



Olympia Junior Programs presents
**THE LION THE WITCH AND THE
WARDROBE**

By TheatreWorksUSA New York, NY

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The Washington Center for the Performing Arts

A Study Guide for Teachers of Grades 4-6
To Prepare Students for a Positive Theater Experience
(EALR references included)

INTRODUCTION

C.S. Lewis was born on November 29, 1898 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He spent his early childhood in an atmosphere of learning and imagination. When his brother was sent away to school, Lewis began spending more and more time reading. He found that he especially enjoyed stories about how magical things happened to ordinary children. When he was 18, he began writing stories. Although he had no children of his own, Lewis never forgot what it was like to be a child. In 1939, with Britain at war and bombs being dropped on London, as many children as possible were sent to live in the country for safety. During this period, the first of several groups of children came to live in his Oxford home. As he got to know them, he was saddened to learn how little they read and how few imaginative stories they seemed to know. Lewis recognized a need to kindle young people's imaginations with the types of magical stories he treasured as a child. It was nine years later, in 1948, when he started writing *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*.

STORY SYNOPSIS

This enchanting **musical** is based on C.S. Lewis' adventure story about four children in London, England in 1941, during a time of war and firebombing. They accidentally enter the land of Narnia by climbing through a magic wardrobe. This strange and wondrous place is ruled by the cold-hearted White Witch, who makes the winter last year round. Although they seem unlikely saviors, the children fulfill an ancient prophecy by defeating the witch, thus restoring sunshine and peace to the spell-bound Narnia and returning the great Lion King Aslan to his throne.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

- Five actors play 13 characters, each actor playing at least two roles. This is called "doubling".
- All the actors collectively narrate the play, with one actor finishing the sentence of another.

BEFORE SEEING THE PLAY: (Geography 1.2, 3.3; Health 3.4; History 1, 2.2,3; Reading 2.1)

1. Discuss the vocabulary words and their definitions. (Reading 1.2; Communication 2.4)
2. Review the OJP Theater Etiquette Guide regarding student behavior. (Civics 2.2, 4.1)
3. The play is set during World War II. What countries fought in the war?
4. The four children are sent away from their London home; they are to stay with their Uncle Digory in the country to be safe from the bombing of London. How would you feel if you were sent away from your parents?
5. Can you locate London on the map? What do you know about that city?
6. What is a wardrobe? Do you have one in your home?
7. The four children enter the fairy land of Narnia where all manner of strange creatures live. What is a fairy tale?
8. How does it differ from another kind of story? A television story?
9. Tumnus the Faun is a mythical animal. What is a myth? Why do people make them up?
10. The Beavers that the children meet up with are cockneys. What kind of people are cockneys?
11. What is a witch? Can you name other fairy tales that have witches as characters?
12. The story of the play centers around a prophecy that involves the four children. What is a prophecy? Can anyone make one? Why are they important?
13. What is Turkish Delight? Is it something you've ever tasted?_(It is similar to Liberty Orchard's Aplets and Cotlets; recipe available on last page of this study guide.)

THE PERFORMANCE ITSELF (Arts 1.1, 2.1, 2.3, 3.2; Communications 1.1, 1.2)

AFTER SEEING THE PLAY: (Arts 1.5, 2.3, 3.2, 4.4; Reading 3.3; Writing 2.2)

1. How is seeing a live play different from watching a movie?
2. When one actor plays different characters, besides costumes what changes help make the character unique?
3. Have you read the book? If so, what differences did you notice between the book and the play? If not, does seeing the play make you interested in reading the book?
4. Were you able to understand the beavers? Can you imitate the way they talked?
5. There were witch, dwarf and faun characters in the play. Also mention was made of Centaurs, Nyads, Dryads, giants, unicorns, ghouls, vampires, demons, banshees, sprites, gorgons and a Bull with the head of a man. Make four lists with the following headings: mythological, fairytale, folklore and supernatural, then write the name of each type of creature under the appropriate category.
6. The TheatreWorksUSA study guide has many thoughtful discussion questions based on the story and can be found at:
http://www.theatreworksusa.org/uploads/studyguide/studyguide_588.pdf

7. Tell what you did or didn't like about the play, the characters, costumes, or set. Send letters or pictures to Olympia Junior Programs, P.O. Box 1371 Olympia, WA 98507-1371 (Writing 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 3.2; Communications 1.3; Arts 1.5, 2.3)

