Really Rosie
A New Musical

Book and Lyrics
by
Maurice Sendak

Music
by
Carole King

About the Show
Rosie appears larger than life to her friends (but mostly to herself) and creates imaginary scenes for movies and adventures. Really Rosie is based upon the stories in Maurice Sendak’s Nutshell Library and features music by Carol King (known for such great songs as I Feel The Earth Move Under My Feet). If you love Where The Wild Things Are, then you are really ready for Rosie!

About the Festival
Now in our 18th season, the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival is a non-profit, professional theater that presents productions of Shakespeare, classic, and contemporary plays as well as the Darden Theater for Young Audiences Series. The Festival also cultivates new scripts and playwrights through the annual Harriett Lake Festival of New Plays and fosters innovative educational programs to serve the community.

Our Name
Our company began 18 years ago as an offshoot of UCF. Though we are currently a separate organization, located in Loch Haven Park, and employing professional actors, directors and designers (not students), we keep the UCF in our name in respect to our history.

Scholarships
Through the generosity of a few Central Florida businesses and foundations, the Festival is able to visit a number of schools every year to present our unique workshops FOR FREE! To find out if you qualify for a scholarship, please call the Education Director at 407-447-1700 x 208.
Theater Etiquette Guidelines for *Really Rosie*

- Once inside the theater, please turn off all cell phones, beepers, video games, and alarms. These sounds could disrupt your neighbors and the actors onstage.
- Don’t bring any refreshments into the theater, including gum and candy.
- Once the show has begun, please keep your focus onstage and don’t talk to your neighbors. Unlike a recorded television show or film, the actors onstage can hear you!
- The magic created in a theater depends on the audience and the performers working together, so it’s important to pay attention to everything that’s happening onstage. In live theater, each performance holds different possibilities and outcomes. If you went to see a play twice, you would notice certain things were different each time, even though you were seeing the same play!
- Let yourself be a part of the magic! Even though you shouldn’t discuss the show with your neighbors during the performance, please feel free to have fun. You can laugh if you see something funny, or even cry if you see something sad. You can also clap or sing along with the music (if you know the words).
- At the end of the show, please show the actors your appreciation for performing for you by cheers and applause. Remember, the actors onstage can hear you, and they would love to have your support and encouragement.
Before the Performance: Grades Pre-K—Kindergarten

Be A Star
In Really Rosie, Rosie is convinced that she is a star! She likes to make up movies and put herself and her friends in the starring roles. Ask children to color this picture any way that they like. What do they think this person is singing about? What songs do they like to sing? Lead children in a sing-along of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,” and tell them to share their star pictures and songs with their families.
Amazing Alligators

In the play Really Rosie, one of the characters is named Alligator. Ask students, “What do you know about alligators? Would you like to learn more about them? Is there another animal that you’d like to learn more about?” Guide students to follow these simple steps, and write about what they learn. Advanced students can read these directions and follow the steps independently.

Take Notes
1. Why do you like the animal that you are learning about? Write down what you like. For example, if you like cats, you could say, “Cats are cute and they know how to clean their fur.”
2. What do you want to know about that animal? Write down your questions.
3. Look at animal books at your house, your classroom, and your library. What do they say about your animal? Write down what you learn.
4. Did you find the answers to your questions? Did any answers surprise you? Why or why not?
5. Look at everything you wrote down. Now, you can write an essay.

Write an Essay
1. What is the main point of your essay? What is the most important thing about your animal?
2. What are other things you want to say about your animal? Don’t forget to use time order words like “first, next, and last.”
3. Write an ending sentence, or conclusion, to your essay. The conclusion should be about your main point and tell what you have learned.
4. Check your finished essay for spelling and punctuation. Is your handwriting neat? You are ready to turn in your essay. Great job!
A Recipe for Fun

In *Really Rosie*, one of the characters is called Chicken Soup. He sings a song called, “Chicken Soup with Rice,” and tells about how he can have chicken soup all year round! Soup is good for you! Follow this recipe (with the help of a parent), and enjoy your own delicious bowl of chicken soup!

**Ingredients:**
- 4 cups of water
- 4 cups of chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 2 ribs of celery, chopped
- 4 carrots, chopped
- 1 lb. cooked chicken, cut in chunks (can use pre-packaged chicken)

**Directions**
1. Have a parent or adult help chop carrots and celery.
2. Pour water and chicken broth into a large pot. Turn heat to medium.
3. Use measuring spoons to add onion powder, garlic powder, salt and pepper to the pot.
4. Add celery, carrots, and cooked chicken to soup pot.
5. Bring soup to a boil and let boil for five minutes.
6. Turn heat down low to simmer.
7. Cover pot and let soup simmer for 30 minutes.
8. Pour soup into a bowl and let it cool for five minutes.
9. Enjoy your homemade chicken soup with goldfish crackers or some fruit on the side. Yum!
Alphabet Fun

In *Really Rosie*, Alligator sings a song called “Alligators All Around.” In the song, he goes through the alphabet and shows the rest of the kids that the alphabet is anything but boring. Without the alphabet, we couldn’t talk or sing or be silly with each other. The alphabet gives us the power of communication!

