

Teacher Guide

THE
**THEATRE
SCHOOL**
AT DePaul University



by Moses Goldberg
directed by Ann Wakefield

teacher guide prepared by Isabella Coelho, Julianne Schwartz,
Kim Kidders, and Jihye Kim

October 12 - November 16, 2013 Sponsored by



at DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre
60 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago

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THE THEATRE SCHOOL

AT DePaul University

Teacher Guides are developed by The Theatre School at DePaul University.

Guides are distributed free of charge to teachers and other ticket purchasers and are available on the web. They are intended as a tool to facilitate learning, discussion, and an enhanced theatre experience for our audience.

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DePaul University
Merle Reskin Theatre
60 E. Balbo Drive
Chicago, IL 60605

Visit our Website!
theatre.depaul.edu

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Chicago Playworks Program Goals:

- To provide a live theatre experience for students and teachers in the Chicago metropolitan area.
- To provide theatre for Chicago's children that reflects their experiences in a contemporary, urban, and multi-ethnic environment.
- To serve principals, teachers, and students in their pursuit of Illinois State Learning Goals.
- To integrate performances and teacher guide information/activities into the classroom curriculum.
- To offer our performances within a workable, convenient time frame.
- To contact principals and teachers with valuable and solid information that will help them to make choices that fit their students' needs.

Welcome Teachers!

We are very excited to have you with us at DePaul University's Merle Reskin Theatre for the Chicago Playworks production of Moses Goldberg's *Hansel and Gretel*. We invite you into this reimagined version of the classic fairy tale, directed by Ann Wakefield.

We have designed this guide to be a companion in your classroom as your students explore the world of the play. Inside these pages you will find activities, themes, and concepts that will spark discoveries before and after you see our production. You will also find Illinois/Common Core Learning Standards to connect our activities and exercises to your required curriculum.

Look for:

Gretel's Guideposts: for themes found in our story!



Hansel's Helping Hand: for curriculum connections within the guide.



Candy Creations: for activities for you students to do!



Share the letter on the next page with your students!

Isabella Coelho, BFA 4/Theatre Arts, Julianne Schwartz, BFA 3/Theatre Arts,
Kim Kidders, BFA 2/Theatre Arts, and Jihye Kim, BFA 2/Theatre Arts



Welcome, Students!

Welcome to DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre and the Chicago Playworks production of Moses Goldberg's *Hansel and Gretel*, directed by Ann Wakefield.

You are just about begin your journey with Hansel and Gretel, but first, there are a few things to think about so as to not disturb the visit for other audience members. When you are at home watching a movie or TV, you can talk all you want, but it is different at the theatre. The actors rely on the audience's attention and energy in order to give a fantastic performance. Make sure not to talk to your friends during the play. Also, your seat in the theatre is like your desk at school. Make sure you sit in it properly, with your hands and feet in your own area.

So that everyone can enjoy the performance and the adventure with Hansel and Gretel, make sure to turn off your cellphones. No calls or texts are allowed. Make sure your teacher or chaperone has her cell phone turned off, too. You wouldn't want a witch to hear your phone ring, would you? We ask that you do not take any pictures of our magical world. Instead, whenever you choose, treasure the memory of your visit to the forest in your own mind.

Another reminder: no gum, food or drink is allowed in the theatre. We wouldn't want anything distracting you from participating as an audience member. You just might be asked to help Hansel and Gretel with their quest in the forest! **Remember . . .you play an important role in live theatre as well!**

Enjoy your visit to our fantastic adventure!

Isabella Coelho, BFA 4/Theatre Arts,
Julianne Schwartz, BFA 3/Theatre Arts,
Kim Kidders, BFA 2/Theatre Arts,
and Jihye Kim, BFA 2/Theatre Arts



Hansel's Helping Hand: About Our Play



About the Playwright

Playwright Moses Goldberg is an award-winning playwright, director, and teacher who was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1940. When he was a child, he moved to Atlanta with his family where he first learned about theatre. He spent many years in school studying psychology and theatre. He has written 12 plays for children, many of which follow his idea of participation theatre (theatre that includes the young audience as part of the performance). He is considered to be the father of participation theatre in the United States.

