



WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION



STUDY GUIDE

Walnut Street Theatre Touring
Outreach 2025 - 2026

SHOW SYNOPSIS

A musical about a band of three bears who learn to face their fears and embrace what makes them unique and stand out from one another.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Before

- Can you think of different things that make people unique or special?
- How do you make people feel “accepted”?
- Have you heard of the word “inclusion”?
- What do you predict will happen?

After

- What can we learn from people who have different experiences or come from different places?
- Have you ever been scared of something like the bears were? How did you feel?
- What can we do if someone is making fun of us or not listening to how we feel?

THEATRE 101

PLAYWRIGHT: The person who writes the script.

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

COSTUMES: What the actors wear during the show.

SCENERY: Everything on stage (except props) used to represent the setting, or the place in which the story 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 on- stage.

AUDIENCE: The lucky people that get to watch the show!

Curious About Putting on a Play?
There are lots of parts to making a show. Check out these key terms with your students!

AUDIENCE RULES

- **Be a Good Audience:** Keep quiet—no talking, sleeping, or poking your neighbor. The actors can see and hear you, so let's not distract them!
- **Leave Gadgets at Home:** No phones, cameras, or tablets during the show. They might distract everyone.
- **React at the Right Time:** Laugh, clap, and cry when it feels right. And don't forget to give a big clap at the end!
- **Stay in Your Seat:** Stay seated throughout the show. It helps everyone see and enjoy.
- **Bathroom Before the Show:** Make sure to visit the bathroom before the performance starts.



Activity: Identity Circle

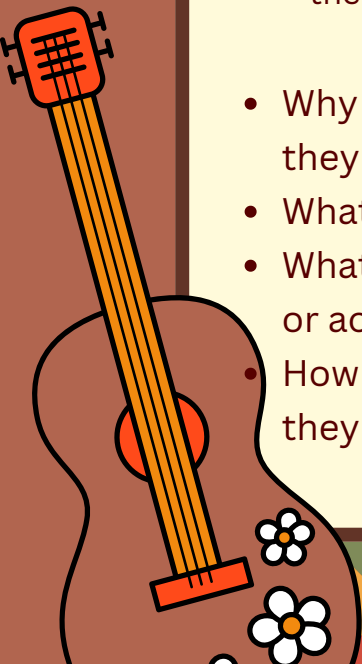
1. Shape Circle! : Arrange the class into a big, open circle.
2. Identity Share! : Tell the group that everyone has many identities. Ask the group to name a few. (ex. teacher, friend, swimmer)
3. Circle Shifting: Go around the circle and have each person name an identity. For instance, "I am a teacher". After that statement, everyone steps into the circle to show how much they share that identity.
4. Circle Shuffle! : If that identity is a big part of their lives, they take a giant step. If not so much, a small step. If not at all, they stay where they are.
5. Who Goes Next? : Continue going around the circle multiple times until everyone has gone at least two or three times. The longer the game occurs, the more chances students will get to see what they have in common with one another.

Discussion Activity:

Baldy, Bari, and Bunny each had fears and worries about how they looked, what they could do, and whether others would accept them.

With the help of their friends, they learned to speak up, be themselves, and support each other. As a class, talk about ways we can help friends feel safe, brave, and proud of who they are.

- Why is it important to listen to someone when they tell you they are scared or uncomfortable?
- What does it mean to be "a team" like the bears say they are?
- What do you think everyone has in common, even if they look or act differently?
- How can we make sure everyone in our class or group feels like they belong?



The background of the entire page is covered in a dense pattern of small, multi-colored dots in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. At the top left and top right corners, there are illustrations of stage spotlights on stands, angled towards the center. The main title is contained within a large, rounded orange rectangle.

BRING THE SHOW TO LIFE

Before diving into the scene below, talk with your class about the different elements in a play. What is the setting of the scene? What is the conflict? What props could they use to help tell the story?

SAMPLE SCENE QUESTIONS

Why do you think the bears wanted to start a band together?

What does Mark say he loves? Do you have something you love like that?

What should you do if someone keeps pressuring you to change?

What does "We are enough" mean to the bears? What does it mean to you?

SAMPLE SCENE

MARK: Wow. Flip Durango sounds amazing.

