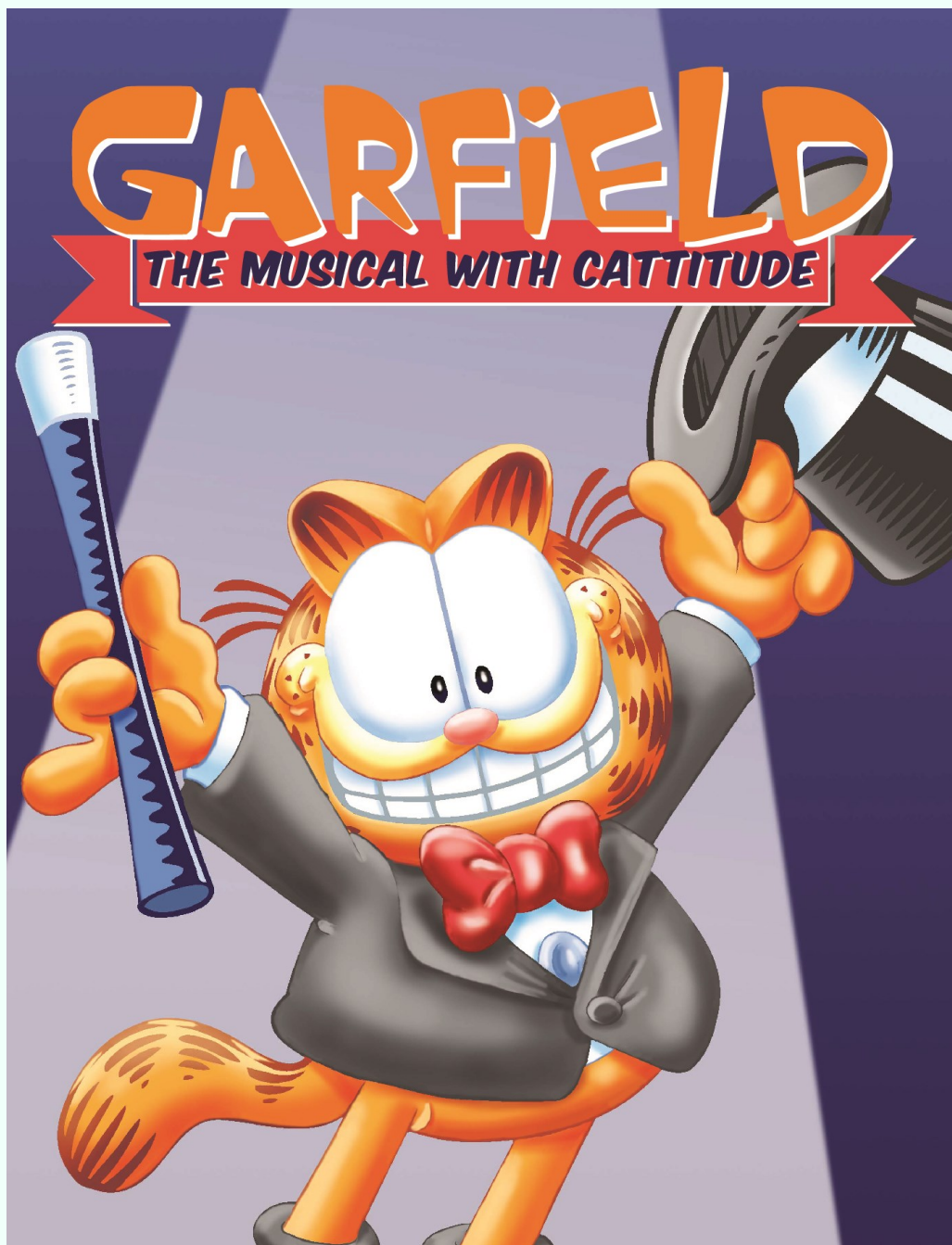


WALNUT STREET THEATRE



STUDY GUIDE



SHOW SYNOPSIS

Garfield, that chubby and sarcastic tabby cat, wants to have the best birthday ever. But his friends, Arlene, Odie, Jon and even his nemesis, Nermal, seem to have forgotten. Me-owch! Garfield runs away, but quickly learns that "home is where the heart... and the food is."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE THE SHOW

- Has anyone ever been to a live musical before? How was it different from television or a movie?
- What is the difference between a play and a musical?
- Have you ever heard the saying, "the grass is always greener on the other side?" What does that saying mean to you?
- What is your favorite part about your home?

