

PRE-SHOW EDUCATION PACKET

Welcome to Theatre of Youth's 48th season and **GO, DOG. GO!**

This packet has been designed with an educator, parent and student in mind! We want to broaden our audience's experience and help you to prepare for future visits to The Historic Allendale theatre! To the right you will find a table of contents that will help you navigate through the packet. All of our activities have been assigned a title to help you connect this experience with the NYS Next Generation Standards. Those titles are COMPREHEND, CHALLENGE, COMMUNICATE, CREATE, COMMENT and CONNECT. We hope that this will help you lead a discussion or inspire you to create your own show and book based activities.

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Get Ready for Your Trip!

Students that attend performances with their school also have access to our playbill which includes a post-show educational guide. These activities will also be titled for educators to connect the classroom to the children's experience when they visit Theatre of Youth. Activities include vocabulary, an opportunity to be inspired artistically, or to engage in a conversation about a topic or a concern.

THE THEATRE:

The Allendale, one of Buffalo's first neighborhood theatres, was built in 1913 on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy of Nations. It originally included gold trimmed walls, leaded glass windows and a stunning domed ceiling with dozens of modern light bulbs. At first, the popular movie house specialized in silent films and photoplays of Broadway productions, with a custom-built symphonic organ for accompaniment. The years were not kind to The Allendale Theatre. Fortunately, the Allentown Association saved it from demolition and in 1986, Theatre of Youth entered into a partnership with the City of Buffalo to raise funds and renovate the theatre for its permanent home.

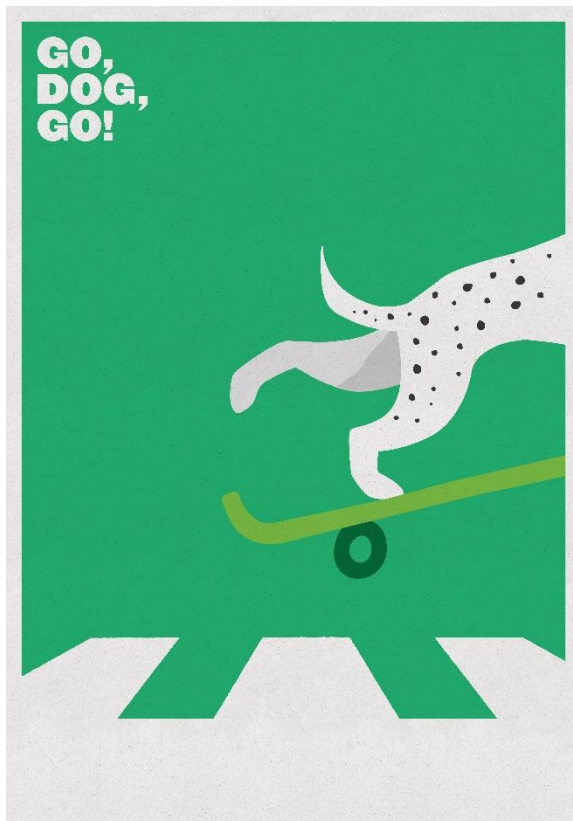


Preserving the original integrity during the "make-over", the theatre is equipped with a proscenium stage, fly and wing space, a sound and lighting system, dressing rooms, rehearsal space, and seating for 469 people.

THEATRE ETIQUETTE:

Theatre etiquette is a simple set of rules to help audience members fully enjoy the show, and for actors and the backstage crew to safely perform their work for you! Here are some important elements of theatre etiquette:

- Arrive on time and get to your seat without running.
- Visit the restroom before the performance begins.
- Respect the theatre. Don't put your feet on the seats and avoid bouncing up and down.
- Turn OFF and put away phones and other electronic devices.
- Please do not talk to your neighbor during the performance.
- No foods or drinks inside the theater.
- If you like something that you see, you may clap or laugh- it shows the actors that you like what they are doing!
- Open your eyes, your hearts and your minds and enjoy the show!



THE SHOW: GO, DOG. GO!

Recommended for school ages PK – 2nd

Adapted by ALLISON GREGORY and STEVEN DIETZ.
Adapted from the book "Go, Dog, Go!" by P.D. EASTMAN.

Published by Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House, Inc.

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Music composed by MICHAEL KOERNER.

"Do You Like My Hat?" Lyrics by MICHAEL KOERNER.

Produced by Special Arrangement by Plays for Young Audiences.

