



Study Guide 2019 - 2020



Interstellar Cinderella

Music and Lyrics by Laurie Berkner | Book by Barbara Zinn Krieger | Based upon the book “Interstellar Cinderella” by Deborah Underwood | Published by Chronicle Books LLC© 2015 | Originally commissioned and premiered by New York City Children’s Theater

Florida Standards

Language Arts

LAFS.2.W.1: Text Types and Purposes
LAFS.2.RI.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.2.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
TH.K.C.1: Cognition and reflection

Theater and Visual Arts

TH.2.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts
TH.2.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential
VA.1.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential

G

Content appropriate for all audiences.

Children two years of age and younger may sit on laps. Older children must have a ticket.

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Interstellar Cinderella

An Introduction

Educators:

Thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to bring the joy of theatre arts to your classroom. We 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.

Please take a moment to explore our website at orlandoshakes.org/education for the following ways to add to your curriculum.

- “On your feet “ activities to energize students
- Shortened Shakespeare scripts that range from 60 – 120 minutes long that are perfect for school productions
- Study Guide Spotlights for quick reference to the standards addressed in each production

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.

Anne Hering
Director of Education

Brandon Yagel
Education Coordinator



Interstellar Cinderella

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.

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.



Stage Manager -
Stacey Renee
Norwood
Photo: Rob Jones

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.

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.



Sound Designer -
Britt Sanducky
Photo: Rob Jones



Costume Designer -
Denise Warner
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.



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

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.

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:

To enrich our community with engaging professional theater, inspiring educational experiences, and thought-provoking new plays.

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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, like, 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. 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.



Interstellar Cinderella

About the Authors

Barbara Zinn Krieger founded New York City Children’s Theater during her 22-year tenure as Executive Director and Founder of New York’s Tony Award-winning Vineyard Theatre. Barbara has been writing children’s operas and musicals for more than 20 years. With composer James Kurtz, she wrote *The Merry Muldoons* (Kupferberg Center at Queens College) and *Appelmando’s Dreams* (Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Kupferberg Center at Queens College). She’s collaborated with composer Charles Greenberg on *Little Kit* (Eugene O’Neill Theater Center), *Young Charles Dickens*, *The Butterfly*, *Jose Limon: The Making of an Artist*, and *Sky Boys: The Building of the Empire State Building* (New York City Children’s Theater).

Courtesy of nycchildrenstheater.org



Laurie Berkner has been a professional musician since 1992, but her success as a children’s recording artist was a surprise to her. “It was so unexpected,” says Laurie. “I’d been performing in rock bands and struggling to write original music. Writing music for kids has not been a struggle at all. The more I started working on material for children, the more I realized that it opened up creativity in me that I never knew I had.”

Courtesy of laurieberkner.com



Deborah Underwood is the author of numerous fiction books for children, including *A Balloon for Isabel*, *Pirate Mom*, *Part-Time Princess*, and the New York Times bestsellers *Here Comes the Easter Cat*, *The Quiet Book*, and *The Loud Book*. She has written more than 25 nonfiction books for children, and her work has appeared in *National Geographic Kids*, *Ladybug*, *Spider*, and *Highlights for Children*. She lives in Northern California with her cat, Bella.

Courtesy of penguinrandomhouse.com



Interstellar Cinderella

About the Play

Characters

Cinderella

Mergatroyd

Stepsisters Girda & Hulla

Prince Astral

Stepmother

Fairy God-Bots 1 & 2



Synopsis

Cinderella lives in the Milky Way Galaxy Alliance in the year 3019. **Cinderella inherited her late father's knack for astrophysics and space travel and has ambitions of one day becoming a famous rocket inventor.** Cinderella overhears her stepmother's conversation with her stepsisters and finds out about the Interstellar Space Parade, where inventors from all over the world gather to compete for the award of Most Original Rocket. Convinced that Cinderella will embarrass the family at the parade, Stepmother steals Cinderella's tools to keep her from going to the parade. With the help of her two-headed Fairy God-Bot, Cinderella retrieves her tools and manages to get to the Interstellar Space Parade.

