

# Study Guide 2023-2024

## *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*



**Book and Lyrics by Robert Kauzlaric**

**Music by Paul Gilvary and William Rush**

**Adapted from the book by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith**

## Florida Standards

### Language Arts

LAFS.4.W.1: Text Types and Purposes

LAFS.4.RI.1: Key Ideas and Details

LAFS.4.RL.3: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

LAFS.3.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details

### Theater and Visual Arts

TH.2.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts

TH.4.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential.

VA.4.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.

# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

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# ***The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs***

## ***An Introduction***

### **Educators:**

**Welcome Home! Orlando Shakespeare Theater is thrilled to be back to full educational offerings at the Lowndes Shakespeare Center and in your school! We can't wait to share the magic of live theater with you and your students once again.**

**With a Children's Series of older and newer classic stories and a Signature Series with recent hits, traditional favorites and of course Shakespeare, there is something for everyone.**

**This Study Guide will assist you in preparing for your Field Trip, as well as give you follow up activities and lessons to continue exploring themes when back in your classroom.**

**We look forward to working with you this year and learning how we can serve you and your students. Thank you for your tremendous work in nurturing our audiences of tomorrow.**

**Anne Hering  
Director of Education**

**Jennifer Paxton  
Education Coordinator**



# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## 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.

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.

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.

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.



# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## 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.



# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## About the Play

### **The Author - Jon Scieszka**

Jon Scieszka was born in Flint, Michigan on September 8, 1954. He is the second-oldest, and nicest, of six Scieszka boys. No girls. His mother, Shirley, worked as a registered nurse. His dad, Louis, was an elementary school principal at Freeman Elementary. His dad's parents, Michael and Anna, came to America from Poland. "Scieszka" is a word in Polish. It means "path." Jon went to high school at Culver Military Academy. He had some spectacular teachers there, and became Lieutenant Scieszka. Jon thought about being a doctor but studied both Science and English at Albion College in Albion, Michigan.



He graduated in 1976, lived in Detroit, and then moved to Brooklyn, NY to write. He earned his MFA in Fiction from Columbia University in New York in 1980, and then painted apartments. Not knowing what he was getting into, Jon applied for a teaching job at an elementary school called The Day School in New York City. He started as a 1st grade Assistant Teacher, graduated to teaching 2nd grade, taught 3rd and 4th grade Math, 5th grade History, and then some 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Teaching school, Jon re-discovered how smart kids are, and found the best audience for the weird and funny stories he had always liked to read and write. He took a year off from teaching to write stories for kids. He sent these stories around to many publishers, and was rejected by all of them. But he kept painting apartments and writing stories.

Jon's books have won a many awards, and sold over 11 million copies around the world. Jon is now working on a giant pre-school publishing program called Trucktown. It's a world where all of the characters are trucks. And all of the trucks act like real preschoolers—loud and crazy and wild and funny. Jon still lives in Brooklyn with his wife Jeri. They have two children: a daughter Casey, and son Jake. Taken from Jon Scieszka's website: <http://www.jsworldwide.com>

# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## About the Play

### **The Illustrator - Lane Smith**



Lane Smith was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, but moved to Corona, California at a young age. He spent summers in Tulsa, however, and cites experiences there as inspirations for his work, saying that once you've seen a 100-foot cement buffalo on top of a donut-stand in the middle of nowhere, you're never the same."

Smith is most noted for his work on children's books. Smith has illustrated works by Florence Parry Heide, Judith Viorst, Bob Shea, Dr. Seuss, Jack Prelutsky, Eve Merriam, Roald Dahl and George Saunders. He has authored and illustrated his own books as well, most notably *It's a Book* in 2010 which was a New York Times bestseller for over six months and has been translated into over twenty languages, *Madam President*

in 2008, and *John, Paul, George, and Ben* in 2006. In 2012, he was awarded the Caldecott honor for his book *Grandpa Green*.

He is also known for his multiple collaborations with author Jon Scieszka. The two have teamed up on books such as *The Stinky Cheese Man*, which was a Caldecott Honor book and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. Smith has also illustrated a number of volumes of Scieszka's *The Time Warp Trio* novels. He is a four-time recipient of the New York Times Best Illustrated Book award. In 2012 he was named a Carle Honor Artist for lifelong innovation in the field of children's books. Taken from the website: [penguin.com](http://penguin.com)

### **The Playwright - Robert Kazlaric**

Robert has written more than a dozen theatrical adaptations which have been performed in nearly forty states around the U.S., as well as in Ireland, England, and Canada.

