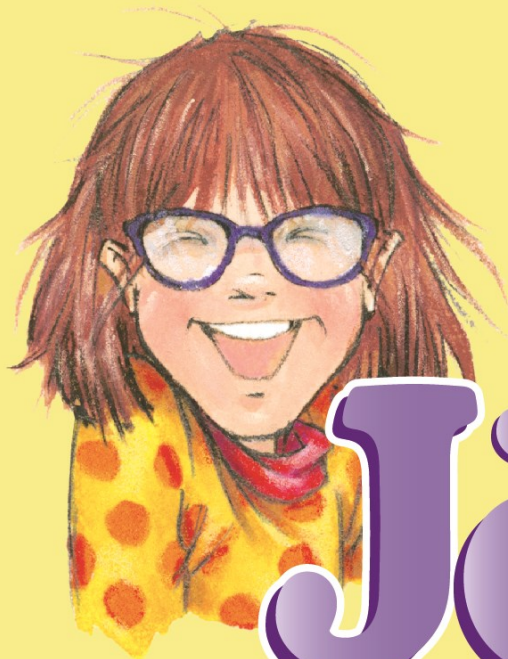




WALNUT STREET THEATRE



Junie B. Jones[®] The Musical

STUDY GUIDE



SHOW SYNOPSIS

Junie B. Jones is one busy first grader. She starts school and discovers that her best friend Lucille has made new friends. Junie B. also finds out that she cannot participate in the kickball tournament! Junie B. has to decide how to make the best of a bad situation. She decides to take up juggling, but will she be good enough to shine as bright as the star she longs to be?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE THE SHOW

1. Has anyone ever been to a live musical before? How was it different from television or a movie?
2. What is the difference between a play and a musical?
3. Do you ever feel nervous or anxious on the first day of school?
4. Have you ever felt like you wanted to give up, maybe when something appears to be too hard?
5. What does *perseverance* mean?

AFTER THE SHOW

1. Did you enjoy this performance? What was your favorite part?
2. Who was your favorite character? Why?
3. What did you Junie B. teach you about trying your best?
4. Why was it important for Junie B. to keep practicing her juggling?
5. Do you think Junie B. made the best of a tough situation?



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: LUNCH LINE

In *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*, Junie B. has a close relationship with the lunch lady, Mrs. Gutzman. She even helps Mrs. Gutzman serve food to her classmates! Get your students in the acting mood with this improv exercise. Ask for a volunteer to play the lunch lady. Then, the class lines up to “get their lunches.” The lunch lady then serves whatever he or she wishes.

For example, the “lunch lady” could say, “here’s your burger,” or something odd like “here’s your 50 pound slice of pizza,” and the person receiving the “food” would have to pretend to carry it on their plate and then eat it at the end of the line.

The object of the game is get students laughing and pretending to eat bizarre things! The person playing the lunch lady may rotate.



TRY IT YOURSELF!



DIRECTIONS

Give students a chance to act out a scene from *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*. 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

SHELDON: Hoagies are very popular. But I’m not allowed to eat them. I’m allergic to fake meat and cheese.

JUNIE B: Please wipe your nose.

SHELDON: I’m only allowed to eat food that comes from nature. Also I’m allergic to dairy.

JUNIE B: Blow, and I mean it! Hey Herb...is that a cookie I see?

HERB: Uh huh.

JUNIE B: I didn’t get a cookie at all today. My mother packed me a fruit bar instead.

HERB: Oh, well...fruit bars are good too.

JUNIE B: Yes, Herbert—I know fruit bars are good. But I really wanted a cookie today. And so I wish that you would just share that thing with me and that’s all.

HERB: Why didn’t you just say so?

JUNIE B: Oh, thank you! Thank you, thank you!

Yum! That tastes just like the cookies Mrs. Gutzman used to bring to afternoon kindergarten.

HERB: Who’s Mrs. Gutzman?

Mrs. Gutzman enters.

MRS. GUTZMAN: Junie B. Jones, I’m glad to see you!

JUNIE B: Hey, now that you’ve found me, when can you bring the cookies to our classroom, Gladys?

MRS. GUTZMAN: Don’t call me Gladys, dear. And first graders don’t get cookies like kindergartners do. First graders get cookies when they buy their school lunches.

JUNIE B: Yeah, only what about the children who bring their lunches? Where’s our cookies, huh? Cause today everybody got a cookie except for me and Sheldon. And so pardon me for asking...but what are kids like me supposed to do?

MRS. GUTZMAN: Hmm... Would you, Junie B. Jones, like to help me in the kitchen?

CLASS ACTIVITY: SHOW AND TELL OF TALENT

In *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*, Junie B. and her peers have many talents that make them special and unique. With your class, separate some time during the day to have a mini show and tell of talents!



Students can share what they consider to be their talent, like magic, drawing, singing, etc. Students can also teach their talent to the class.



STUDENT ACTIVITY: INTERVIEW YOUR PARENTS!

In *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*, Junie B. discovers that her dad can juggle and she asks him to teach her how to juggle too. What hidden talents do your parents have? Instruct students to go home and ask their parents about what talents they may possess. It can be anything from cooking, baseball, an online or card game, etc. encourage students to learn a little bit from their parents and then share the results with the class.



Students should use the boxes below!

MY PARENT'S TALENT —

What I learned about my parent's talent

Where my parent learned this talent

What my parent likes about their talent

STUDENT WORKSHEET: DREAM LUNCHBOX

Junie B. Jones gets VERY excited about the brand new lunchbox that her parents buy her!

DIRECTIONS:

Have your class design their very own dream lunchboxes on the picture below! Pictures can be used as decoration around the classroom to display students' creative designs.

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 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

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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

WEB

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

JUNIE B. JONES

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER...Ellie Mooney

BOOK/LYRICS BY.....Marcy Heisler

MUSIC BY.....Zina Goldrich

ADAPTED FROM THE BOOKS BY

Barbara Park

CREDITS

Music Theatre International