Adaptation

An **adaptation** is a short story, novel, myth, poem or play that is the basis of another form of storytelling. *Hansel and Gretel*, a short story by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, was first published in 1812. Since the Grimm Brothers' short story was published, there have been many different adaptations of *Hansel and Gretel*, including films, stage plays, and a famous opera. Most Recently, the story of Hansel and Gretel has been made into an action movie titled *Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters*. Even this production is an adaptation of the original Grimm story by playwright Moses Goldberg.

The Genre of the Story: Fairy Tale

A **fairy tale** is a type of story that contains magical elements and improbable events that lead to happy endings. Fairy tales originate from both oral tradition, stories told aloud, and literary tradition, stories that are written down.



Synopsis

The play begins with **Bulbov**'s troupe of actors trying to decide what story to perform for you, the audience. The actors debate many famous titles but eventually decide to present *Hansel and Gretel*. Luckily, **Kiko** is on hand to help make sure the performance runs smoothly. After a brief set up, the play within our play begins. Due to extreme hunger, **Hansel** and **Gretel** are sent off into the woods in search of berries. They are distracted along the way, and they find an incredible house made entirely of candy. When they enter the house, an evil **witch** traps them. Through problem solving and teamwork, Hansel and Gretel achieve a happily ever after.



Candy Creation: Raise Your Hand If. . .

Raise your hand if. . . is a game that helps students dig deeper into the themes and topics in the play. This activity can take place before or after students have viewed the play.

In order to play, the teacher or facilitator asks a question. They tell the students to raise their hand if they think the statement is true. Feel free to ask the students for stories or examples that support their opinion, as well as to relate their answers back to the play.

Raise your hand if. . .

1. Your favorite candy is chocolate.
2. You have a brother or sister.
3. You have ever been scared.
4. You have ever been lost.
5. You have ever helped a friend.
6. You have ever been greedy.
7. You have ever acted bravely.
8. You have ever created something with friends.



Hansel's Helping Hand:

Interview with Ann Wakefield

Our director, Ann Wakefield, is also a professor at The Theatre School and an actor from South Africa. She has lived and traveled all over the world. In this production, Ann uses her love and knowledge of Japanese culture to give audiences a new perspective of this classic tale to create an avenue for deeper connection and understanding. She has visited Japan twice. Below, she shares her passion for the play and the theatre.



Julianne Schwartz: *Why were you drawn to Hansel and Gretel?*

Ann Wakefield: I've always loved children's folktales because they put you in a world that is full of engagement as well as full of conflict or fear. The readers or the viewers can identify with them, like Little Red Riding Hood, for instance, and of course, Hansel and Gretel. The gingerbread house has always appealed to me. I used to see it as a perfectly delicious thing, and now I see it related to greed. It could become quite a terrifying thing. Of course, it's got a witch in it, and I've always found the witch very compelling. Witches and their folklore are both fascinating and horrifying.

JS: *What is important to you about fairy tales?*

AW: I think that children's folktales have very strong *baddie* elements and *goodie* elements and are clearly drawn. This one does have that. I used to be told them, and then I read them. It's lovely to bring them back and know that they are welcome always, that they've lasted through the ages.

JS: *Why did you choose to use a Japanese influence?*

AW: The springboard for that was really the character that appeals to me most in the play. That is the unexpected one, the mime Kiko. Moses Goldberg has created a way of presenting a traditional tale in an untraditional way through the life of this traveling band of players. In the traveling band of players a central character is Kiko. Kiko the mime creates the design concept according to Goldberg, and she creates the changes in mood. She helps with the action, and she is the property master. She immediately reminded me of certain Eastern traditions in the theatre and roots that I really admire. I am interested in metaphor and image in the theatre, rather than realistic design concepts. Instead of providing young audiences with realistic trappings, we invite the children's imaginations to play with us.