VOCABULARY

Nazis	fascist German National Socialist Party that came to power under Adolf Hitler in 1933, racist
firebombing	a bomb designed to start a fire
bittersweet	smelling or tasting both bitter and sweet at the same time; feeling happy and sad at the same time
sly	cleverly skillful and cunning, lacking honesty or straightforwardness
double dealing	deliberately deceitful especially when involving the betrayal of a partner or associate.
aimless	without purpose
Lad	a boy or young man
air raids	an attack by aircraft on something on the ground, especially a nonmilitary target
wardrobe	a large closet or freestanding cupboard with rail or shelves for clothes and shoes
icebox	refrigerator, an insulated container filled with ice and use to keep food cool
quarreling	argument between people, an angry dispute, find fault, disagree, complain
logical	clear rational thought, sensible reasoning based on facts, to think rationally
unusual	remarkable, out of the ordinary, not common or familiar
"pipe down"	stop talking, or become quieter, less noisy
"fancy that"	expressing surprise
Faun	a rural god in Roman mythology, often depicted as a creature with body of a man and the legs and horns of a goat
tantalizing	enticing, inviting causing feelings of pleasure or anticipation, tempting
confection	a sweet food of combined ingredients such as fruits nuts and sugar
genuflection	to kneel with the right knee to the floor and rise again, show excessive respect
Turkish Delight	a soft jelly candy made with flavored gelatin, cut into cubes and dusted with powdered sugar
mortals	relating to human beings, certain to die eventually
morsels	a small piece of something, especially of food, something particularly appealing
temperament	a persons nature, character or personality, quality of mind, excessive moodiness
innocent	not guilty of a crime, within the law, harmless in intention, uncorrupted, naive
"I'll thrash you"	to beat a person or animal violently, to defeat a person or team
bickering	argue in a bad-tempered way, internal strife, backbiting, power struggle

lass	a girl or young woman, a girl friend or sweetheart
bloke	same as "man"
dire	very bad, severe, serious or desperate circumstances
jawing	to talk in a boring or abusive way, to scold or reprove repeatedly
clutches	hold something tightly, to grab hold of something, a tight grip on something
blundered	carelessly make a serious or embarrassing mistake, move or act clumsily
run aground	run up on ground, such a ship accidentally getting beached or stuck on rocks
Hag appearance	a witch, especially on elderly one, a term to insult a woman's appearance
frizzling	forming into small tight curls
anew	again, once more, in a new way or form
bash	celebration or party
ancient Prophecy	very old , of or from the distant past divine prediction of a future occurrence
foretold	predicted what was to happen
unnerved	lose of nerve, courage resolve or self-confidence, feel nervous
nectar	plant liquid, pulpy juice, drink of gods in Greek and Roman mythology
restore	give something back, to return to pervious condition, energize somebody
wormwood	a plant the yields a bitter extract, something that causes bitter feelings
gall	audacity, impudent boldness, a feeling of bitterness or resentment, anger
hellions	a troublesome or rowdy person, especially a child
fetches	apparition of living person, ghost
frights	somebody or something that looks grotesque, ludicrous, extremely unattractive
traitor	betrayor, someone who is disloyal or treacherous, conspirator
delve	dig for information, investigate or research thoroughly
flag of truce	a white flag flown to indicate surrender or a request of conference
legitimate	legal, well founded, conforming to acknowledged standards and rules
precaution	an action taken to protect from or prevent possible harm, danger or trouble
destination	predetermined end of trip, a particular place arrived at purposely
supreme	above all others, greater than any other, highest in degree, ultimate
unyielding	stubborn, not giving in to persuasion, pressure or force, inflexible, firm
vengeance	punishment inflicted in return for a wrong, revenge
triumph	success, winning, being victorious, a great achievement
sacrifice	giving up something of value or importance for something greater, an offering

charity	impartial love of other people, tolerant attitude, help given for people in need
eternally	God, existing through all time, unchanged by time, seeming to go on forever
grieved	to feel great sadness, sorrow
ferocious	very fierce or savage, extreme, very intense
“chin up”	term to cheer someone, take courage, be brave
rejoice	to feel or show great happiness about something, celebrate
trance	a dazed, stunned, hypnotic or rapturous state and unaware of environment
mortally wounded	fatally injured, so badly that death follows

RECIPE From “A Family Guide to the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” by Christin Ditchfield; Crossway books, 7/2005

Edmund’s Turkish Delight

Ingredients:

- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1¼ cups water
- 1 lemon peel (cut into strips: the juice squeezed and strained)
- 1 orange peel (cut into strips; the juice squeezed and strained)
- 4 tbsp unflavored powdered gelatin
- 2 tbsp powdered sugar
- 1 tbsp cornstarch

Directions:

1. Dissolve the sugar in the water in a saucepan on medium heat.
2. Add the strips of lemon and orange peel and the juices. Bring to a boil and simmer for fifteen minutes
3. Soak the gelatin in the mixture for 5-10 minutes; strain into a shallow pan or platter. Let it set for 24 hours.
4. Cut the candy into one-inch squares
5. Sift the cornstarch and powdered sugar together in a shallow dish; roll the pieces of candy into the mixture and serve. (if you want to save some for later, store the leftover pieces in layers separated by wax paper, covered with an extra sprinkling of the cornstarch and powdered sugar mixture.)

This OJP study guide contains portions of TheatreWorksUSA’s 3 page “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” study guide found at:

http://www.theatreworksusa.org/uploads/studyguide/studyguide_588.pdf

The OJP Theater Etiquette Guide is available on this web-site.