Drawing from the Alphabet

Materials Needed:

- Alphabet chart
- Drawing paper
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Imagination

Directions:

1. Ask children to say or sing the alphabet with you.
2. Give each child a piece of drawing paper and crayons or colored pencils.
3. With the alphabet chart as guidance, ask children to write their favorite letter in the middle of their paper.
4. Ask children to think of as many things as they can that start with their favorite letter. Tell them that they can be animals, foods, or even feelings. Tell them to use their imagination!
5. After brainstorming, ask children to draw their ideas around the letter that they’ve chosen.
6. One by one, have children share their letter and pictures with the class.
7. Finally, display the children’s alphabet art around the classroom!
Working Together

Even though Rosie sees herself as a star, she realizes that she needs to share her story with her friends. When you work together, every role is equally important. When you are polite and respect each other, wonderful things can happen. Guide children through the following activity, and stress politeness, sharing, and teamwork!

Cooperation Collage

Materials Needed:
Four sheets of construction paper, each with a different color
One sheet of plain white or black paper
Glue bottle or glue stick

Instructions

• Put children into “teams of four or five.”
• Ask one student from each team to collect the art materials listed above.
• Ask each team to choose a “team leader.” Tell children that the other team members are the “doers.”
• Tell children that they will create a collage without talking. The team leader is the lead artist. The leader gets the glue and the sheet of plain paper. The “doers” each get a different colored sheet of construction paper.
• Each doer must give torn pieces of their single color of construction paper to the leader. Group members try to guess what the leader is creating. They will each tear a piece of their construction paper and offer it to the leader. The leader may only choose one piece at a time. Once the piece is being glued, the doers discard their unused pieces and tear new ones.
• As the leader glues the colored pieces to the collage, the team must be sure to leave no “blank” spaces on the plain paper, and they must use all four colors of construction paper in their creation.
• After the collage is completed, the team should celebrate how well they worked together!

Discussion Questions

1. Was this exercise easy? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think it was important for Rosie and her friends to listen to one another and work together? Who did you think was the leader? Who were the doers? Explain your answer.
Making Music: An Experiment

In *Really Rosie*, the characters used their imagination to make music. Have you ever found music in everyday things? Have you ever tapped your pencil on your desk or a notebook and pretended it was a drum? Homemade instruments can be a great way to learn about rhythm and pitch. Pitch is how high or low something sounds to your ear. Do you think more volume (amount of space occupied by a substance) of water in a glass will produce a high or low pitched sound when tapped with a spoon? Try this experiment and see for yourself. Don’t forget to use the scientific process*. Write down your ideas and record your results.

Sound experiment

Materials needed: eight water glasses, pitcher of water, measuring cup, spoon

- First, line up eight water glasses next to each other on a flat surface.
- Next, pour water into each of the glasses. Make certain that you measure a different amount in each glass, so that all eight glasses have a different volume of water, as follows:

  1st glass is 1/4 cup water
  2nd glass is 1/4 cup water + 1/8 cup water
  3rd glass is 1/4 cup water + 2/8 cup water
  4th glass is 1/4 cup water + 3/8 cup water
  5th glass is 1/4 cup water + 4/8 cup water
  6th glass is 1/4 cup water + 5/8 cup water
  7th glass is 1/4 cup water + 6/8 cup water
  8th glass is 1/4 cup water + 7/8 cup water

- Finally, before you tap each glass gently with a spoon, make a prediction. What kind of sound do you think a full glass of water will make? What kind of sound will a nearly empty glass of water make? Which pitch will sound higher? Why do you think so?

*The Scientific Process

A. **Question**—What is your experiment about? What do you want to prove?
B. **Hypothesis**—What do you predict will happen in your experiment?
C. **Procedure**—What steps do you need to take in your experiment?
D. **Results**—What happened during your experiment?
E. **Conclusion**—What did you learn about your topic, and how did you answer your initial question?
What You Thought

After seeing a play, we are often filled with emotional reactions based on what we’ve experienced. What thoughts and feelings did you have after seeing Really Rosie? Write (or draw) a critique of the show, and share your thoughts with the rest of the class.

What is a critique?
A critique is an essay or article that tells of a person’s opinion of an artist’s work (such as a painting, play, book, or music).

What is a critic?
A critic is the person who expresses their opinion of an artist, or the author of the critique. Critics are relied upon to be honest and fair about their thoughts, feelings, likes and dislikes.

What did you think?
What is your honest opinion of Really Rosie? What parts of the show did you like or dislike and why? Don’t forget to consider all of the parts of the show (ex: lighting, costuming, music, acting, sets, etc.) Would you tell someone else that they should see this play? Why or why not?

The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival would like to thank the following sponsors:

Further Reading
If you liked Really Rosie, look for these other books by Maurice Sendak in the library, your local bookstore, or online bookseller*:

Where the Wild Things Are
Nutshell Library
In the Night Kitchen
Outside Over There
Very Far Away
Higglety Pigglety Pop! Or There Must Be More to Life

*don’t forget to ask for permission before using the internet