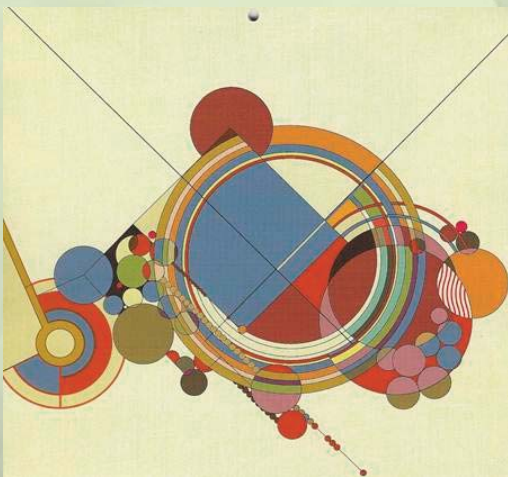
Hansel's Helping Hand: Set Design Inspiration

When you see *Hansel and Gretel*, you may notice that the scenery is not realistic. It may not seem like something you would see in real life. The set designer, Greg Pinsoneault, created a more abstract design based on Ann Wakefield's director's concept. **Abstract** refers to depicting something in a way that is not realistic. For example, in our production the witch's house is a giant mobile and not an actual traditional candy house. A **mobile** is a type of sculpture that hangs down from above and has parts that can move freely. Greg's design of the mobile was inspired by the work of Frank Lloyd Wright.

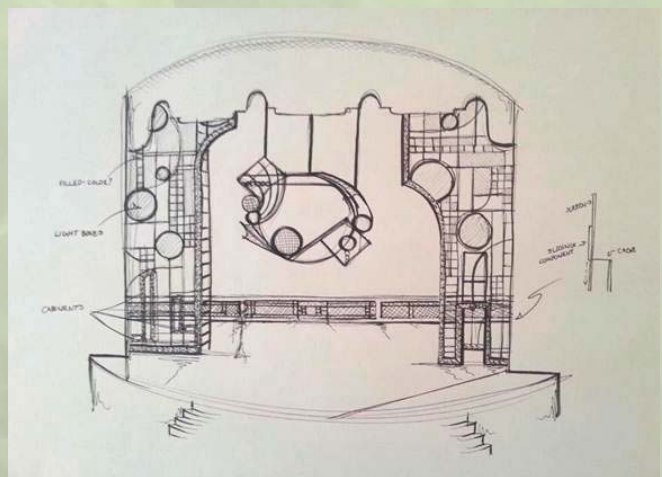
Frank Lloyd Wright was an American architect and artist who was highly influenced by Japanese art and architecture as well as the Arts and Crafts movement taking place in America from the late 1800s to early 1900s. The Arts and Crafts movement centered around decorative arts such as wallpapers and furniture. It honored simple craftsmanship and had a romantic or folk influence.

Forest Fact:

Did you know that Frank Lloyd Wright's family home and studio is located in Oak Park, Illinois?



