



CURRICULUM GUIDE

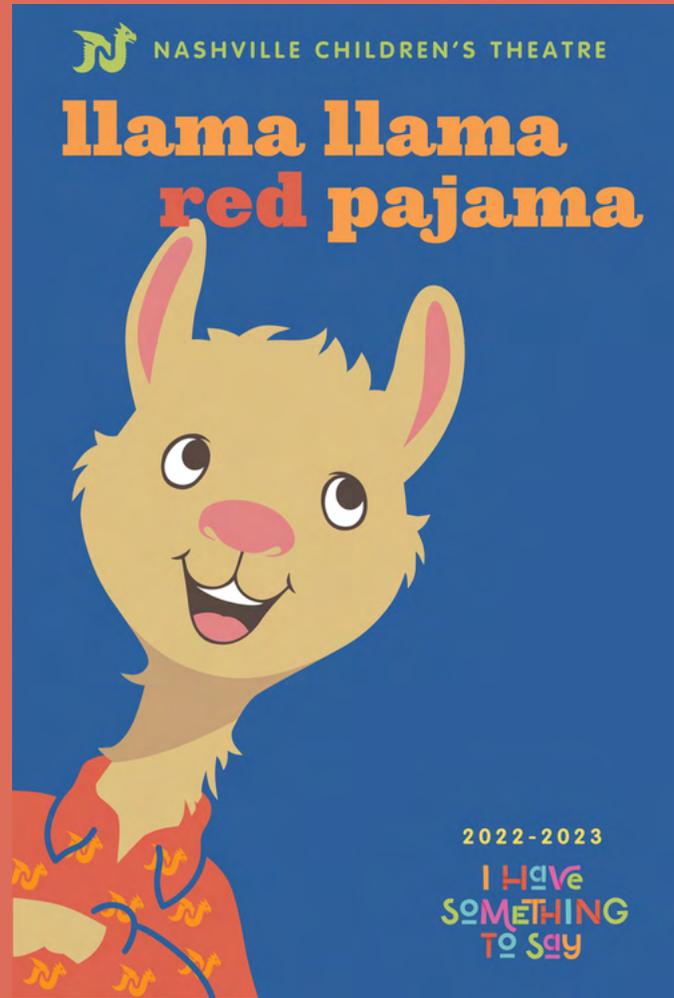
Based on the beloved book series
by Anna Dewdney
Book, Music, and Lyrics
by Austin Zumbro

January 19 - March 10, 2023

Grades: PreK-2



Time-Estimates: Icons are in 15-minute increments but may take a little less or more time depending on class size and other factors. (If the clock is shaded in full, the activity may have a homework assignment or be extended over two or more class sessions.)



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Look For These!

Subject area icons show what curricular topics each activity addresses.



ELA



THEATRE



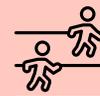
SCIENCE



SEL



VISUAL ARTS



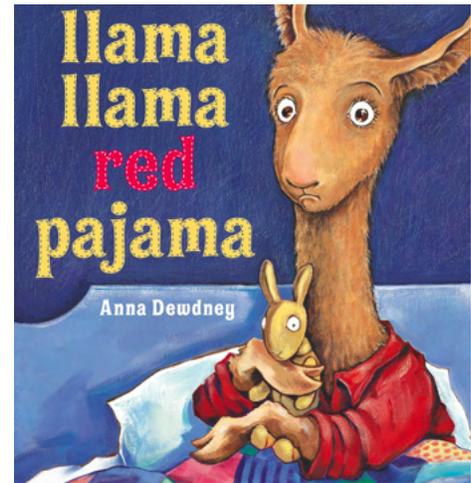
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Tennessee State Standards for all activities are on page 10.

Visit NashvilleCT.org today!

About the Show

After a long day of adventures at school, Baby Llama can't wait to put on his red pajamas and go to bed. But where's Mama Llama to tuck him in and read a bedtime story? Llama Llama Red Pajama, based on the beloved best-selling books by Anne Dewdney, hilariously tracks Baby Llama's bedtime worries and will warm every Llama and Mama Llama's heart.