Get in gear with *GO, DOG., GO!* These playful pups delve into life with gusto, creating a visual spectacle for the audience to feast upon. They drive in cars. They sing and dance. They climb trees. They snorkel. They howl at the moon, and even ride a Ferris wheel!

Authors Gregory and Dietz play inside the classic story to explore the buckets of bliss, wonder, longing and discovery.

ACTIVITIES:

COMMUNICATE: These dogs are really on the move! You can find them:

Playing
Driving
Sailing
Dancing
Working
Swimming
Riding a Bicycle
Zooming Around
AND they even have a Party in a Tree!

Have you done any of these things? Share a memory with your family or friends about a time YOU were on the move!

CREATE: What colors can you picture here?

GO, DOG, GO!

theatre
of youth



CHALLENGE: Search for the BELOW words in the word search. Be sure to consider horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backwards!

Go, Dog. Go!



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



cars hat little big trees bird

party play sleep house water down

up night moon cool hot shade

sun slow fast

COMPREHEND and CONNECT: SOME THEATRE VOCABULARY & ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

There are many types of DOGS in the world.

Do you have a favorite breed of dog? Are they one of the many dogs in the book *GO, DOG, GO!*?

Make a poster with a picture of your favorite dog. Add fun facts about the breed and hang it on a wall!



In order to bring *GO, DOG, Go!* to the stage, a theatre company must have actors who play the roles of dogs from the book. It may be a bit chaotic to have real dogs running around on stage!

Since we cannot have dogs on stage, think about what it may take to bring these scenes to life. What mannerisms would actors have or how would they act to behave like a dog? What may help this?

Some theatrical methods would be the **COSTUMES** the actors wear, their **PROPS**, and the **SETS**. Using objects and clothing you have, what would you wear if you were to act out a scene from the book?

Would your dog be a color or spotted? Can you make dog-like ears? How would you walk or sit? Are you big or small? Would you wear a crazy hat or a necklace or bow-tie? What sound would you make?

SET: The set is the scenery and furniture that are in the play. They help to create the environment and makes things more believable!

PROPS: Props are the objects or items that an actor or a character might use in a play.

COSTUMES: Costumes are the clothes that actors wear on stage! Sometimes costumes are just regular people clothes and sometimes they are more complicated.

From the PAGE to STAGE!



Three dogs
at a party
on a boat
at night.

P.D. Eastman's book *GO, DOG, GO!* features many illustrations. The stage director and designers use both the book illustrations and the play script as inspiration to bring the book to life on stage for audiences to watch.

To the left is an illustration from the book and below is a picture from TOY's 2009's production of *GO, DOG, GO!*

(Actors pictured left to right: Anne Roadli, Michael Deeb and Kelly Cammerata)



CHALLENGE: What similarities and differences do you see when you compare these two images from the book and the stage play?

THE SCRIPT: Here is a sample of a scene from the GO, DOG, GO! script.

The script shows you WHO is speaking and WHAT they say!

In the book, *Go, Dog, Go!*, you meet dozens of dogs as you read. In the play however, the cast includes six people who play the dogs, including: MC Dog, Red Dog, Blue Dog, Yellow Dog, Green Dog and Hattie.

In the script sample below, you will notice two things (1) there are not a lot of lines spoken, (2) there are a lot of *italicized lines* with words which are all CAPITALIZED. These lines are **STAGE DIRECTIONS** or cues written by the playwright, which tell the actors WHAT actions they should be DOING on stage!

Scene: "PLAY"

RED DOG gestures for BLUE DOG to pass him the SALT SHAKER. She does. RED DOG "shakes" it – to make sure there's something inside.

It makes NO noise. He tosses the SHAKER back to BLUE DOG – who "shakes" it: and it RATTLES LIKE A MOROCCA.

Back to RED DOG – wo "shakes" it: NO SOUND. Back to BLUE DOG – and to ALL THE OTHER DOGS – who "shake" it and it RATTLES.

RED DOG starts off and the SHAKER is thrown to him again – he doesn't want it. He THROWS IT BACK – and it is THROWN BACK AT HIM – repeatedly – until: what is thrown is no longer the SHAKER, but instead, a BASEBALL!

When the BALL is thrown – it is caught by a MITT. A BAT and CATCHER'S MASK and CAPS appear.

The DOGS turn to the audience and say, happily ---



DOGS

Dogs at play.