Frank Lloyd Wright's painting



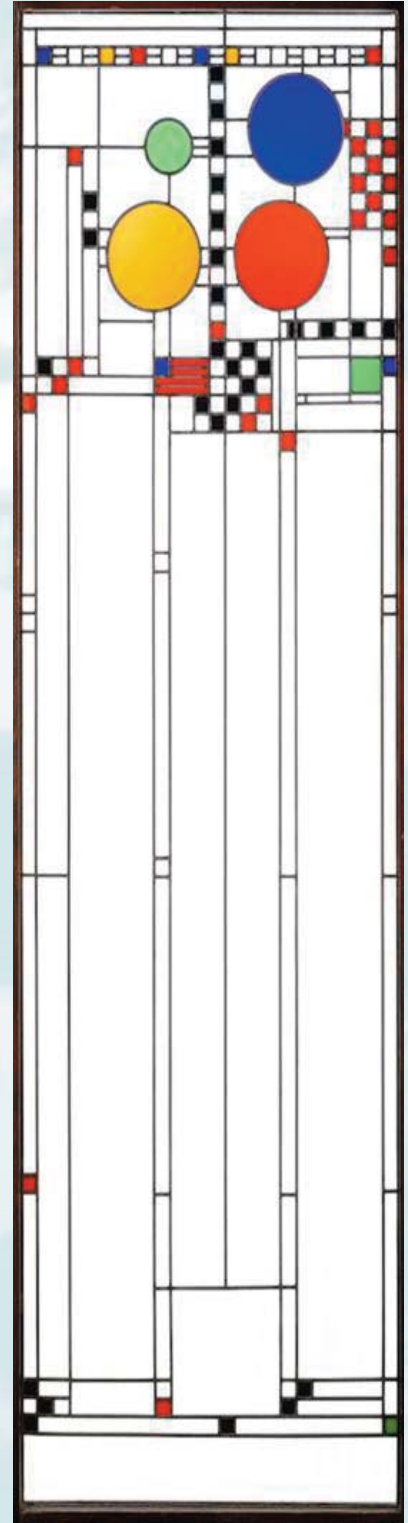
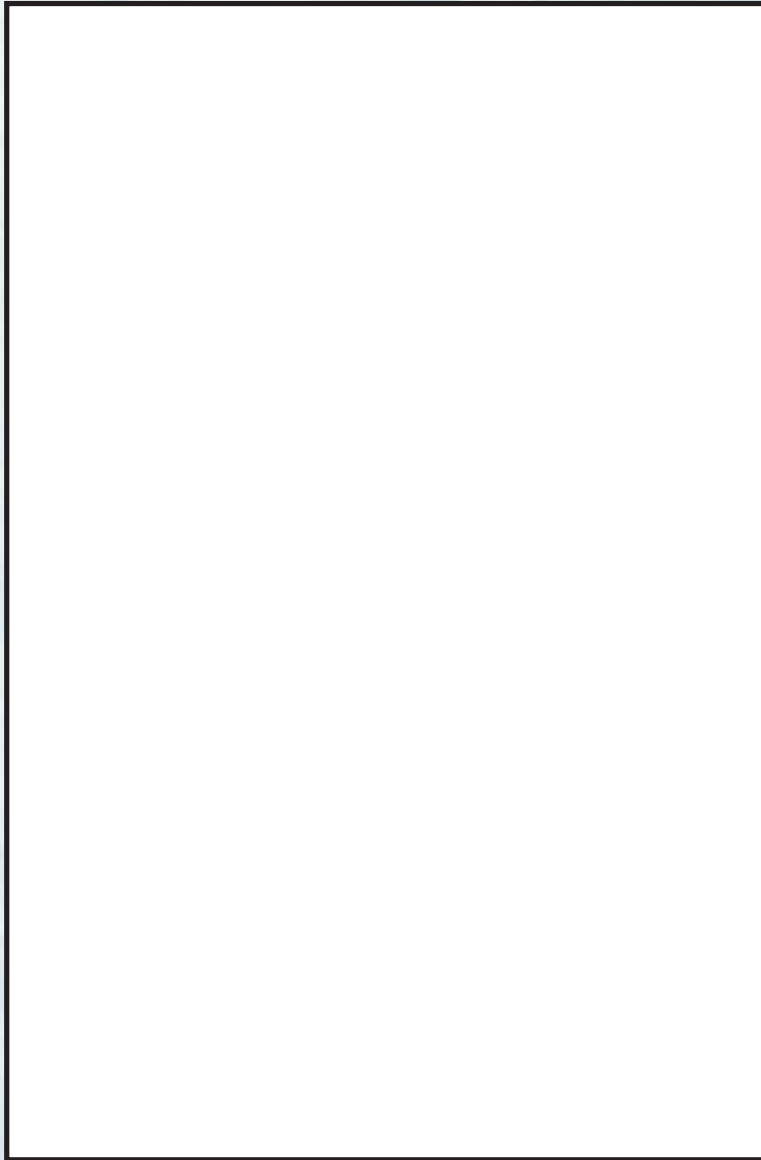
Greg Pinsoneault's set design for
Hansel and Gretel



Candy Creation:

Create Your Own Candy House

Thinking about what it means to be inspired, find a picture by an artist or architect that inspires you to draw your own unique candy house. Use the space below. Perhaps draw a candy house with bright colors like the artist Andy Warhol would have used or square shapes like Pablo Picasso might have created.