Book Cover

Synopsis

Llama has just finished taking a bath and is very excited to wear his red pajamas. He gets a bunch of red clothing and gives them to his toys, Fuzzy, Dinosaur, and Robot, and to his Mama. Then he puts on his red pajamas, and they all have a dance party. Afterwards, Mama asks Llama to tell her about his first day at school. Llama talks about how he was really anxious about being away from Mama at first, but once he got more comfortable, he had a lot of fun. He talks about the games he played and shares a fact he learned: that dinosaurs are related to birds and had feathers.

Mama reminds him to brush his teeth. While he does so, she takes a moment to relax and think about how much she enjoys spending time with him, before she has to go empty the dryer. While she's gone, Llama returns and wonders if dinosaurs could fly, since they had feathers. Dinosaur thinks that he can fly, but Llama and the other toys are skeptical. When Mama comes back, he asks her about it, and she responds that only some dinosaurs could fly. Then she reads him his favorite book: *Pajama Panorama, an Illustrated Guide to Sleepwear*. She says goodnight to Llama and leaves. Llama talks to his toys for a bit; Dinosaur tries to fly, but is unsuccessful. Then Llama realizes that Mama didn't say goodnight to any of his toys and calls her back so she can do so.

After she leaves again, however, Llama finds himself unable to get to sleep. His toys try to help him, but none of their advice works. Mama checks on him and suggests that he try to stay quiet, but for him, that's easier said than done. Eventually, he gets thirsty and asks Mama to get him some water. He thinks that she is taking too long and wonders what she might be doing. He worries that she prefers the things that she gets to do as an adult to hanging out with and helping him. In reality, Mama is trying to finish several chores, as well as getting calls from friends and family and trying to give them advice on their problems.

Meanwhile, Llama gets more and more upset that Mama hasn't come yet, which leads to him throwing a tantrum. When Mama still doesn't show up after that, he starts to worry that something bad might have happened to her. He knows that his fears are irrational, but that doesn't stop them from getting worse and worse, until he starts crying and screaming for Mama.

Mama runs in, thinking that Llama could be hurt, and when she realizes that he isn't, she tells him that he needs to be more patient and to not focus on the scary thoughts that he might have sometimes. She assures him that she will always come to help him, even if it can't be right away. Mama gets him his glass of water, and Llama is finally able to go to sleep.

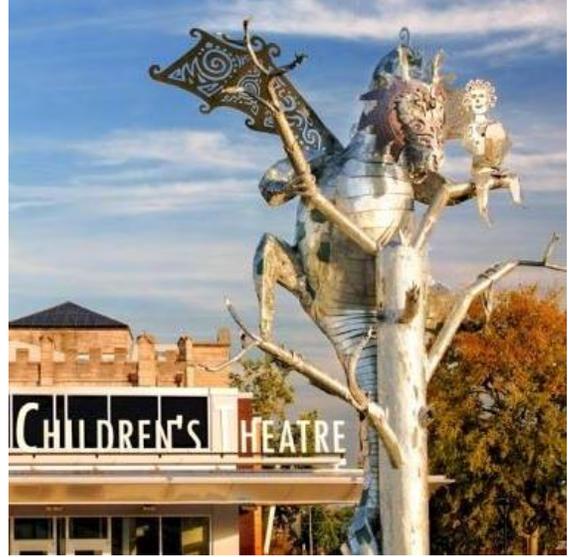


About the Show (cont.)

Know Before You Go

NCT puts together tips for families and schools to help prepare their children for their experience. (Note that the following tips are subject to change as the show goes through the rehearsal process.) Numbers indicate the "score" of each category - 1 representing a small amount and 5 representing a large amount.

- Social Emotional Learning Themes: Family, friendship, patience, independence.
- Language: 0 out of 5
- Violence and Scariness: 1 out of 5 - When Llama starts to worry about Mama, several shadowy figures appear and frighten him with the idea that Mama might be gone.
- Potentially Anxious Moments: 1 out of 5 - Llama experiences separation anxiety from his Mama. Robot accuses Fuzzy of being hypocritical. Dinosaur mentions hunting and eating a triceratops. Llama throws a temper tantrum.
- Sensory Advisories 1 out of 5 - This is a musical and thus, there may be times where the music gets loud. There are lighting and sound effects used throughout the show.
- Other Things to Know - There will not be an intermission.



Sensory Friendly Room

NCT has a space in the back of the theatre dedicated to providing a safe, comfortable place for students and adults alike to self-regulate. In the room, you can view the performance, control the sound, and access sensory-friendly tools.