AFTER THE SHOW

- Did you enjoy this performance? What was your favorite part?
- Who was your favorite character? Why?
- How did Garfield's attitude change throughout the story?
- What did Garfield learn at the end of the musical?
- Do you think Garfield will ever run away from home again?



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 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 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.

START WITH A WARM-UP: "DUCK, DUCK, PANDA"



In *Garfield: The Musical with Cattitude*, there are multiple characters who are talking animals! With your class, warm-up by pretending to be animals of your own!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Arrange the class in a circle, as if to play "Duck, Duck, Goose."
2. One person walks around the circle, tapping heads and saying "duck."
3. When that person wishes to choose someone to chase them, they can say any animal (not just goose). Both must run around the circle as that animal.
4. Ex. Someone may go around saying, "duck...duck...PANDA," and both players would run around the circle acting as panda bears.
5. Classic "duck, duck, goose" rules apply. If the person who is being chased takes the other person's spot in the circle, they are no long "it." If the person doing the chasing catches the person, the person caught remains "it."

TRY IT YOURSELF!

DIRECTIONS:

Give students a chance to act out a scene from *Garfield: The Musical with Cattitude*. 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?



SAMPLE SCENE

JON: Morning, Garfield.

GARFIELD: I'd like mornings better, if they started in the afternoon.

JON: Oh, right. Good morning, Pooky.

GARFIELD: Love me. Love my teddy bear.

JON: Wow, I really can't believe how incredibly rested I feel. Did you sleep well? What was all that commotion, just now?

GARFIELD: The alarm clock and I had a fight. It wanted me to wake up. I refused. Things escalate. Don't you have something to say to me?

JON: Arlene sand a little off last night. Did you forget your date on the fence with her, again?

GARFIELD: I forget. Um...I'm waiting

JON: Well, I hope you are rested. Big, big day today! Do you want some coffee?

GARFIELD: Do you want to live?

JON: Hey, I'm starting a new thing. Ten push-ups a day and getting to that "to do" list. I should maybe put the Christmas decorations away.

Is it weird to keep them up past St. Patrick's Day? Whatever, I'll just add it to that "to do" list.

GARFIELD: Please add cream and sugar in my cup of coffee and a birthday party to that "to do" list.

JON: Lots on my plate today. Busy, busy, busy. Today will be such a busy day. Maybe the busiest ever.

GARFIELD: Planning the best birthday celebration in history?

JON: Ninja class, first. Then, I gotta stop by the dry cleaners. Last time they over-starched the collars. It's a choking hazard. Oh, and I hope they were able to repair the hole in my jacket.

GARFIELD: My claws need sharpening.

JON: Wait, there's something else...what is it? It's huge. Right on the tip of my tongue.

GARFIELD: Could it be my birthday?

JON: Oh, I know... Odie's got an appointment at the Veterinarian.

GARFIELD: Can they keep him? That'd be a great birthday present.

STUDENT ACTIVITY: MY FAVORITE FOODS

Garfield is very famously known for LOVING lasagna. What's your favorite food?
On the plate pictured below, instruct students to draw their favorite foods!



CLASS ACTIVITY: BIRTHDAY BUDDIES!

DIRECTIONS:

In *Garfield: The Musical with Cattitude*, Garfield gets very upset because he thinks his pals forgot his birthday. Establish birthday buddies in your classroom so everyone has the chance to be celebrated on their birthday (or half-birthday for students born in the summertime).

1. Have students randomly draw from names of their classmates. On the name card, the student's birthday, or half-birthday, should be listed.
2. The student who drew the name is then in charge of giving that person a small gift (maybe establish a \$\$ limit like Secret Santa) OR something free and created, like a card, on that person's birthday. It is important that everyone has a birthday buddy so everyone receives a small token on their special day!

LIKE THE SHOW? LET US KNOW!