Coonley Playhouse Glass Panel
1912 Frank Lloyd Wright



Hansel's Helping Hand: Brother Sister Tales

Our play, *Hansel and Gretel*, features a brother and sister who have an adventure together. It is adapted from the German fairy tale, *Hansel and Gretel* by the Brothers Grimm. Stories about the quests of brothers and sisters are popular all over the world.

Jan and Hanna from Poland is very similar to our version of *Hansel and Gretel*. The siblings are captured by a witch while they are picking berries for their father.



In a story from Russia, **Baba Yaga**, a brother and sister get help from animals to escape an evil witch.



In **Juan and Maria** from the Philippines, a kind old woman raises children after their father throws them out of their home.



In **The Brother and the Sister Who Became the Sun and the Moon**, a tale from Korea, siblings must escape an evil tiger who is disguised as their mother.

Common Core Standard: Reading, Section 2.1. Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.



Gretel's Guidepost:

Two Heads are Better than One

Hansel and Gretel come across many different obstacles in the woods. Throughout their journey, the siblings discover they need each other in order to survive in the forest, especially when they find a witch! They also need you, the audience, in order to succeed on their quest.

Working together, whether in a pair or on a team, benefits any task. When people share their skills and ideas, problems are easier to solve. For example, a soccer team must work together to play well. Every player brings something to the group, giving the whole team a variety of skills they can use on the field to win the game!

Have you ever solved a problem with someone else?

Can you think of a famous team?

Do you know any jobs where people must work together?



Candy Creation: Group Count Game

Now students can work together with their classmates by listening and being aware of the people around them. This activity will teach many skills important to teamwork.

This game can be played with any size group of students. First, ask all the students to stand in a circle and give their focus to the center of the circle. Now ask the students to count as high as they can out loud using the following rules:

- If two students say a number at the same time, they must begin at 1 again.
- A single student may not count 2 consecutive numbers in a row. If this happens, the students must begin at 1 again.

Before you begin the count, encourage the students to shake out their energy and focus on listening to each other. See how high the students can count while working together!

Common Core Standard: *Literacy.SL.2.1a*. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).



Candy Creation: Wacky Witches

Witches are well-known characters in fairy tales and fantasy stories. In *Hansel and Gretel*, the Witch is an old lady who lives in a gingerbread house. Various different types of witches are found in books, plays, and movies.



Glinda
The Wizard of Oz
Good Witch

Ursula
The Little Mermaid
Sea Witch

Evil Queen
Snow White
Fairy Tale Witch

Harry Potter
Harry Potter series
Wizard

Witch
Hansel and Gretel
Fairy Tale Witch

Using the images above and adjectives from the word bank, write a **descriptive paragraph** about a witch or wizard.

Word Bank:

creepy
beautiful
old
young
hunched
scary
friendly
glowing
dark
radiant
wicked

Common Core Standard: *Literacy.L.2.1e.* Use adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified.



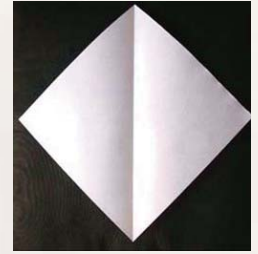
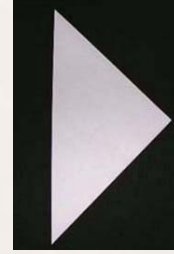
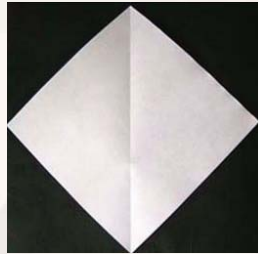
Candy Creation:

Make an Origami Swan

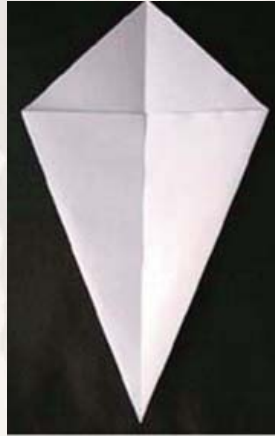
Origami is the traditional Japanese art of paper folding. In Japanese, **Ori** means folding, and **Gami** means paper. This art form began in the Seventeenth Century and was popularized outside of Japan in the 1900s. Now you can use origami to create your very own swan.

