics about yourself?



THEATRE 101



Ever wondered how to put on a play?

There are many different elements that go into putting a show up on its feet. Please review the following with your students:

PLAYWRIGHT The playwright writes the script.

DIRECTOR The director is in charge of orchestrating the entirety of the production. They lead the actors, designers, and production crew to put the show on its feet.

COSTUME What the actors wear during the show.

SCENERY Everything on stage (*except props*) used to represent the place at which action is occurring.

PROPS All physical items on stage with the exception of the scenery. This includes lamps, chairs, pens, paper, books, and more!

LIGHTS Stage lights illuminate the actors so that they look their best. The colors used, focus of the light, and amount of lighting can really set the mood and environment of a scene.

SOUND Everything that you hear during a performance that does not come from the actors.

ACTORS The actors are the people that perform the show onstage.

AUDIENCE The lucky people that get to watch the show. New to being an audience member? Follow these rules and you will be a natural!

AUDIENCE RULES



◆ Unlike a movie, the actors are performing in front of you. They can see everything that you do. Talking, sleeping, poking your neighbor, or making noise during the performance distracts the actors and others around you.

◆ Don't bring electronics to the performance. The use of cell phones, cameras, computers, tablets, and video game devices are **not allowed**.

◆ Use your better judgment on when to laugh, clap, and/or cry during the performance. But don't forget to clap at the end of the show!

◆ Stay in your seat during the performance.

◆ Make sure you go to the bathroom *before* the show starts.

TRY IT YOURSELF!

DIRECTIONS

Give students a chance to act out a scene from *Freckleface Strawberry*. Before jumping into the performance, think about all of the elements that go into a play. Are there any props that we can use to help improve the scene? Where are the characters when this scene is taking place? What might the scenery look like?



SAMPLE SCENE

STRAWBERRY: Are you alright?

BALLET GIRL: It hurts but I think it'll be okay. I can't believe I did that. I never hurt myself.

STRAWBERRY: Maybe we should get some ice.

BALLET GIRL: Just help me up. I think it's okay. Thank you for helping me. I really have to be in top shape for my audition for the Manhattan Youth Ballet. They already say I'm in, but I still have to audition.

STRAWBERRY: You're a very good dancer.

BALLET GIRL: I know. Dancing is the most important thing to me in the whole world. But it's not easy being the best... Why are you helping me?

STRAWBERRY: You're hurt!

BALLET GIRL: Thanks, I'll be alright. You're very nice to help me. No one ever even talks to me.

STRAWBERRY: I would think you would have a lot of friends.

BALLET GIRL: Just the opposite. I'm always in school and then I'm dancing and then I'm doing homework. Can you keep a secret?

STRAWBERRY: Sure.

BALLET GIRL: I know I seem so perfect and everything, but sometimes I feel so perfect I'm almost invisible. It's lonely being gifted.

STRAWBERRY: I don't know what's worse. Being you with no friends or being me with friends that tease me because I have freckles.

BALLET GIRL: Ohmigosh, that must be horrible. If I had freckles I don't know what I would do. No offense I mean, they're fine for you, but I would feel terrible if I didn't have flawless skin. And... Well... I got to go. So we're friends right? See you at school. And remember, it's out secret.

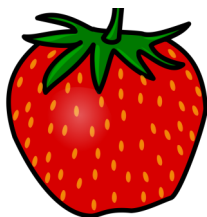
STRAWBERRY: Yeah.

ACTIVITY: YES, NO, PLEASE, STRAWBERRY

DIRECTIONS

1. Divide the class into pairs.
2. The goal of each pair is to create a 30 second scene using only four words: "Yes", "No", "Please" and "Strawberry".
3. Depending on the age group, encourage the students to include a range of emotions in the scene, and if possible to have a beginning, middle and end. Although many of the scenes will be silly, encourage them to try and make it believable.
4. Allow the kids a few minutes to practice, then have them perform in front of the class.

TIP: Consider performing an example scene with an assistant before allowing the kids to create their own.



VARIATION FOR AFTER THE SHOW: ACT IT OUT!

- Ask the students to choose their favorite part of *Freckleface Strawberry*.
- Place them in small groups based off of their scene choice.
- Have the students retell the story and begin to act out their scene, using only the words "Yes", "No", "Please" and "Strawberry"



STUDENT ACTIVITY: ALWAYS FIND THE POSITIVE!

