



**ORLANDO
SHAKESPEARE
THEATER**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UCF

Study Guide 2015-2016



by Brandon Roberts

adapted from the classic fairy tale by The Brothers Grimm

Florida Standards

Language Arts

- LA.7-12.2.1.4
- LA.7-12.2.3.1
- LA.7-12.5.2.1
- LA.7-12.5.2.2
- LA.7-12.5.2.4
- LA.7-12.5.2.5

Theater Arts

- TH.D.1.4
- TH.S.1.5
- TH.S.1.7
- TH.S.3.2
- TH.S.3.3

The Frog and the Princess

Table of Contents

Introduction	p. 3
Enjoying Live Theater	p. 4
 <u>About the Play</u>	
The Authors	p. 6
The Playwright	p. 6
The Characters	p. 7
Summary	p. 7
 <u>Activities</u>	
Building a Story	p. 8
Discussion Questions	p. 10
Paper Bag Puppet Show	p. 11
Friendly Letter Writing	p. 12
 Tell Us What You Think!	 p. 14



The Frog and the Princess

An Introduction

Educators:

First, let me thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to bring the joy of theatre arts to your classroom. We at Orlando Shakes are well aware of the demands on your time and it is our goal to offer you supplemental information to compliment your curriculum with ease and expediency.

With that in mind, we've redesigned our study guides to be more "user friendly." We've offered you activities that you may do in one class period with minimal additional materials. These exercises will aid you in preparing your students to see a production, as well as applying what you've experienced when you return to school. We've included Sunshine and Common Core Standards to assure you that those curriculum needs are being met.

It is our hope that by streamlining our guides they will invite you to dip in to grab historical background on an author or playwright, a concise plot summary and colorful character descriptions, discussion questions to explore in class or as writing assignments and interactive activities to bring the magic of live performance back to your classroom. And, of course, how to prepare your students to enjoy live theater.

We look forward to hosting you at the Lowndes Shakespeare Theater. Additionally, should you wish to bring our Actor/Educators into your classroom, we will work around your schedule. Feel free to contact us at Orlando Shakes should you have any questions or suggestions on how we can better serve you. We are always learning from you.

Thank you for your tremendous work in nurturing our audiences of tomorrow.

Bravo!

Anne Hering
Director of Education



The Frog and the Princess

Enjoying Live Theater

“Theater is a Team Sport”

The **Playwright** writes the script. Sometimes it is from an original idea and sometimes it is adapted from a book or story. The Playwright decides what the characters say, and gives the Designers guidelines on how the play should look.

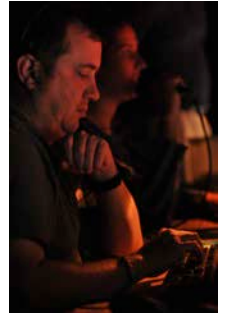


Costume Designer-
Denise Warner
Photo: Rob Jones

The **Director** creates the vision for the production and works closely with the actors, costume, set and lighting designers to make sure everyone tells the same story.

The **Actors** use their bodies and voices to bring the author's words and the director's ideas to life on the stage.

The **Designers** imagine and create the lights, scenery, props, costumes and sound that will compliment and complete the director's vision.



Sound Designer -
Britt Sanducky
Photo: Rob Jones

The **Stage Manager** assists the director during rehearsals by recording their instructions and making sure the actors and designers understand these ideas. The Stage Manager then runs the show during each performance by calling cues for lights and sound, as well as entrances and exits.



Stage Manager-Stacey
Renee Norwood
Photo: Rob Jones

The **Shop and Stage Crew** builds the set, props and costumes according to the designer's plans. The Stage Crew sets the stage with props and furniture, assists the actors with costume changes and operates sound, lighting and stage machinery during each performance.

The **Front of House Staff** welcomes you to the theater, takes your tickets, helps you find your seat and answers any question you may have on the day of performance.



Creative Team of The Merry Wives of Windsor
Photo: Rob Jones

The Theater is where it all takes place. Orlando Shakespeare Theater In Partnership with UCF is the only professional, classical theater company in Central Florida, reaching students and audiences in the surrounding eight counties.

Mission/Vision:

With Shakespeare as our standard and inspiration, the Orlando Shakespeare Theater In Partnership with UCF produces bold professional theater, develops new plays, and provides innovative educational experiences that enrich our community. Our vision is to create theater of extraordinary quality that encourages the actor/audience relationship, embraces the passionate use of language, and ignites the imagination.

