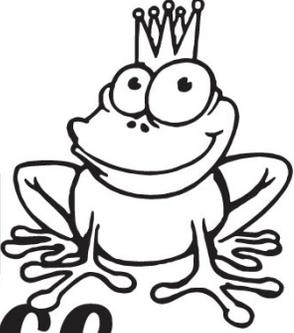


Storybook Musical Theatre

Parent/Teacher Study Guide
for 

The Frog Prince



A Musical for Children Based
on the Grimm Brothers' tale

Book By

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Storybook Musical Theatre

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Storybook Musical Theatre is a non-profit, professional children's theatre company operating under a Theatre for Young Audiences Contract with Actors' Equity Association, the union for professional actors and stage managers in the U.S.A.



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Act I

As the play begins, the King and Princess Sarah are playing catch in the castle garden by a pond. The golden ball they are throwing was a gift from a Prince Fredrick. The King remembers a letter was sent with the ball and he gives it to the Princess. The King leaves, the Princess reads the letter then throws it into the pond. Cookie, the Chef, enters with a pail of garbage and dumps it into the pond and then leaves to get the Princess something to eat. Henri enters looking for someone and discovers the Princess. She dismisses him. The Princess begins a rhyme but is interrupted by the frog who is carrying a piece of garbage from the pond. The Princess calls him a toad. When he tries to correct her, she ignores him. He hops back into the pond. When the Princess discovers the letter on the ground, she throws it into the pond. As she walks away the letter is thrown back out. Cookie enters with food for the Princess. When the Princess asks for a drink, Cookie gets some water for her from the pond. The Princess doesn't like how it tastes. Cookie sees the letter on the ground and gives it to the Princess. She again throws it into the pond only to have it immediately returned. Cookie leaves. The Princess tries to get the Frog to come back out of the pond. When the Frog appears with the letter, she asks why he keeps throwing it back out of the pond. He persuades her to keep the letter. They argue about why the pond is so dirty. The frog gives up and goes back into the pond, while the Princess plays with her golden ball. Soon the ball falls into the pond and she can't get it out. She calls for the Frog to help her. He agrees to retrieve the ball if she will agree to three things: she must be his friend, help clean up the pond and dine with him in the garden. She agrees to the conditions. When he reappears with the ball she takes it and leaves. The Frog's feelings are hurt. Cookie enters looking for the frog. Henri also enters with a message for the Frog. When he finds out that Cookie is intending to make frog's legs, Henri persuades her to let the Frog go. After Cookie witnesses the Frog and Henri singing together, she decides to have a picnic in the garden so the Royal Family may meet the Frog. Act One ends with Henri and the Frog waiting for the picnic to begin.

Act II

As the Act begins, Cookie enters and calls for Henri and the Frog. They prepare for the royal picnic. Henri is asked to get roses from the garden. As he leaves the King and Princess Sarah enter and the Frog goes back into the pond. The Princess wants to leave, but the King assures her this is where the picnic is supposed to be. Cookie tells them about the surprise. She calls for

the Frog. The Frog begins to talk and sing to the delight of the King and the dismay of the Princess. When he finishes he tells the King about the agreement he had made with the Princess. The King invites the Frog to join them. The King then makes the Princess keep her promises. When the Frog needs help eating, the Princess feeds him. They then play a game of leap frog. Henri enters with flowers and tells the Princess that the Frog asked for them just for her. The Princess is sorry for being mean and offers the Frog a kiss. The Frog goes back into the pond. The Princess is disappointed with his absence and goes to the pond to call him. When she says, "Please" Prince Fredrick appears out of the pond with a some Lilies. The Princess realizes that the Prince was the Frog. The Prince tells the story of the spell that was cast upon him. The Princess realizes her selfishness and all agree to clean up the pond and garden for a Royal Wedding, The End.

FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND COUNSELORS

The following common core aligned* activity ideas and questions may be beneficial to share with your student(s) before and after the play.

BEFORE THE PLAY:

1. Read one of the versions of the Grimm Brothers' tale. Talk with your student(s) about the events in the story (RL 2.1). How do the characters respond to the events? What do you think they are feeling (RL 2.3, RL 2.6)? Are there differences among in the versions (RL 2.9)?
2. Examine the illustrations from the versions your child(ren) has/have read. What information is gained from these illustrations? How do the illustrations help one to understand the characters, setting, and/or plot? (RL 2.7)
3. Share the synopsis of the play with your student(s). How does that compare/contrast with the versions you've read? (RL 2.9)
4. The Princess ignores the Frog because of the way he looks. Things and people are all different in some ways. Should we judge things and people by the way they look? (SL 2.2) Write a paragraph sharing your opinion and use linking words (because, also) to support your reasons (W 2.1).
5. Present the elements of a fairy tale to the students(s) – kind character(s), evil character(s), magic, royalty, life-changing event, a happily ever after, a lesson. Cite specific examples from *The Frog Prince* text(s) you've read. (RL 2.1, RL 2.2, RL 2.7)

6. Talk to your child(ren) about attending a live performance and how it differs from watching TV at home. Discuss what it means when there are many people who want to see and hear the action. How should good audience members behave? (SL 2.2) Tell your student(s) that they will have the opportunity to meet the actors after the play!