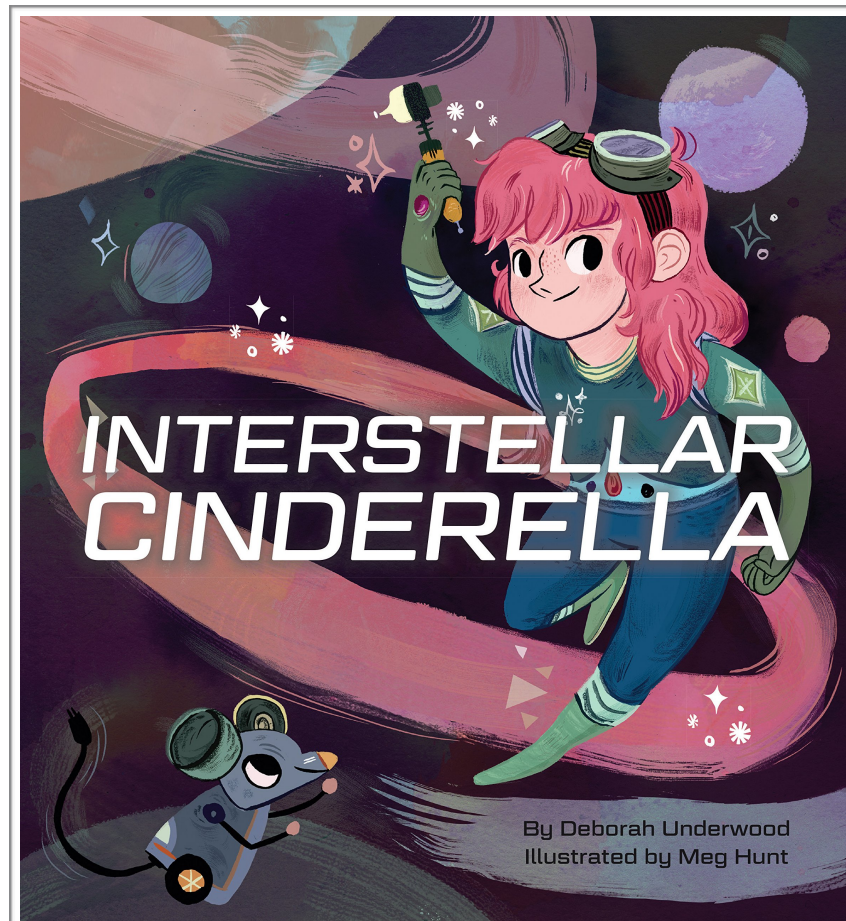
There, she meets Prince Astral and fixes his broken engine with a simple socket wrench. Cinderella wins the award for Most Original Engine. To avoid being caught by her stepmother and stepsisters, Cinderella abruptly leaves the parade, leaving behind her socket wrench. Prince Astral initiates a galaxy wide search for Cinderella by challenging anyone to fix his rocket with a socket wrench. Prince Astral finds Cinderella and proposes to her but Cinderella states that getting married is not part of her plan right now and instead offers to be the Prince's Chief Rocket Engineer. **Cinderella leaves to go to the palace to fulfill her dream of becoming a famous rocket inventor.**

Interstellar Cinderella

Activities

Story Comparison

1. Read the *Interstellar Cinderella* story aloud in class.
2. Discuss the book together.
3. Have students compare the story of *Interstellar Cinderella* to that of the play.
4. What is different/similar about the book and the play?
5. Have the students write/draw out their dreams and passions in short paragraphs or pictures.
6. Have the students present their dreams and passions to the rest of the class.



Interstellar Cinderella

Activities

Discussion Questions

Asking questions that lead students 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....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 Cinderella struggling with?
- How did she handle that struggle?

ANALYZING/CONNECTING questions:

- Why do Cinderella's Stepsisters treat Cinderella so poorly?
- Why did Cinderella decide not to marry the prince at the end of the play?