DIRECTIONS

- Get the students thinking about how Strawberry feels and acts throughout the show, and the importance of being confident and understanding.
- Have students stand in a circle and create a basic rhythm by tapping their legs.
- One student says "I am..." and the other students each say one positive word in response to the phrase (strong, beautiful, etc.).
- Keeping the rhythm, go around the circle as each student says the phrase "I am..." while the other students respond with positive words



VARIATION

- Go around the circle, one student after the other, and each say a positive adjective about the group as a whole. Keep a steady rhythm!

STUDENT ACTIVITY: YOU ARE UNIQUE!

DIRECTIONS

- In the free space, have the students think of something about themselves that makes them unique. It can be a physical or emotional characteristic.
- Hint: There is no wrong way to complete this exercise. Just be YOU!

VARIATIONS

- *What is unique about someone in my life?* Have the students do the same exercise listed above, but reverse it so that the student is writing something unique about another student. They can be close friends, classmates, or possibly not even know each other at all!



Some of the unique characteristics about myself, or my friend, are:

1.) _____

2.) _____

STUDENT WORKSHEET: COLOR YOUR WORLD!

DIRECTIONS

- What is an image that can help spread the message to stop teasing?
- Draw a picture below of an image that portrays the negative effects teasing can have on a person and what people can do to stop it.

DISCUSS

- What is the message about teasing that you are trying to portray in this image?
- Where is the best place to put this image for people to see it?

LIKE THE SHOW? LET US KNOW!

Send letters or drawings to:

Walnut Street Theatre

ATTN: Education Department

825 Walnut St.

Philadelphia, PA 19107





WALNUT STREET THEATRE

BIOGRAPHY

Walnut Street Theatre has the unique distinction of being the oldest, continuously operating theatre in the English-speaking world, having served Philadelphia audiences for over 200 years!

Today, under the direction of Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard, Walnut Street Theatre is in its 33rd season as a self-producing, non-profit theatre company. Walnut Street Theatre continues to entertain and enlighten diverse audiences with high quality theatrical programming. With more than 50,000 subscribers, the Walnut is also the most subscribed theatre company in the world!

Last season, 180,000 children and adults were impacted by the Walnut's Education Programs—including our theatre school with classes for kids and adults, Camp Walnut, Our Touring Outreach Program to local schools and our artist in residency programs.



WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION STAFF

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

WEB

- **Educational Drama Activities**
<http://plays.about.com/od/activities/>
- **Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach Company**
<http://walnutstreettheatre.org/education/touring.php>

THANK YOU

The Walnut Street Theatre Education Department

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FRECKLE FACE STRAWBERRY CREATIVE TEAM

MUSIC & LYRICS

Gary Kupper

BOOK

Gary Kupper & Rose Caiola

DIRECTOR

Brian Kurta-

COSTUME DESIGNERS

Susan Benitez

Sarah Mitchell

TOURING OUTREACH SPONSORS



Walnut Street Theatre Educational Opportunities!

2015-2016
SEASON

WALNUT STREET THEATRE TOURING OUTREACH

BRING A SHOW TO YOUR SCHOOL!

Oskar and the Big Bully Battle (Bullying) Grades K-6
Only 13 (Choices) Grades 6-9
Freedom Riders (Diversity) Grades 6-9
The Berenstain Bears Hospital Friends (Family & Good Health) Grades pre K-3
The Adventures of Nick Nutrition and his Dog Fiber (Nutrition) Grades K-6

Open a dialogue with students about issues
that affect them!

Call 215-574-3559, ext. 584

WALNUT STREET THEATRE FOR KIDS

BRING YOUR KIDS TO
WALNUT STREET THEATRE!

Shrek the Musical Jr. (September/October)
Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (December)
Zombie in Love (January/February)
Freckle Face Strawberry the Musical (April)
Miss Nelson Has a Field Day (June)

Tickets just \$10-\$16

Read the books, then see the stories LIVE!

Call 215-574-3559, ext. 504



The Theatre School at WALNUT STREET THEATRE

CLASSES FOR KIDS, STUDENTS
AND ADULTS

For students from 5 to 105! Great for networking,
providing a creative outlet and professional training!

Find your inner star at the Walnut!
Call 215-574-3550, ext. 510

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

LET US DESIGN A DRAMATIC
AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

We support teachers' objectives with personalized
programs designed that meet your needs and budget.

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WHEN WE PLAY, LEARNING HAPPENS!