AFTER THE PLAY:

1. Complete a story map listing the characters, setting, and events from the beginning, middle, and end of the play. (RL 2.1, 2.5)
2. Have your student(s) write a descriptive paragraph about their favorite part of the play (W 2.3). Children can add their own pictures, too. Use the letter-writing template available on www.storybookmusical.org to have students write a letter to their favorite character. **Send the drawings and letters to us!**
3. In the play, the Princess promises to do three things for the Frog if he returns her ball. Instead, she leaves after her ball is retrieved. Have you always kept your promises? Discuss the importance of honesty and keeping one's word. Is honesty important with friends, family, at school, with strangers (SL 2.2)?
4. Pose the question – Would you kiss a frog if you knew that the frog would become a prince or princess? Support your reasons by responding in complete sentences (SL 2.6).
5. The Frog says the pond is dirty because of all the garbage that people throw into it. Is the Frog right? Do you always dispose of all your trash properly? What can we do to keep Earth and its water clean? (RI 2.8)
6. What lesson(s) are learned from the play's version of *The Frog Prince*? Is it different from the lesson(s) learned in other versions of the story? What can versions of the same story teach us (RL 2.2, RL 2.9)
8. Read Jon Scieszka's book, *The Frog Prince Continued*. Discuss the possibility of extending or writing a new chapter onto a known story. Allow children to work in small groups to create and act out their own alternate ending of *The Frog Prince Continues* (SL 2.1, SL 2.2, SL 2.4, W 2.3).

Other readings to extend the play's themes:

Beauty and the Beast *The New Bear at School* *Don't Laugh at Me*



Princess Sarah's Word Search

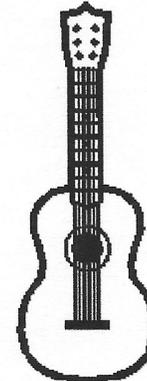
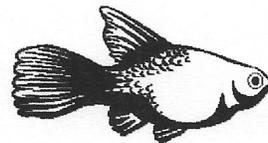
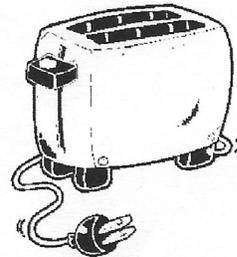
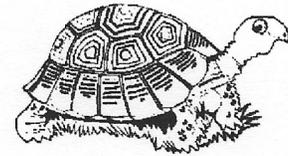
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 F R I E N D X S N N B R
 K I N G V P V U C O A O
 Y N I L D W J I E O L G
 C O O K Y D P X J T L I

Find these hidden words:

- | | |
|----------|--------|
| BALL | COOK |
| FRIEND | FROG |
| GARDEN | GOLDEN |
| KING | LETTER |
| LILLIES | PICNIC |
| POLLUTE | POND |
| PRINCESS | WATER |

A Clean Pond For the Frog

Put an X on all the things that do not belong in the pond's clean water.



The Frog Prince's Hidden Message

Unscramble each word. Copy the numbered letter into the box below with the same number to read the frog's message. Hint: the words are things you eat or drink at a picnic.

ex. BNU

B	U	N
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20 12

TOH DGO

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6 5 9 10

CHPSI

--	--	--	--	--

14 26 4

SOAD

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3 13

CEDI TAE

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2 27 19 28

WERTA

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16 11 22 8

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24 7

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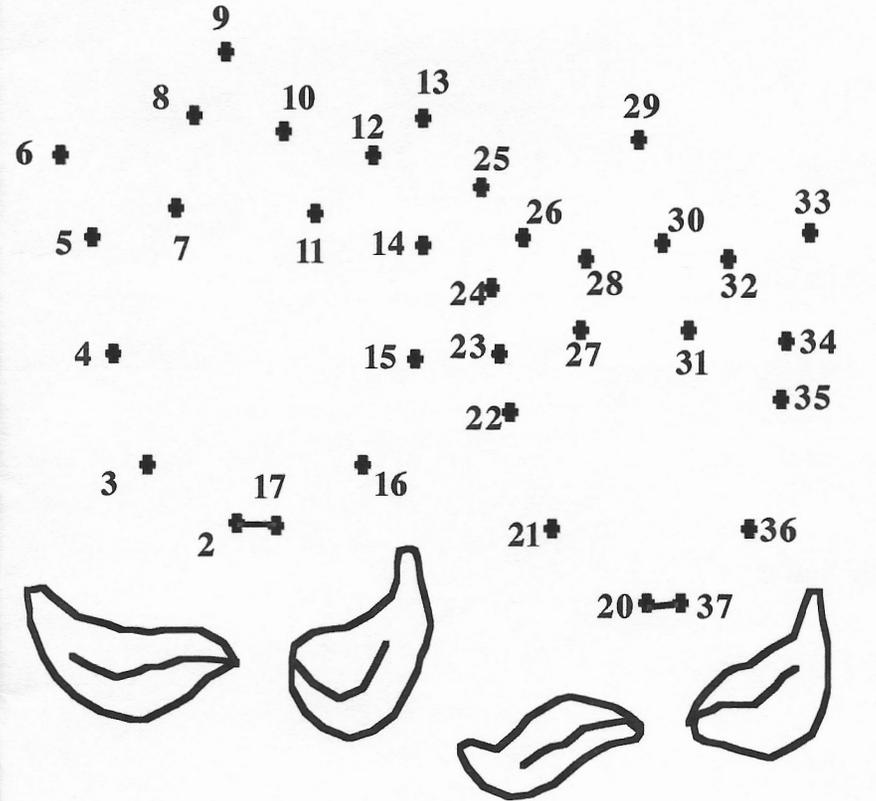
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25 8 26 12 27 28

Answers: hot dog chips soda iced tea water cookies pie
cake Message: Kiss the frog and he will turn into a
prince

The Garden Dot to Dot



1 18 19 38

Connect the dots to see
what the Frog wants to see
growing in the King's garden.