BALDY: We've been fans for multiple seasons.

BUNNY: Except winter.

BARİ: Cause that's when we're asleep.

BALDY: The Flip Durango Show has gotten us through some lonely times.

BUNNY: And helped us make music together.

BARİ: And now that we have a band -

BALDY: The show's about to start! Want to stay and listen?

MARK: I would, but if I don't charge this phone, I can't text my new friends about our group hike tomorrow night. We're going stargazing! (Mark fist bumps each of the bears.) Bari, Bunny, Baldy - it was great to meet you. (Mark exits.)

BUNNY: What a nice person.

BARİ: I was scared when he knocked on the tree.

BUNNY / BALDY: Me too. / Same here.

BUNNY: And when I saw he was a human I thought he might try to tell us what to do.

BARİ: Or tell us to look a certain way.

BALDY: Or do something to us without asking.

BUNNY: Why do people act like bullies sometimes?

The transistor radio makes the sound of static and then the Flip Durango Show comes on.

Words in parenthesis
are not read out loud!
They describe the
action of the scene!

REFERENCE SHEET

Inclusivity

making sure everyone feels welcome and included, no matter how different they might be. It's like inviting everyone to join in, so nobody feels left out

Collaboration

having a lot of different kinds of people, ideas, and things all together coming together to create something. Some examples of things people collaborate on could be things like games, art, music, or class projects.

Self-Expression

Recognizing what makes you unique and special and sharing it with the world. An example could be wearing mismatched socks if that makes you happy or playing different games than others so you're happy.

HIBERNATION 101

Why Bears Hibernate

Bears hibernate in the winter because food is harder to find. Sleeping helps them save energy

How Long?

Depening on where they live, bears can hibernate for five to seven months!

Not True "Sleep"

Bears don't actually sleep the whole time. They enter a deep rest called torpor, where their heart rate, breathing, and body temperature slow down.

Types of Bears?

Black bears and brown bears hibernate in cold climates, but polar bears don't hibernate the same way.

Do they eat?

Before hibernation, bears eat a LOT of food to build fat. During hibernation, they don't eat, drink, or go to the bathroom!