What you need: One square piece of paper that measures at 6 inches by 6 inches.

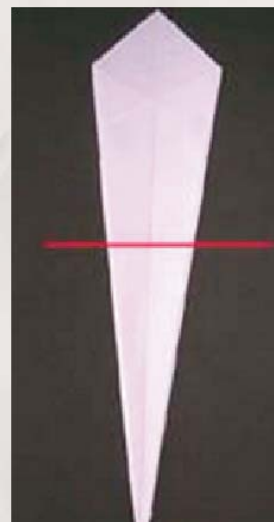
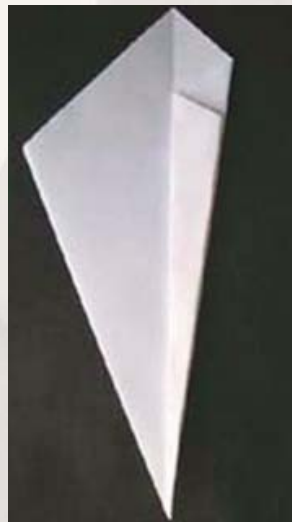
Step One: Start with a square of white paper. Fold the paper along one diagonal, then unfold it.



Step Two: Now fold the lower edges of the square into the centerline as shown. This is your kite base. Flip the kite base over.



Step Three: Next make a double fold as shown. Repeat on the other side.



continued on page 14



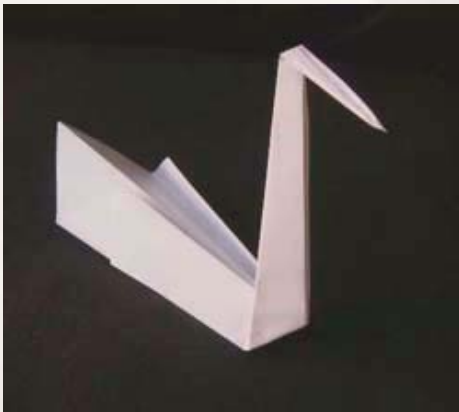
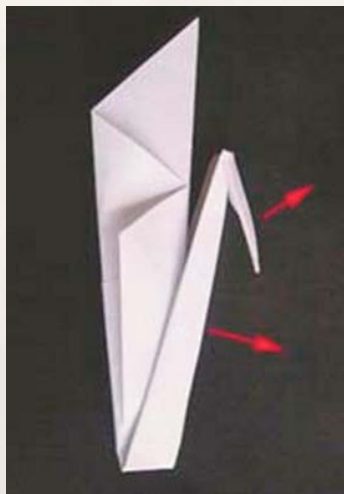
Candy Creation:

Make an Origami Swan *continued*

Step Four: Fold the point of the piece upwards. Then fold the head of the swan downwards. Next, fold the swan in half as shown.



Step Five: Pull the neck of the swan away from the body, and unfold the head and body. Now you have your very own origami swan!



Common Core Standard: *Literacy.W.1.2.* **Write informative/explanatory texts** in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.



Hansel's Helping Hand: Sweet Treats from Japan

In *Hansel and Gretel*, the witch's house is made of delicious treats. Each culture around the world has their own special kind of sweet treat. In the United States, we like goodies such as ice cream, doughnuts, and candy bars. In Japan, the culture that has inspired our production, they enjoy other treats.



Ramune

Ramune is a popular Japanese soda that comes in many flavors including strawberry, pineapple, and lemon-lime. Ramune bottles are different than soda bottles we have in the United States because they are sealed with a marble instead of a cap. In order to open a Ramune bottle, you must push down the marble.