The Frog and the Princess Enjoying Live Theater “The Actor/Audience Relationship”

The Audience is the reason Live Theater exists. At Orlando Shakes, we cherish the Actor/Audience relationship, the unique give and take that exists during a performance which makes the audience an ACTIVE participant in the event. The actors see the audience just as the audience sees the actors, and every, laugh, snuffle, chuckle and gasp the audience makes effects the way the actor plays his next moment. We want you to be engaged, and to live the story with us!

There are certain Conventions of the Theatrical Event, such as when the lights go down, you know that the show is about to start, and that the audience isn't encouraged to come and go during a performance. Here are some other tips to help you and your classmates be top notch audience members:

- Please make sure to turn off your cell phones. And NO TEXTING!
- Please stay in your seat. Try to use the restroom before you take your seat and stay in your seat unless there is an emergency.
- Please do not eat or drink in the theater.



The Frog and the Princess About the Play “The Authors”



Jacob Ludwig Carl Grimm was born in January 4, 1785, in Hanau, Germany. Just over a year later, on February 24, 1786, his little brother Wilhelm Carl Grimm was born. Their father was a lawyer, and they had six more brothers and one sister.

In 1802, Jacob went to university to study law at the University of Marburg. As always, his little brother followed him, and entered law school in 1803. During

their university years they began to collect folk and fairy tales. Folklore is stories that have been passed down from parents to children, by word of mouth, but at that time many had not been published in books. The Grimms were especially interested in stories that included Germany and German culture.

Jacob and Wilhelm published their first book of fairy tales – “Children’s and Household Tales” in 1812. There were 86 folktales. Readers were so happy to see the stories they had been told as children all collected together that the book was a success. In the next volume of “Grimm’s Fairy Tales”, the

brothers “added 70 more stories. It went on growing like this for six more editions. Finally, the book contained over 200 stories! It is probably the best-known work of German literature. Even if you don’t know the Brothers Grimm, you definitely know a Grimm fairy tale.

The Brothers Grimm were both professors and scholars. They became known throughout Europe as experts on anything to do with folktales, language, and anything German. They were so into books that they both became librarians as well! During their lifetimes they published many more very important books,

including “German Mythology”, “Old German Tales”, “The History of the German Language”, and even the German Dictionary.

Grimm fairy tales include stories of kings, magic, and talking animals. Even though the stories are sometimes scary, they often teach us a lesson about moral values, and right and wrong.

To read interactive stories and learn more about the Brothers Grimm visit:

[http://
www.grimmfairytales.com](http://www.grimmfairytales.com)

The Frog and the Princess About the Play “The Playwright Brandon Roberts”



Brandon Roberts has been working as an actor with the Orlando Shakespeare Theater since 2005. *The Frog and the Princess* is the fourth script Brandon has composed for Shakes' summer series. Last summer, his adaptation of *Rapunzel* was wildly popular among both young and old. Brandon has also helped to write four all original shows for PB&J Theatre Factory, for which he is also Artistic Director, as well as seasonal scripts for Odd-o-Ts' Entertainment, who handles much of the entertainment for Sea World Orlando.

The Frog and the Princess About the Play “The Characters”

Gerwyn, the (Frog) Prince
Calliope, the Princess
Corvidae, the Step Queen
Henry, the Queen’s Porter



The Frog and the Princess About the Play “Summary”

Once upon a time, in the Kingdom of Stonewell, there lived a beautiful princess named Calliope. Once a beautiful and magical Kingdom, admired by everyone, Stonewell has fallen into despair since the King, Princess Calliope’s father, became ill and the Step Queen Corvidae started to rule.

Enter Prince Gerwyn, the handsome suitor from the Kingdom of Hopspond, who meets and instantly falls in love with the beautiful and kind Princess Calliope. Asking for her hand in marriage, she tells him he will have to ask the Step Queen, but it’s not going to be easy!

To ensure her “rightful” place on the throne, the Step Queen Corvidae, has transformed all of the suitors for Calliope’s hand into animals! And Prince Gerwyn is no exception. With her magical golden ball, the Step Queen casts a spell that turns Gerwyn into a slimy frog forever...unless he can get a kiss from his true love, Princess Calliope. With her scheming Porter Henry, it’s not going to be an easy task.

Will Gerwyn and his Princess live hoppily every after?

The Frog and the Princess

Activities

“Building a Story”

General Goal(s):

- Foster vocabulary growth
- Practice prediction skills
- Practice speaking to groups
- Develop creative writing skills
- Facilitate collaboration

Objectives:

The student:

- Demonstrates a basic understanding of internal story grammar.
- Illustrates the beginning, middle, and end in a story.
- Collaborates with classmates to create a resolution to the problem posed within the given story.