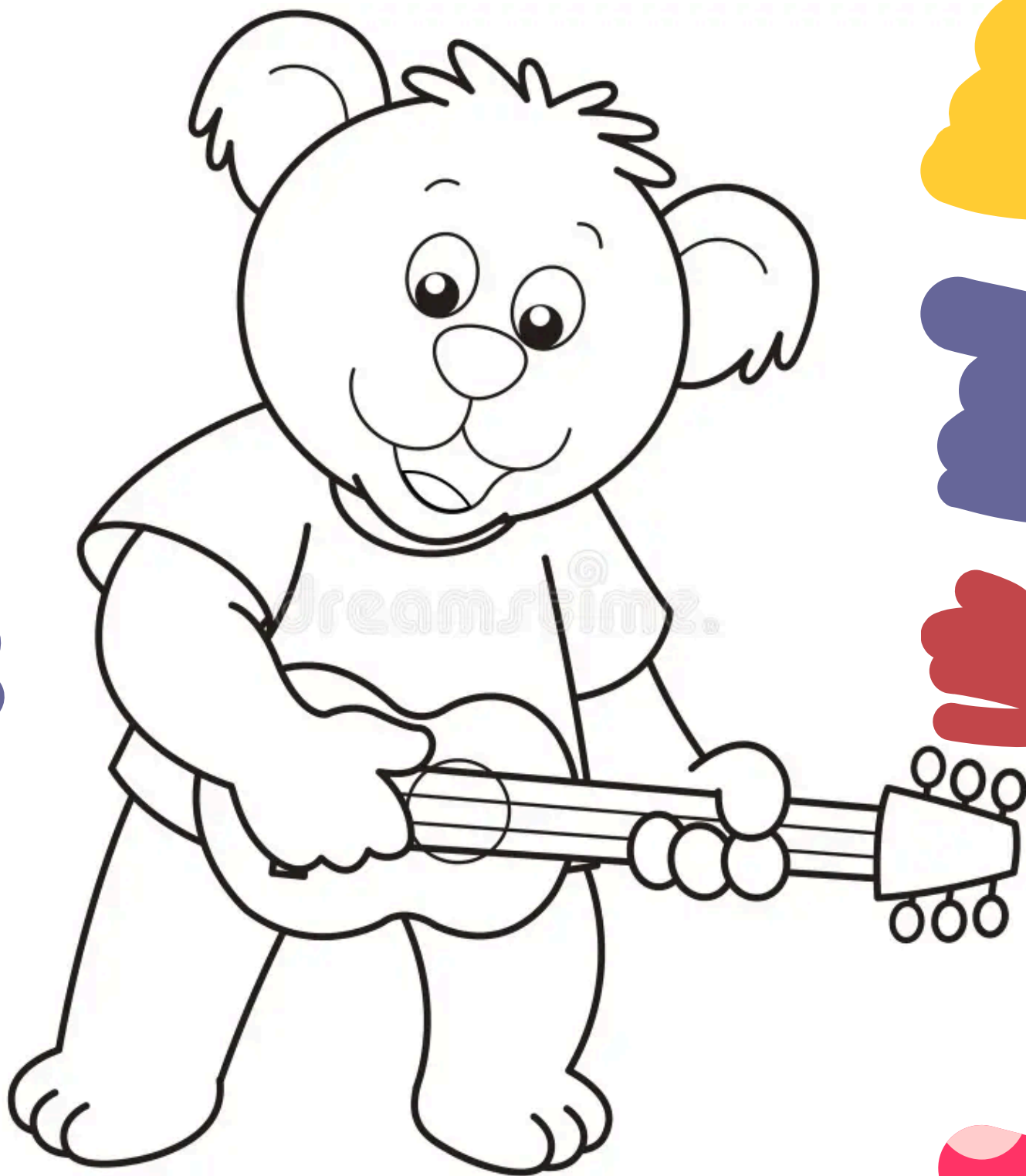
Bear Families

Mother bears often give birth to cubs during hibernation. The babies snuggle and drink milk while the mother stays in her den.

What else interests you about hibernation?

Craft Your Beat-tastic Costume!

Use the space below to design a costume as if you were a character in the show! Let your creativity shine with a mix of designs.



How many
people does it
take to put on a
show?

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR:

Galen Graham

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Amanda Pasquini

STAGE MANAGER:

Maya Chester-Ziv

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER:

Connor Shields

WRITTEN BY:

Andrew Simon

MUSIC BY:

Chris Waters

PROPS ARTISAN

Sam Law

COSTUME DESIGNER:

Sofia Sloat

CAST

Bunny:

Grace McKenna

Bari:

Raven Burckhalter

Baldy:

Cody Lewandowski

Flip Durango & Others:

Raymond Ingram

12 people helped create
this show for you!



WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION

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 210 years! Due to the direction of Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard, Walnut Street Theatre has been a self-producing, non-profit theatre company for over 40 seasons. Walnut Street Theatre continues to entertain and enlighten diverse audiences with high quality theatrical programming. With more than 20,000 subscribers, the Walnut is also the most-subscribed theatre company in the world! Last season, 100,000 children and adults were impacted by the Walnut's Education Programs, including our Theatre School, Camp Walnut, Our Touring Outreach Program to local schools, and our artist-in-residency programs.



DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:

T.J Sokso

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:

Amanda Pasquini

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

MANAGER:

Maya Chester-Ziv

EDUCATION APPRENTICE:

Connor Shields



Additional Resources:



Walnut Street Theatre
for Kids

Drama Games for Kids

WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Theatre School at Walnut Street Theatre

Classes for kids, students, and adults! For students of all ages! Great for networking, providing a creative outlet, and professional training.

Find your inner star at the Walnut!

Call 215-574-3550, ext. 510

Walnut Street Theatre Residency Program

Let us design a dramatic and educational program for your school! We support teacher's objectives with personalized programs that meet your needs and budget.

Call 215-574-3550, ext. 566

Walnut Street Theatre for Kids

Bring your kids to Walnut Street Theatre! Bring a show to your school! Open a dialogue with students about important issues that affect them!

Call 215-574-3550 , ext. 552

Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach

Bring a show to your school! Open a dialogue with students about important issues that affect them!

Call 215-574-3550 , ext. 584