Social Story

NCT creates a Social Story™ for all shows, camps, classes, and field trips. A Social Story is a tool to help improve a person's understanding of expectations during an unfamiliar event and was originally designed to support people who are neurodivergent. However, this can be a useful tool for any person who is unsure about what to expect from a new experience. We are sharing these resources to make NCT productions inclusive for ALL patrons. If you have any questions about our inclusive practices or want to see examples of previous social stories, visit <https://www.nashvillechildrenstheatre.org/accessibility>.



Pre & Post Show Activities



Pre-Show Discussion: From Page to Stage

Books make great theatre! Many playwrights, lyricists, composers, and screenwriters transform some of our favorite books into wonderful plays, musicals, or movies. When adapting a book, however, often changes are made to plot, characters, etc. Sometimes these changes are made to accommodate timing (the length of the play) and the many elements that are involved in bringing a book to life (such as set, costumes, cast, etc.).

Definitions to share with your students

- Adaptation – something that is changed so it can be presented in another form. For example, the book *Llama, Llama Red Pajama* was adapted by the playwright to become a piece of musical theatre
- Playwright – a person who writes plays
- Lyricist – a person who writes the words of a song
- Composer – a person who writes music
- Author – a person who writes something such as a book or an article

Read *Llama, Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney with your class.

- Why do you think the show's creators would want to take this book and put it onstage?
- Why do you think they decided to make it a musical, and include singing and dancing?
- What parts of the story are you looking forward to seeing performed on stage?
- Predictions: How do you think the animal and toy characters will be portrayed on stage?



After the Show: Tell Us What You Thought

Once your class has attended NCT's production, ask your students to reflect on the performance using the worksheet at the end of this guide.

- Optional: Ask students to write letters to the actors and artists here at NCT! We would LOVE to hear your questions, favorite parts of the show, and more! Letters can be sent to: Nashville Children's Theatre, 25 Middleton Street, Nashville, TN 37210 or emailed to info@nashvillect.org.

Dear Nashville Children's Theatre,
I am so excited to rate your play Peter Pan!
I have to say I LOVED it, how I LOVED the part
when you had the audience in it to do some
of the play, I LOVED it when all the actors came
out to the front at the end. I am a
animal lover so I LOVED the animals so much.
I rate 5★! Thank you for the play. S



Letters from students who saw
NCT's 2022 production of
Peter Pan: Wendy's
Adventure to Neverland

Dear Nashville Children's Theatre
I am writing to let you know how much I enjoyed your Peter Pan
show. My number one favorite part was
when we had to help so tinkerbelle
could come to life. It was
marvelous I loved the wolf
I'll remember it for a long time.
The dolphins were amazing.
Thank you for the show!

Pre & Post Show Activities (cont.)



The Parts of the Stage

Using the stage template provided at the end of this guide, show students the different parts of the stage and what they are called. Explain to the students that the image on the worksheet is called a "proscenium theatre," which is what we usually think of when we imagine a stage and is the type of stage *Llama, Llama Red Pajama* is performed on. Ask students what they notice. Label the parts of the theatre.

- The frame is the "proscenium arch."
- Where the audience sits is called the "house"
- The sides behind the curtains are called the "wings." The part where the actors perform is the "stage."
- The part where the stage comes out further than the arch is called the "apron."

Using the worksheet provided at the end of this guide, have students draw and color themselves or a character from *Llama, Llama Red Pajama* on the stage.