MUSIC, UNDER, as- using the barrels and planks – a BASEBALL DIAMOND is set up, facing the AUDIENCE.

The PITCHER, CATCHER, BATTER, and FIELDER take their positions. As the PITCHER winds up to throw the first pitch –

M.C. DOG appears, carrying the bullhorn.

The DOGS STOP, busted. Afraid he'll make them stop.

M.C. DOG raises the bullhorn and says ---

M.C. DOG

Play, dogs, play!



And they do!

M.C. DOG assumes his position as the UMPIRE. ANOTHER DOG joins them in the OUTFIELD (THE AUDIENCE).

The game is played out – the balls (oversized, beach ball-like) are hit into the audience – retrieved by the fielders with the audience members help – adlibs are shouted out as needed – it all is a ton of fun – it's a GRAND OLD GAME.

At some point in the GAME, EVERYTHING STOPS when, again ---

M.C. DOG

Stop!

A CAR DRIVES ACROSS THE STAGE. The DOGS watch in silent amazement, and curiosity. Then ---

THEY return to the GAME. As the PITCHER now pitches to the FINAL BATTER, the wind-up goes into SLOW-MOTION. Lights and sound change to reflect this.

The BALL (now imagined) comes slowly towards the HITTER – who SMACKS IT (still in slow-motion) – and ALL THE DOGS watch it sail far into the IMAGINARY DISTANCE.

As the DOGS gather on one side of the stage, still watching the FLIGHT OF THE BALL --- M.C. DOG appears, opposite, holding a CAN OF BLUE PAINT.

As the BALL is about to “land” – M.C. DOG “tosses” the PAINT (blue glitter) ONTO THE STAGE, turning EVERYTHING TO BLUE. ALL WATER. And THE BALL “LANDS” with a “SPLASH”!

M.C. DOG turns to the audience and quietly says ---

M.C. DOG

Splash!

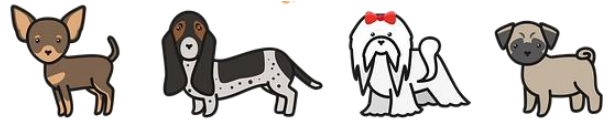
Now it is night.



DISCOVERING DIVERSITY PAGE:

"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences."

- Audre Lorde



Fun Fact!

There are over 360 different Dog Breeds! (Jones, Oliver.)

Dogs come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. People are like that too, with our own amazing colors and differences that make us unique and special

Did You Know?

"Before Europeans introduced the horse to North America, the dog was used as a method of transportation, pulling carts and carrying heavy loads. When Native Americans left their homes to hunt, they departed knowing that the dogs would protect their wives, mothers, children and even livestock. If someone was lost, the dog's keen sense of smell was used to search and find the missing person. The dog's bravery, courage and loyalty sealed a place for him in the annals of American tribal life."

(Veterinarians, PetPlace.)



Spread Love Not Hate!

It is said that dogs love their owners unconditionally. They see all the good in them. What if you looked for the good in others instead of the bad?

Challenge: Try giving someone a compliment today!



ARE YOU READY TO JOIN US?

We're bursting with excitement as we eagerly await your arrival at our theater for the upcoming performance. The stage is all set to whisk you away into a world filled with laughter, emotions, and captivating moments. The talented and hardworking members of our team have poured their hearts into creating a show that will form lasting and treasured memories. All we're missing is you, our audience!

LET'S GO TO THE THEATRE!



After reading through our pre-show education packet, I'm sure you're now familiar with what you may see on stage. Now what about your field trip?

Have you ever been to the theatre before? What's it like?

The day of your trip, you will get on a big school bus and drive to Allentown in

downtown Buffalo. Upon your arrival at TOY, you will quietly enter our beautiful building, visit the restrooms as needed, then find your seats. You'll see lots of chairs, big tall ceilings and a beautiful stage.



Following your instructors, you will sit with your group and start to get excited for the show, but remember to remain seated! This will allow everyone behind you to see properly.

Do you remember some examples of Theatre Etiquette?

REMINDERS:

- At the performance, you will receive a playbill (given to your teacher) that includes our post-show educational workbook to bring back to your class.
- After each on school time performance, the cast and crew will be available for a talk back. This will give you the opportunity to ask us any questions you may have about the show, the characters, the theatre, etc.

Start to brainstorm and see you soon!

WORKS CITED:

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