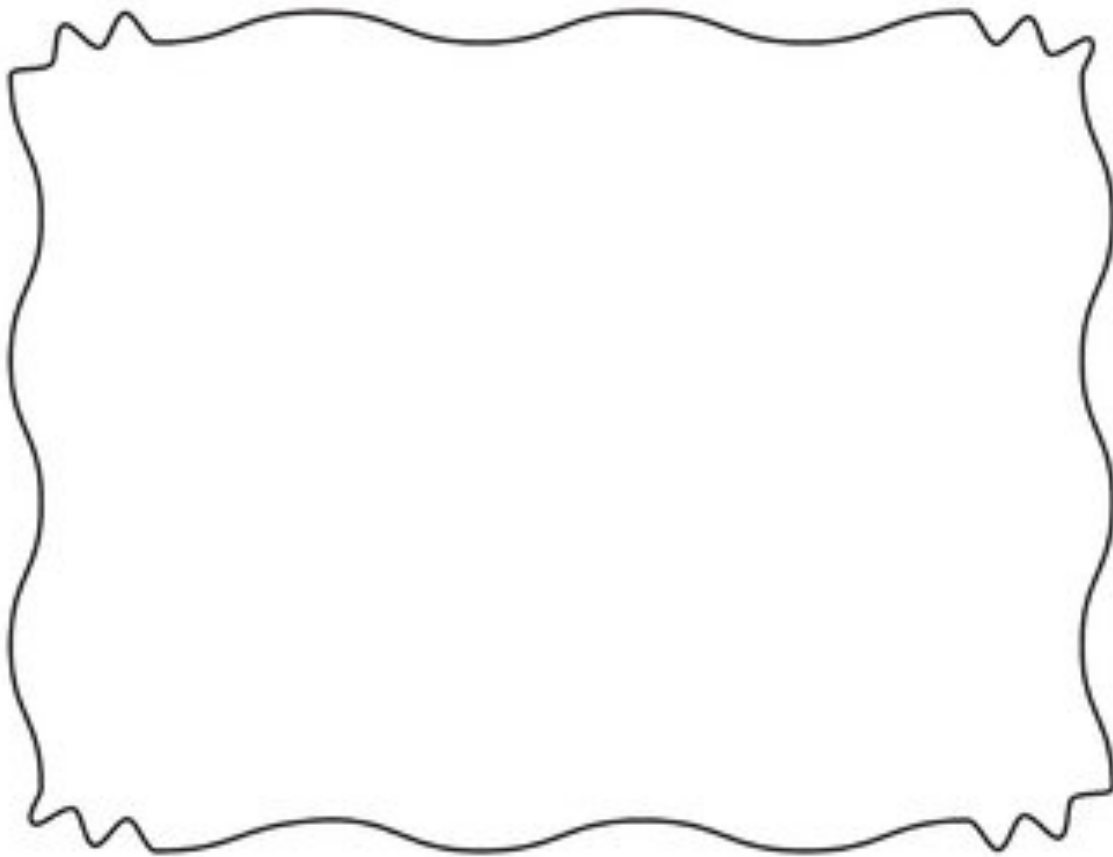
Interstellar Cinderella

Activities

Design your invention!

In *Interstellar Cinderella*, Cinderella wants to invent her own rocket engine. What do you want to invent?

1. Design your invention.
2. What would your invention do. Draw it out.
3. Share drawings with the class. What makes your invention special? How is it different from your peers?



Interstellar Cinderella

Activities

Friendly Letter Writing

We love to hear from you at Orlando Shakes! So write us a letter to let us know what you thought! Introduce your topic, state your opinion, supply a reason for your opinion and close the letter. Follow to format below to include a heading, salutation, body, closing, and signature. Format an envelope according to the picture and send it our way. Teacher and parent comments are also appreciated! Thank you!

From:

Print Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____, State _____, Zip _____



Dear Orlando Shakespeare Theater,

Sincerely,

Sign Name _____

Print Name _____

Print Name _____	
Street Address _____	
City _____, State _____, Zip _____	
Orlando Shakespeare Theater ATTN: Education Department 812 East Rollins Street Orlando, FL 32803	