Pocky

Pocky is a very common Japanese snack. It is made of a biscuit stick that is covered in chocolate. Pocky also comes in other flavors including strawberry and toffee crunch.



Kit Kats

Kit-Kats are a popular candy in the United States. Did you know that in Japan there are not only Kit-Kats like you know, but many different flavors of the candy that are not found in the United States such as green tea, grape, and blueberry cheesecake?



Candy Creation: Family Interview

Now that you've learned about treats in Japan, it is your turn to discover some more sweets! Think of your own ethnic background, and ask a family member about their favorite cultural treat.

Family Interview

by _____ of _____

Where were you born? _____

Where did you live? _____

What are some of your favorite sweet treats?

Who makes these treats?

Is it from another country? If so, where?

What is your favorite memory with a sweet treat?

Common Core Standard: *Literacy.RL.2.2.* Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.



Gretel's Guidepost: Being Brave

Sometimes life puts us in scary situations like going to the dentist or getting a shot at the doctor's office. While these moments might be frightening, confronting them head on by being brave can lead to good results. Although in the moment, getting a shot might be terrifying, it will help prevent you from getting sick in the future. The dentist's tools may look creepy, but they are here to help maintain the health of your smile.

Bravery means showing courage in order to do something for the greater good. Through the course of the play, Hansel and Gretel both have to act bravely. Gretel has to be brave in order to save Hansel and herself from the Witch. Her acts of bravery in the face of danger allow the siblings to have a happy ending.

*Do you know someone who is brave?
Is there a job where someone has to act bravely?
Have you ever acted bravely?*



Hansel's Helping Hand: Berry Math

In the play, Hansel and Gretel are sent into the woods to collect berries for their family to eat. Now you can help them figure out how many baskets they must fill to have enough food for dinner! Using addition, discover how many berries they have collected. (Answer Key on page 19.)

Each of Hansel and Gretel's baskets hold 6 berries.

1. If Hansel and Gretel fill **3 baskets**, how many berries have they collected?

 +  +  = _____ of berries

2. If they have **5 baskets** filled, how many berries do they have?

 +  +  +  +  = _____ of berries

3. If each family member eats 12 berries for dinner, how many baskets need to be filled to feed the family?

4. If each family member eats 3 berries for dinner, how many baskets need to be filled to feed the family?

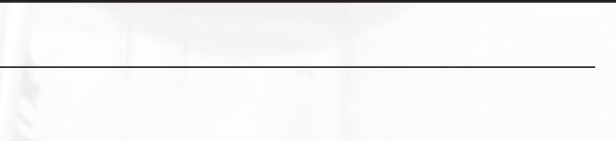
5. If Hansel and Gretel each invite a friend over and each person eats 3 berries for dinner, how many baskets need to be filled to feed everyone? (Hansel, Gretel, Mother, Father, and two friends)

Common Core Standard: Math, Section 1.1. Students develop strategies for adding and subtracting whole numbers based on their prior work with small numbers. They use a variety of models, including discrete objects and length-based models (e.g., cubes connected to form lengths), to model add-to, take-from, put-together, take-apart, and compare situations to develop meaning for the operations of addition and subtraction, and to develop strategies to solve arithmetic problems with these operations.



Hansel and Gretel have escaped the horrible witch! Now that you have seen our production of *Hansel and Gretel*, write a newspaper article about another fairy tale hero.

THE FAIRY TALE TIMES

	<h1>Personal Wi</h1>
	<h2>Global News</h2> <p>by Thibault Robin, Dan</p>
<p>Notes</p> <p>Show</p>	<h3>Lifetracker</h3> <p>From the Tips Box: Android Crapware, Hidden Bro...</p>
	<p>Remains of the Day: Your Dropbox is Showing (For...</p> <p>The Chapskate's Guide to Getting Free Dropbox S...</p>
	<p>Just for a Smart, Genre-Bending Movie, Streamlin...</p> <p>Once You Pop You Can't StopDiffusing? [Photograp...</p>
	<p>Learn to Correctly Match Your Tie to Your Suits and</p> <p>Prevent Office Wrist Pain-with a Bit of Morning Yo...</p>
	<p>Give Yo... Building Some Old-Time Charm with The</p> <p>How Reading Fiction Can Improve Your Social Skill...</p>
	<h3>Yahoo! News: Top Stories</h3> <p>Violent storms mark the South, kill at least 85...</p>
	<p>Obama puts new national security team in place...</p> <p>Analysis: Obama had no choice in "birther" fight...</p> <p>Economy likely slowed last quarter but better now...</p> <p>Endeavor launch brings tourists, traffic to Fla...</p> <p>Unity among North Waziristan groups crumbles...</p> <p>Marines get trained on accepting gay recruits...</p> <p>NFL loses another round, football remains lifted...</p>