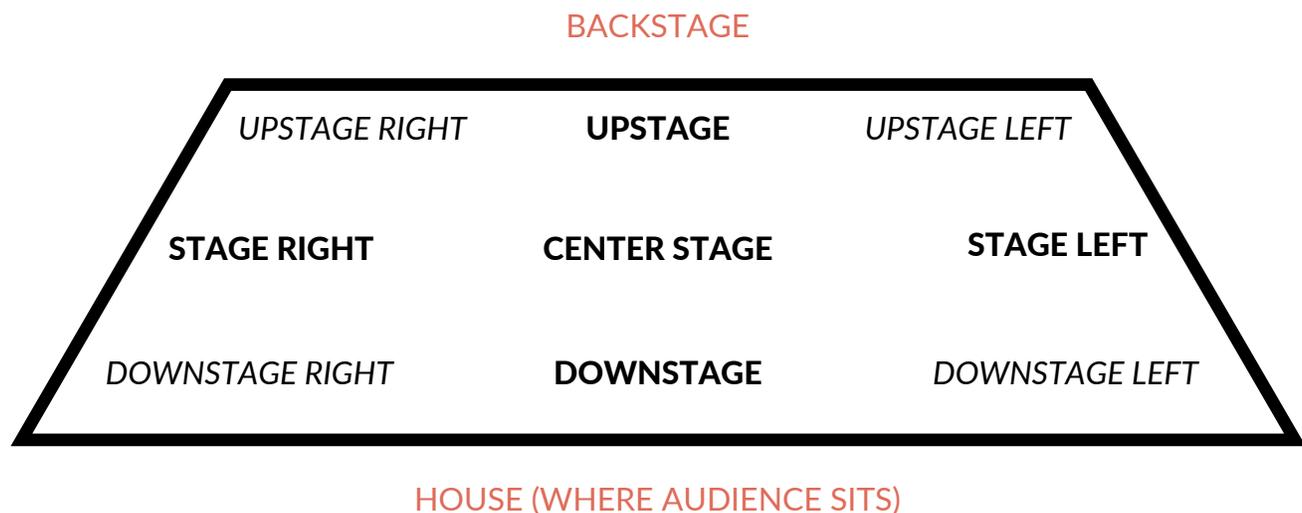
- **OPTIONAL:** For older students, use the "quiz" at the end of this guide and have them fill in the missing words on the stage template.

EXTENSION: Stage Directions Game

When the cast (the actors) receive their instructions on where to go by the director (the person "in charge" of the show), this is called "blocking." So that everyone knows where to go, theatre practitioners all use the same labels for the parts of the stage.

Show or replicate the diagram below on your board in your classroom and review with the class. Then pretend your classroom is the "stage" and the board is the "house" where the audience sits. At random, tell the students to go center stage (middle of classroom), stage left (students' left facing the board), stage right (students' right facing the board), upstage (back of classroom away from the board), and downstage (front of classroom towards the board) using walking feet. For older students, add to the game upstage left, upstage right, downstage left, and downstage right.

OPTIONAL: Adapt the popular game "Four Corners" but instead using four or more of the stage directions. Have a volunteer go centerstage, close their eyes, and count to 10. During that time, students should go to a part of the room using walking feet. When the volunteer is done counting, with their eyes closed, they are to call out one of the stage directions. Whoever is in that space is "out" and sits in the "house" to watch the rest of the game. The last person standing wins!



*Add the directions in italics for older students

STEAM Activity: Llamas!



Llama Lesson

Today's science class is all about llamas! Show your class a picture of a llama and discuss the following. Note that depending on the grade level and students' prior knowledge, you may wish to skip certain discussions.

Discussion 1: Animals v. Plants

Based on what you see and may already know about llamas, a llama is an animal and not a plant. How do we know the difference between animals and plants? What makes them different? (For a resource outlining specific differences, visit <https://sciencing.com/characteristics-plants-animals-5491852.html>.)

Discussion 2: Llamas v. Horses

Show a picture of a horse next to a llama. What do you observe? What makes them similar or different? What classification of animals do these different animals fall under? (Horses are a lot taller, bigger, heavier, and longer than llamas. An average horse stands around five feet tall and weighs 800-1200 pounds; llamas are around 3.8 ft and weigh slightly above 300 pounds. Both have elongated snouts and run quickly. Horses have a lot longer tails than llamas, have stomachs with 4 chambers--llamas have only 3 compartments--and do not spit as llamas do. Source: TheDailyWildlife.com)

Discussion 3: Llamas v. Alpacas

Show a picture of an alpaca next to a llama. What do you observe? What makes them similar or different? (They are much more similar in appearance than horses, but alpacas tend to be smaller and shaggier than llamas, with shorter ears and shorter snouts. For more information, visit <https://www.britannica.com/story/whats-the-difference-between-llamas-and-alpacas>.)

Discussion 4: Llama Facts Video

Choose one of the following videos to watch with your class. (Depending on the age level of your students, you may wish to only show a portion.) After watching ask your students to share observations and surprises.