The New York Times called his adaptation of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*! "One of the best children's shows of the year." His version of H.G. Wells' *The Island of Dr. Moreau* received Five of Chicago's Non-Equity Jeff Awards, including New Adaptation and Best Production; his adaptation of Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere* received the Non-Equity Jeff Award for New Adaptation; and his version of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray* was nominated for New Adaptation. He was commissioned by the Illinois Shakespeare Festival in 2010 to produce a new adaptation of Dumas' *The Three Musketeers*, and two of his plays have been published by Playscripts, Inc. Taken from the website: [robertkazlaric.com](http://robertkazlaric.com)





# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## About the Play

### Plot Summary

The Big, Bad Wolf is on trail for eating two of the three little pigs, but he says he didn't mean to do it. The Wolf wants to set the record straight and tell the true story of what happened that day.

The play opens with the sassy reporter, Pinky Piglet explaining that she will be the lead news reporter on the current Trial of The Big Bad Wolf. This very same wolf is the one accused of murdering two of the three pigs, and will be prosecuted by Clara Darrow. In this case, The Big Bad Wolf chooses to defend himself, and claims his confession admitting to eating these said pigs was forced from him during interrogation. He also claims that he has evidence to prove that he in fact, is not a pig-eating murderer.

The Big Bad Wolf claims he did not set out to eat the three pig brothers. He simply ran out of sugar and happened to sneeze. He couldn't help it that the first two houses were poorly made. The third pig is not so easily caught, and the wolf ends up in jail.



The prosecutor calls Chicken Little to the stand, who testifies that in fact, the Wolf was pounding on the door and yelling for the Little Pig to let him in. And when he did not, he blew the whole house down. The Wolf cross-examines Chicken Little, and questions him about his tendency to make up untruthful stories citing the "Sky is Falling" incident. Darrow then questions Mr. Wolf himself, about why he ate the Little Pig who lived in the straw house. Mr. Wolf claims, that the pig was already dead, and he did not want to waste a perfectly good dinner, and so he ate him up. He then traveled to the next Pig neighbor, who happened to be the brother of the first pig. He explains, that he rang the doorbell, and asked if any one was home, only to hear this pig tell him to go away. Just then, he sneezed, and the house made of sticks fell in, killing the pig instantly. Mr. Wolf claims that this death too was totally accidental.



Clara Darrow plays a recording of a 911 call made by Mother Hubbard, detailing how Mr. Wolf viciously blew down the house of sticks and ate that pig as well. Darrow then brings the third of the Little Pigs to the witness stand. This pig, homeowner of the brick house, tells how Mr. Wolf refused to leave even after Little Pig had told him to go away. Mr. Wolf claims that he was being teased and tormented by this little pig, and admits to getting very angry. Darrow brings up evidence that Mr. Wolf attempted to break into the third Little Pig's house. She shows a brick from his house with a Wolf tooth. At the end of this play, you the jury get to decide the fate of Mr. Wolf. Is he guilty or innocent?



# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## About the Play

### **The Characters**

Alexander T. Wolf - The Defendant  
Lillian Magill (aka Nancy) - The Intrepid Journalist  
The Honorable Prudence - The Presiding Judge  
Julia - The Prosecuting Attorney  
Maxwell - Witness for the Prosecution  
Billy Shears - Witness for the Prosecution  
Martha - Witness for the Prosecution  
Rocky - The Bailiff  
Townspigs



### **Musical Numbers**

1. Piggy World
2. Hogs Bless Piggsylvania
3. The Case for the Prosecution
4. Cheeseburgers Ain't Cute
5. The Pointy Pointy Maneuver of Blame-osity
6. Al's Side of the Story
7. Hurrah! Hooray!

# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## 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)

- How do you think the pigs felt when their houses were blown down? What emotions did they experience?
- The pigs and the wolf see things differently. Which point of view do you think is correct? Why?

#### **ANALYZING/CONNECTING questions:**

- Pretend you are the writer of the newspaper story about the wolf and three pigs. What questions would you ask the wolf?
- Which story do you like better, the classic The Three Little Pigs or this one? Why?
- What from the story makes you think that?

# *The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs*

## Activities

### Build A Story

Read students The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs, stopping to clearly show any pictures or illustrations to the students. When finished, ask the students to illustrate the plot/action as it occurred throughout the story. Have students volunteer to share their illustrations with the rest of the class.

#### **Somebody:**

Who is the main Character?

#### **Wanted:**

What did the character want?

#### **But**

What was the problem?

#### **So:**

How did the character try to solve the problem?

#### **Then:**

What was the resolution to the problem?



# The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs

## 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,**

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Sincerely,**

Sign Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

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