Send letters or drawings to:
Walnut Street Theatre
ATTN: Education Department
825 Walnut St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107

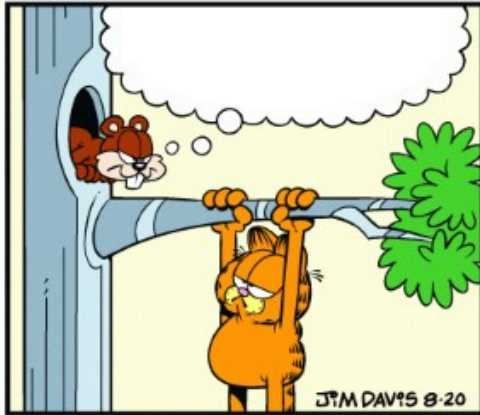


STUDENT ACTIVITY: WRITE YOUR OWN COMIC STRIP

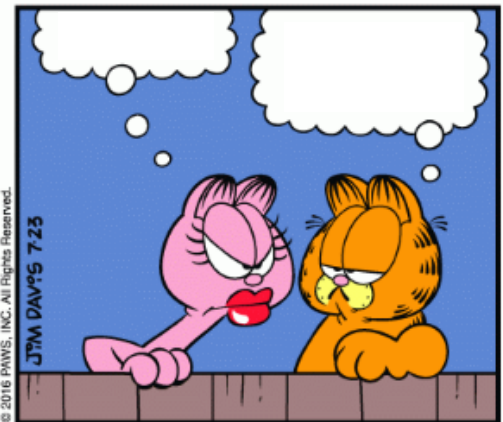
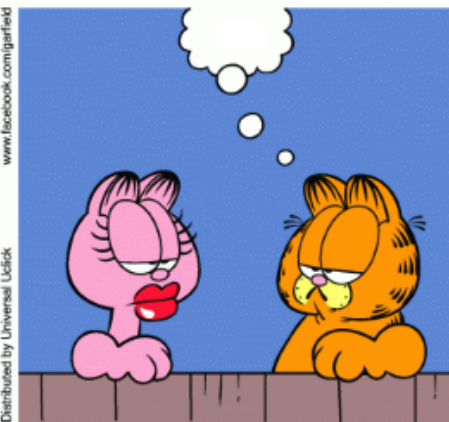
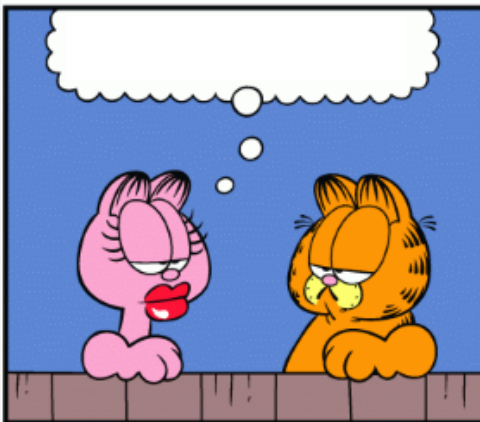
DIRECTIONS:

Garfield: The Musical with Cattitude is based on a series of comic strips created by American cartoonist Jim Davis. With your class, rewrite some of Jim Davis's comic strips! Instruct students to fill in the text bubbles with their own dialogue. Make sure students give their comic strips a title.

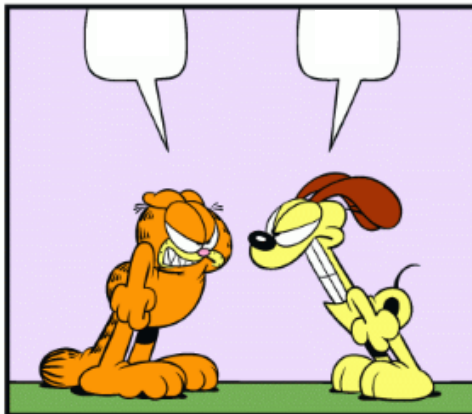
TITLE:



TITLE:



TITLE:



For more Garfield comic strips, go to www.garfield.com



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 34th 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!

For 15 years the Walnut has been producing shows as part of our Kid Series. The Kid Series takes well known books and brings them to life on stage for children and families. Last season, **172,000** 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

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION	Thomas Quinn
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION	Ashley Kerns
EDUCATION PROGRAMS ASSOCIATE	Patrick Shane
EDUCATION PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE	Angie Confredo
RESIDENT TEACHING ARTIST	Jasmine Hammond
EDUCATION APPRENTICE	Amanda Pasquini
ACTING APPRENTICES	Anne Bragg Alexa Cepeda Dana Orange Austin Turner

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

WEB

- **Educational Drama Activities**
<http://plays.about.com/od/activities/>
- **Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach Company**
<https://walnutstreettheatre.org/education/outreach.php>
- **Drama Games**
<http://dramaresource.com/drama-games/>

GARFIELD: THE MUSICAL WITH CATTITUDE CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER	Brian Kurtas
BASED ON THE CHARACTERS BY	Jim Davis
BOOK BY	Jim Davis & Michael J. Bobbitt
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY	John L. Cornelius, II