- o "Ellie Explorer Llama" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdQT0mjZm2o>
- o "National Geographic Kids Llamas" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jynLtlc2H5c> (You may prefer to read the book instead of this read-aloud video.)

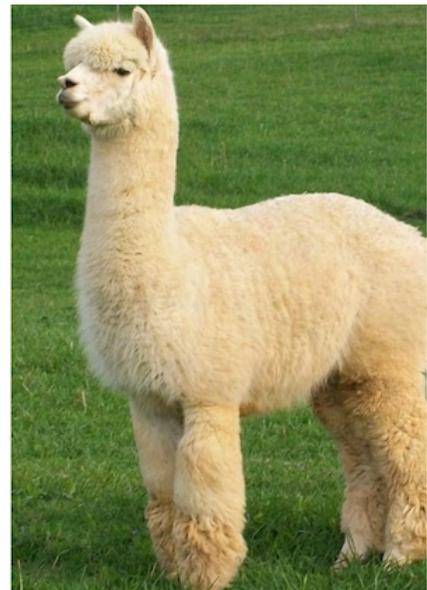
At the end of class, ask students to write or draw 3 things they learned today about llamas.



Llama

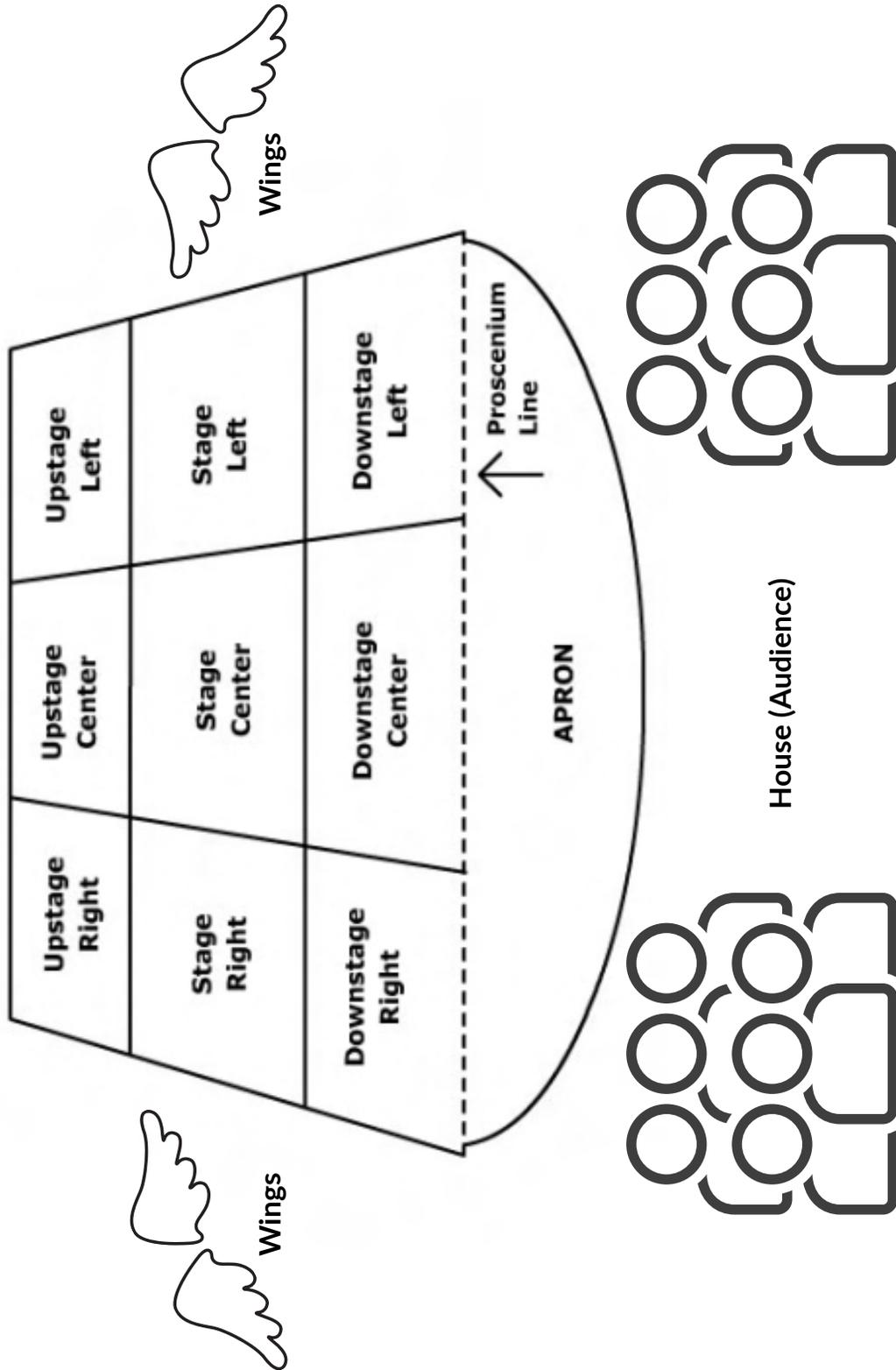


Horse



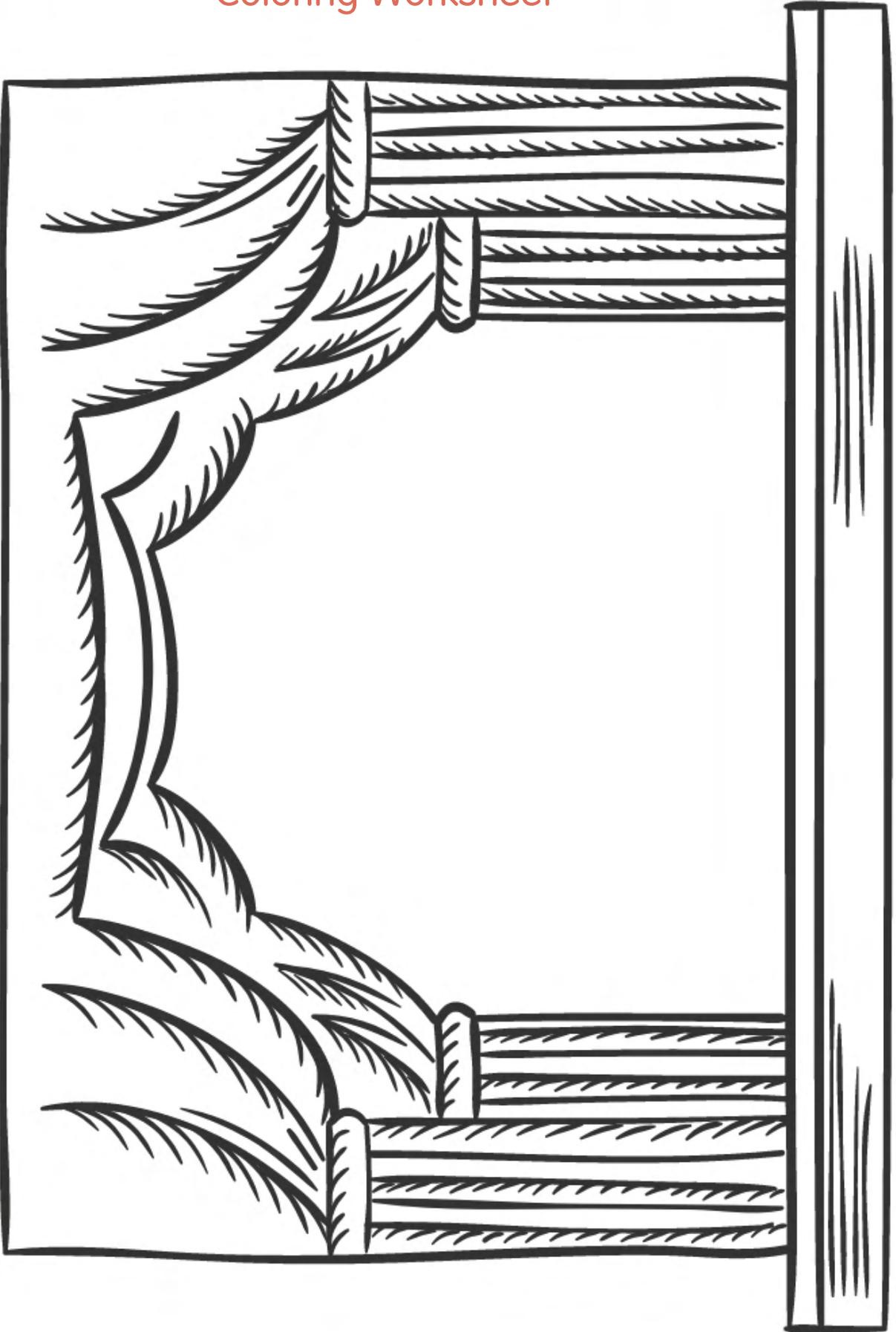
Alpaca

