

BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S THEATRE

STUDY GUIDE

STAY AWAKE

By Mary Hall Surface



This classroom guide for BCT's production of "Stay Awake" is designed for Alabama students in Pre-K. Shows in BCT's PlaySpace focus on the fundamentals of early childhood development while providing an engaging and entertaining story. These shows are always interactive featuring music, movement, rhyme, repetition, and other building blocks of learning.



STAY AWAKE

By Mary Hall Surface

Directed by Laura Byland
with music by Sam J Tumminello

August 24th - September 29th, 2023

Recommended for ages 0 - 5 years old
Approximate Time: 40 minutes

SHOW THEMES

Creativity - Emotion - Wonder - Play

SHOW DESCRIPTION

Imagine an upside down lullaby: Mia and her Dog are getting ready for bed when her mobile comes to life! Using music, movement, and puppetry, young theatre makers will explore shapes, sounds, numbers, and more in this interactive production. "Stay Awake" invites children into a theatrical world where anything is possible.

During the performance, the audience will be invited into the action at several points.
We invite the adults to enjoy becoming a part of the action, too!

WHY THIS SHOW IS IMPORTANT FOR KIDS TODAY

All of BCT's Theatre for the Very Young (TVYA) shows are theatrical productions created to meet the developmental needs of children aged 0-5 years. In addition to a structured story and bold characters, TVYA adds elements of improvisation, play, and interactive storytelling centered around early childhood development.

As children - and adults too - we learn so much through play. In "Stay Awake" we find a world where play and imagination lead young children to find courage and a sense of wonder about their world.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

We invite you to use this guide to prepare for your trip to the theatre. On the following pages are activities that can be integrated into your current classroom curriculum before and after attending the performance at BCT to enrich the education experience for your students.

We would love to hear from you! Please have your students color the included sheet at the end of this packet and send it back to BCT! Classes who return their post-show responses will be entered into a drawing for free tickets to an upcoming performance.*

We'd like to thank the team at Atlas Performing Arts Center who created many of the activities included in this guide.

Questions? Email education@bct123.org

*One winner per semester. Up to 30 free tickets for their class to attend an upcoming performance at BCT.

THEATRE INFO



ACCESS

- Ramp to Main Entrance of Theatre
- Wheelchair lift to access Wee Folks & PlaySpace
- Wheelchair accessible seating in Mainstage, Wee Folks & PlaySpace

LOBBY

- Three single stall restrooms (Handicapable, with a changing station)
 - Lower & Upper Lobby have Men's and Women's restrooms, both have multiple stalls
 - Mothers Room for nursing needs
 - First Aid kits available
 - Two water fountains
- (One on the upper, lower and hallway of WeeFolks)*



BOX OFFICE

- Kulture City bags if needed by any sensory sensitive students
- Masks for both students and adults
- Printouts of our CARES Commitment
- First Aid kits
- Extra clothes if accidents occur

SENSORY ROOMS

- Two Sensory rooms.
 - One downstairs by our Wee Folks/ PlaySpace.
- (One in the back right corner of the Main Lobby)*



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- All of the above resources are available during any of our classes or workshops
- Resources include:
 - Classroom management tactics
 - Diverse learner tools and exercises
 - CASEL - Collaborative for Academic, Social & Emotional Learning
 - Framework guide
 - In Class tools and exercises
 - Examples of Social and Emotional Learning in Theatre Arts Standards

For specific Educational needs email education@bct123.org

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

(upon request)

- Water
- Clothes
- Diapers and Wipes



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OR CALL US AT
205.458.8181

CRAFT CONNECTION!

Developmental Learning areas: Craft and structure; Concept & expression; fine motor development; creative expression; tactile learning; scientific inquiry

What is a Mobile?

A mobile is a piece of art that balances and can move.

What does balance mean?

Ask your students "What does balance mean?" Have them try to balance on one foot as an example.

Easy Mobile

Make a mobile similar to the one you will see in "Stay Awake". What you'll need: 2 plastic straws, 5 six inch long strings, tape, cardstock, markers, stickers, etc.

Steps:

- Have your child/student create 3 shapes (about 3-5 inches each) out of cardstock and decorate them however they choose.
- Punch a hole in each shape and attach it to string.
- Attach two shapes by their string to each end of a straw.
- Next, tie one end of another string to the middle of the first straw. Then attach that string to the end of another straw.
- Take you final shape and attach it by its string to the other end of the second straw.
- Attach one more string to the middle of the second straw and hang.



Make a Fish

Use your imagination to make colorful fish, like the ones you saw in "Stay Awake". What you'll need: patterned cupcake liners, colorful cardstock, and googly eyes.

Steps:

- Cut triangles out of cardstock.
- Flatten the cupcake liners, and glue the triangles to them.
- Glue the googly eyes to the cupcake liners.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Developmental Learning areas: social-emotional development; language control; auditory learning; speech skills

If you could go to a world where anything was possible, where would you go?

What would you do?

Who would you bring with you?

What would happen while you're there?

Have you ever had to be brave?

When?

Were you scared at First?

What else did you feel?

Are you braver now?

MUSIC CONNECTION

Developmental Learning areas: concept & expression; language control & speech; creative expression; fine arts

Nursery Rhymes

Invite your child/students to sing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

Then ask your child/student to think of 3 different new descriptive words for the star and sing the song again with the new words.

Ex. "Twinkle Twinkle Great Big Star"



DRAMATIC PLAY

Developmental Learning areas: Gross motor development; sensory exploration; creative expression; auditory learning; scientific inquiry; symbolic thinking; social-emotional development; logic & reasoning

Imagination Journey

1 - Ask your child/students to begin by walking around the room.

2 - Next, have them keep moving and pretend they are doing the following activities:

- Walking on the moon
- Swimming through water
- Bouncing on clouds
- Driving a Car
- What else?

RECOMMENDED READING

Time for Bed, Fred! – Written and Illustrated by Yasmeen Ismail

You Are (Not) Small – Written by Anna Kang, Illustrated by Christopher Weyant

While the World is Sleeping – Written by Pamela Duncan Edwards, Illustrated by Daniel Kirk

I Am Not Sleepy and I Will Not Go to Bed – Written and Illustrated by Lauren Child

The Little Yellow Leaf – Written and Illustrated by Carin Berger

Little Polar Bear and the Brave Little Hare – Written and Illustrated by Hans de Beer