18

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Brother and Sister Stories from Around the World:

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oni.html](http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/userstory8597-the-three-brothers-and-the-
oni.html)

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<http://www.pitt.edu/~dash/type0327.html>

Moses Goldberg and Participation Theatre:

[http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?docId=ead/asu/goldberg.xml;query=;br
and=default](http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?docId=ead/asu/goldberg.xml;query=;br
and=default)

Origami:

<http://www.origami-instructions.com/>

Answer Key

Berry Math Answers:

1. 18 berries
2. 30 berries
3. 8 baskets
4. 2 baskets
5. 3 baskets

THE
THEATRE SCHOOL
..... AT DePaul University

2013-2014 Chicago Playworks Season
at DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago

Hansel and Gretel

by Moses Goldberg, directed by Ann Wakefield
recommended for all ages

October 12 - November 16, 2013

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12
Thursdays at 10 a.m.: 10/17, 10/24+, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14
Saturdays at 2 p.m.: 10/12, 10/19, 11/2, 11/9**, 11/16

Fridays at 10 a.m.: 11/1, 11/15
Sunday at 2 p.m.: 10/27+

Number the Stars

by Dr. Douglas W. Larche with Susan Elliott Larche, based on the novel by Lois Lowry, directed by Ernie Nolan
recommended for ages 8 and up

January 18 - February 22, 2014

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: 1/18, 1/21, , 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18
Thursdays at 10 a.m.: 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20
Saturdays at 2 p.m.: 1/25, 2/1**, 2/8, 2/22

Fridays at 10 a.m.: 2/14+, 2/21
Sunday at 2 p.m.: 2/16+

Jackie and Me

by Steven Dietz, directed by John Jenkins
recommended for ages 8 and up

April 8 - May 10, 2014

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6
Thursdays at 10 a.m.: 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8
Saturdays at 2 p.m.: 4/12, 4/19**, 4/26, 5/10

Fridays at 10 a.m.: 5/2+, 5/9
Sunday at 2 p.m.: 5/4+

+ASL/American Sign Language Interpreting

**Audio Description and Preshow Touch Tour

2013-2014 Theatre School Season
at the new facility, 2350 N. Racine, Chicago

Our Town

by Thornton Wilder, directed by Damon Kiely

October 4 – 13, 2013

(previews 10/2 & 10/3)

Arabian Nights

adapted by Dominic Cooke, directed by Kevin Kingston

November 1 – 10, 2013

(previews 10/30 & 10/31)

A Free Man of Color

by John Guare, directed by Phyllis E. Griffin

January 31 – February 9, 2014

(previews 1/29 & 1/30)

Moth

by Declan Greene, directed by Michael Osinski

February 14 – 23, 2014

(previews 2/12 & 2/13)

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot

by Stephen Adly Guirgis, directed by Lisa Portes

April 18 – 27, 2014

(previews 4/16 & 4/17)

World Premiere!

MFA 14, a new play performed by graduating MFA Actors
by Greg Allen, directed by TBA

May 16 - 25, 2014

(previews 5/14 & 5/15)

World Premiere!

A new play to be announced, written by a current
Theatre School student or recent graduate.

May 9 – 18, 2014

(previews 5/7 & 5/8)

Check the web for performance dates and times.

details as of date of publication; subject to change. Check the web for ASL and Audio Described performances.

Web Site: theatre.depaul.edu

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