The Parts of the Stage



Coloring Worksheet

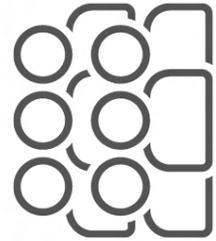
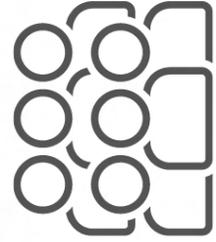
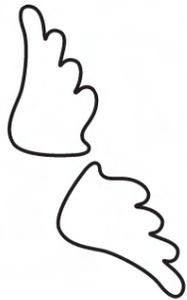
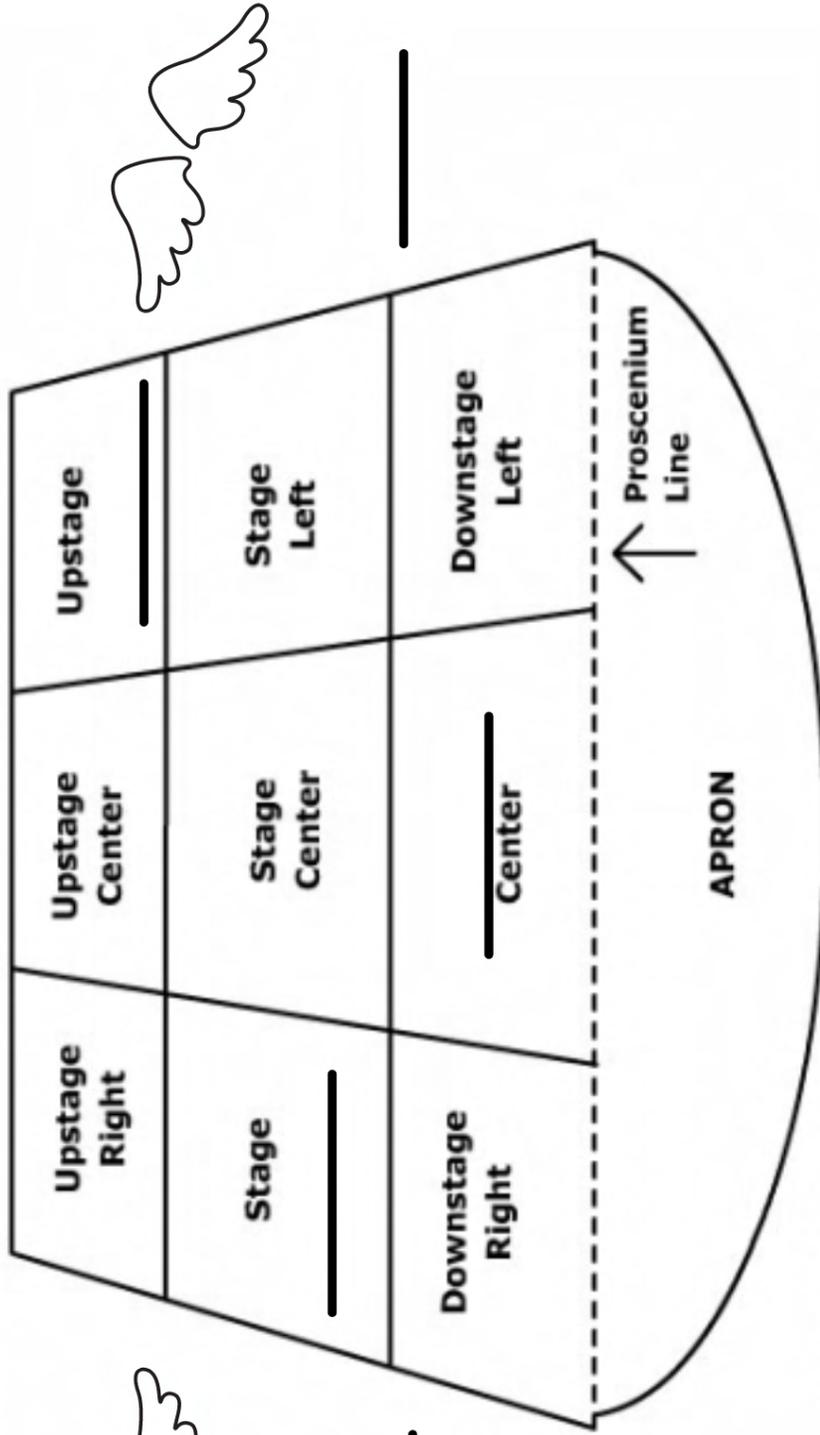
Color yourself performing on NCT's stage!





