

Pinocchio Synopsis

Act I

As the play begins, Geppetto is working in his toy shop on a new puppet. As he works the puppet comes to life. At first Geppetto doesn't believe what he is seeing. The puppet tries to walk, but collapses on the floor. Geppetto names the puppet, Pinocchio, and begins to teach it how to walk. The blue fairy arrives and grants Geppetto's wish to have a son of his own. She tells him that when Pinocchio proves he is helpful and honest, he will become a real boy. Geppetto decides to send Pinocchio to school like the rest of the boys. As Geppetto is leaving, he accidentally drops his money purse that Pinocchio curiously picks up. As Pinocchio heads for school, he meets Fortunato Fox and Katrina T. Cat, who sees the purse and decides to take advantage of the wooden boy. They tell Pinocchio that going to school isn't cool and convince him to bury his purse so a tree of gold will grow in its place. As the Fox tells Pinocchio about the fun he can have at the carnival, the Cat steals the money. The Fox and Cat then take Pinocchio to Petrisi, the carnival owner. They convince Pinocchio that he will be the star of the carnival, and then sell him to Petrisi and leave. An unhappy Pinocchio eventually escapes from the carnival and wanders to the Field of Dreams, where he had buried the purse. He decides to sleep there until morning so he can take the gold home to Geppetto. When he awakens and realizes there is no tree of gold, he is very upset. Geppetto finds him and asks what had happened. Pinocchio makes up a story and his nose starts to grow. The Blue Fairy tells him that as long as he lies, his nose will grow longer, but when he tells the truth, his nose will return to normal size. The Blue Fairy tells him it is important to listen to Geppetto. Geppetto tells Pinocchio that he needs to go to school and they leave together. The Fox, Cat and Candito enter and talk about how they have to find children, who never listen to their parents, and never help out at home, to bring to the Land of Sweet Things.

Act II

As the Act begins, the Cat and Fox are looking for lazy children for the Land of Sweet Things. They spot Pinocchio, but he tells them that he must go to school because he got into trouble listening to them the last time. But, they convince him that the Land of Sweet Things is the place for him and they all go to meet Candita. As the Fox and Candita work out a deal for Pinocchio, the Cat realizes that maybe Pinocchio should not be left there and tells him to leave while he can. Pinocchio says he will, but Candita tells him children never leave the Land of Sweet Things. They just turn into donkeys. Candita puts a rope around Pinocchio to lead him away, but Pinocchio outsmarts him and runs away. As he escapes, Pinocchio gets lost in the forest and realizes he was wrong in not listening to Geppetto. At that moment, the Blue Fairy enters and tells him that when

he didn't come home, Geppetto went looking for him. When he couldn't find him in the forest or in town, he rowed a boat out to sea. A giant whale swallowed him and now Geppetto is living in the belly of a whale. The Blue Fairy tells Pinocchio that it could be dangerous, but Pinocchio decides to rescue Geppetto. Soon Pinocchio finds Geppetto in the whale and tells him if they escape he will always listen to him, help out around the house, and be a good boy. They devise a plan to get out of the whale. The whale sneezes and Geppetto and Pinocchio escape and try to swim to shore. Pinocchio pulls Geppetto to the shore and they both collapse exhausted. Geppetto awakens to find Pinocchio unconscious. Geppetto is sad because he thinks Pinocchio has drowned trying to save his life. The Blue fairy appears and tells Geppetto that Pinocchio is only sleeping. Because Pinocchio has shown that he cares for others and learned from his mistakes, she grants Geppetto's wish and turns Pinocchio into a real boy, at last.

The End