Required Materials:

- *The Frog Prince* story/storybook
- Chart Paper
- Crayons

Anticipatory Set (Lead-In):

The class may be broken into small groups or arranged in a small circle on the floor around the storyteller. Explain to the class that today we are going to learn how to build a story.

Step-By-Step Procedures:

- Read the story *The Frog Prince*, stopping to clearly show any pictures or illustrations to the students.
- Stop reading about 3/4 of the way through the story.
- Distribute crayons and the sequencing worksheet provided.
- Ask the students to illustrate the events that occurred in the beginning and middle of the story. These drawings should be placed in the first and second square on the sheet of paper.
- In the last square students should draw how they imagine the story will conclude.
- Have students volunteer to share their conclusions with the rest of the class.
- Teacher proceeds to finish reading the book so that students can see how the author finished.

Assessments:

The student:

- Demonstrates a basic understanding of internal story grammar.
- Uses a Story Map to identify and diagram the characters, settings, problems, and solutions within a story.
- Accurately retells the events in the beginning, middle, and end of a given story.

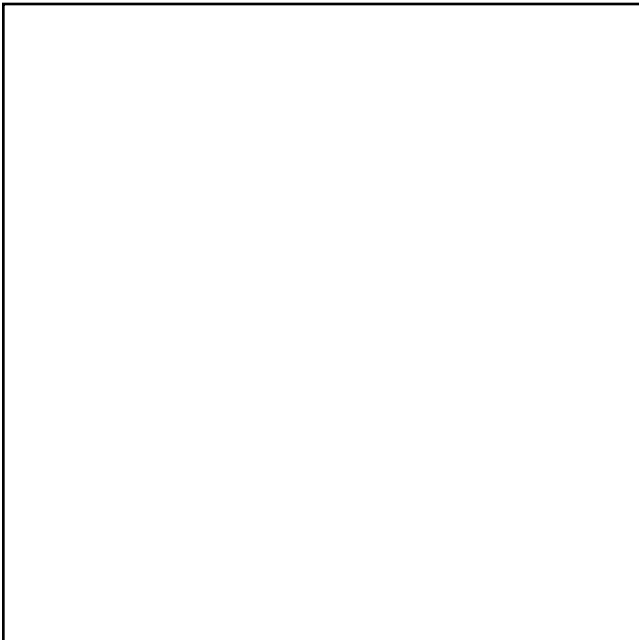
The Frog and the Princess Activities “Building a Story”

Name: _____

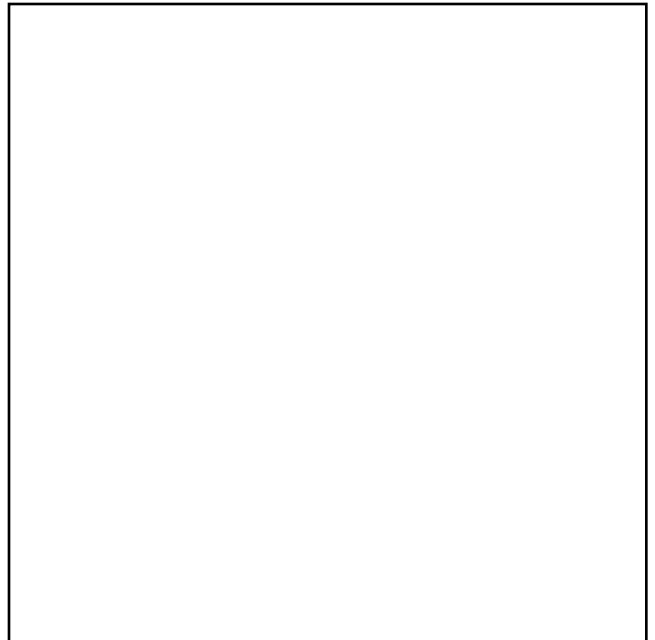
Date: _____

Title: _____

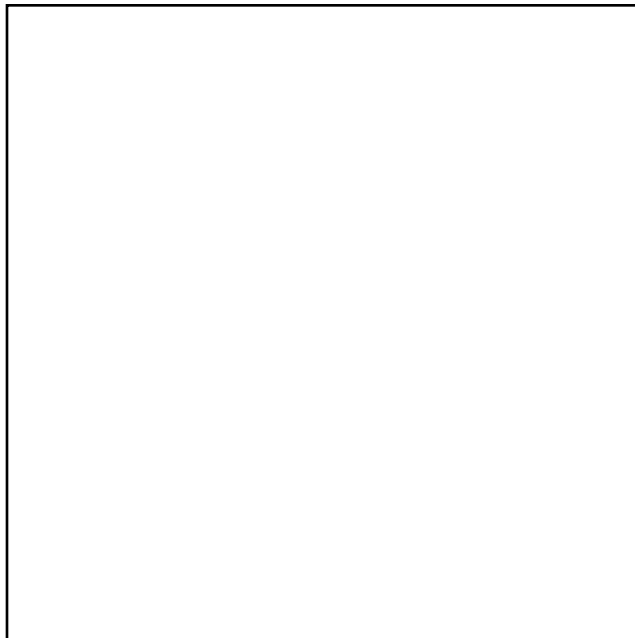
Event 1: Beginning



Event 1: Middle



Event 1: Ending



Using this chart, work with your child to illustrate the events that occurred in the beginning, middle and the end of the Frog and the Princess play.