Fill in the blanks and then color however you'd like!

The Parts of the Stage Quiz



_____ (Where the audience sits)

Name: _____



 **My Theatre Review** 

I saw _____ at Nashville Children's
(name of show)

Theatre on _____,
(date of show)

My favorite part was...

**Write or draw your responses in the boxes below.*

The play made me feel...

I learned...

TN Academic Standards for Activities Grades PreK-2

Page 3

From Page to Stage

ELA: PK.RL.KID.1, SL.CC.1, RL.RRTC.10, PK.SL.PKI.6
Theatre: 2.T.R1.A

After the Show

Theatre: K-1.TR2.A, PK.CA.9
ELA: 2.RL.KID.2, 1.RL.KID.3, PK-K.W.TTP.1, PK,
1-2.W.PDW.4, K-2.W.RBPK.8, K-2.W.RW.10
Art: PK.CA.1, K.VA.Cr1.A, 1-2.VA.Cr1.B
SEL: PK.SPC.SA.1, PK.SPC.SA.2, 1A.1, 1C.1

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The Parts of the Stage

Theatre: K-2.T.R1.A, K-2.T.R2.A, PK.CA.9
ELA: SL.CC.1, RL.RRTC.10, K-2.RL.IKI.9, PK.SL.PKI.6
Art: PK.CA.1, PK.CA.9, K.VA.Cr1.A, 1-2.VA.Cr1.B
SEL: 4A.2
Phys Ed: PK.PD.2, MKA.2.0
(Note that only some of the standards may apply
depending on which activity/adaptation you do.)

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STEAM Activity: Llamas!

Science: PK-K.LS1.01, 2.LS1.1, 2.LS1.2
ELA: SL.CC.1, SL.CC.2, PK-K.W.TTP.2, W.PDW.4,
W.RBPK.8, PK.W.RBPK.10, K-2.W.RW.10
Art: PK.CA.1, PK.CA.9, K.VA.Cr1.A, 1-2.VA.Cr1.B

Just seeing the performance? See the standards below.

Theatre: T.R2.A, PK.CA.9
Music: GM.R3.A, PK.CA.4
ELA: K-1.RL.IKI.9, RL.RRTC.10 (if book is read)
Dance: D.R1.A
SEL: 1A, 2A, 3A, 3B.2, 4A.2-3, 5A.1 PK.AL.SR.5,
PK.SPC.SA.2, PK.SPC.SCA.1, PK.SPC.SCA.2

Info for Teachers

Free Educator Preview for *Llama, Llama Red Pajama*

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Reception/Workshop: 5 pm

Performance: 6:30 pm

Enjoy wine and cheese as you are introduced to activities you can use in your classroom. To reserve a spot visit NashvilleCT.org or contact Abby at abbybaker@nashvillect.org. Event qualifies as PD. Childcare provided.

Questions regarding field trips and school offerings? Contact Abby at abbybaker@nashvillect.org.

Seeing an NCT performance, as well as the activities in this guide, help students build the 4 C's of 21st Century Learning: Communication, Creativity, Collaboration, and Critical Thinking!

To schedule a workshop with one of NCT's Teaching Artists, contact Jackie at jkomos@nashvillect.org.

About Nashville Children's Theatre
Believing the culturally curious child is the future, Nashville Children's Theatre nurtures the next generation of global citizens by providing transformational theatrical experiences which reflect our evolving community, instill profound empathy, and foster personal discovery.

I Have
SOMETHING
TO say

2022-2023



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This guide was written, compiled, and edited by Alicia Fuss, Jacqueline Komos, Sabrina Lessly, and Colin Peterson.