The Frog and the Princess Activities

“Discussion Questions”

Asking questions that lead children up the “thinking ladder”.

Use the following pattern in asking questions:

1. Ask OPEN questions to encourage and engage children.
2. Ask FOCUSED questions to elicit and organize specific information
3. Ask CONNECTING questions to help children learn to see the relationships between events, characters and ideas.
4. Ask broad questions to help children GENERALIZE/ learn to draw conclusions.
5. Accept, record and read all responses on the board, chart or overhead for all to see.

OPEN question examples:

- What did you notice at the play today....Anything at all... What did you see?
- What about the play was different from the book/ story?
- What surprised you?
- What impressed you?

FOCUSED questions: (questions that probe children’s insights)

- What was the Prince worried about? (_____.)
- How did he think they could solve this problem? (_____)

ANALYZING/CONNECTING questions:

- What did Gerwyn learn about courage?
- Why do you think the Porter wanted to help the Evil Queen?



The Frog and the Princess Activities “Paper Bag Puppet Show”

Create Paper Bag puppets (see instructions below) to represent the characters in the play. Use these puppets to act out the beginning, middle and end of the play. Paper Bag Puppet (<http://www.dltk-teach.com>)

MATERIALS:

- A paper lunch bag
- Paint, crayons and or markers
- Construction paper for the crowns, arms and legs
- Yarn for hair
- Scissors
- Glue and/or tape
- Glitter

GETTING STARTED:

1. Begin with the bag closed and flat like a piece of paper.
2. The smooth side is the BACK of your puppet.
3. The side with floppy tab will be the puppets HEAD
4. Look at the rest of the front of the bag.
(The 3/4 or so of the bag below the part with the floppy tab)
This will be the BODY.
5. Look at the sides of the bag. There should be a SIDE FLAP of paper. Slip the arms through these flaps.

PUTTING THE PUPPET TOGETHER:

1. Paint or color the HEAD of your paper bag.
2. Color the characters costume on the body of the puppet or print the template pieces found at <http://www.dltk-©-teach.com/rhymes/princessandfrog/mprincessbag.htm>
3. Using construction paper or the printed templates to cut out arms. Then glue the arms into the SIDE FLAP. Add glitter, buttons and gems to the puppets clothes and crown.
4. Encourage your child to personalize the puppet and embellish with other accents.



For more fun craft ideas visit:

- <http://www.dltk-kids.com>
- <http://www.kaboose.com/>
- <http://www.firstpalette.com/>

The Frog and the Princess Activities “Friendly Letter Writing”

OBJECTIVES:

This lesson teaches children the five parts of a friendly letter. After visiting various websites to learn more about writing friendly letters, your child will be able to write a friendly letters utilizing the writing process.

The student:

- Uses the writing process to develop friendly letters.
- Uses the Internet to learn more about writing friendly letters.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Poster board or Paper
- Markers
- Examples of friendly letters
- Computer with internet access



PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES:

1. Visit the following websites:

<http://pbskids.org/arthur/games/letterwriter/letter.html>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/22319/>

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson281.shtml

2. Take time to discuss each part of the letter.

Friendly Letter Check List	YES	NO
I used capital letters & punctuation correctly.		
My letter has a heading		
My letter has a greeting		
My letter has a body		
My letter has a closing		
My letter has a signature		
My letter is ready to be checked by the teacher.		

The Frog and the Princess

Activities

“Friendly Letter Writing”

1.Heading

Name_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip code_____

2. Salutation

Dear _____,

3.Body

4.Closing

Sincerely,

5.Signature

Your Name_____

Tell us what you think!

After watching the play, write Orlando Shakespeare Theater a “Friendly Letter” and tell us what you think! Tell what you liked or disliked about the story, the characters, costumes, or set. Make sure to use the 5 parts of the letter listed in the lesson and to support your thoughts with examples and reasons.

Mail to: Orlando Shakespeare Theater
Education Department,
812 E. Rollins Street, Orlando, FL 32803.

*Teacher and Parent comments are also
Appreciated!*

