



# WALNUT STREET THEATRE



## The Tale of Sasquatch

### *The Tale of Sasquatch*

BY Randall Paris Dark

TOURING OUTREACH COMPANY

STUDY GUIDE

### SHOW SYNOPSIS

Lets go on a journey to the Rockies where anything is possible! In *The Tale of Sasquatch* we meet Rupert, an adventurous young lad on a mission. Along the way, Rupert finds talking ducks, mystic storms, spunky sock puppets, and a Fairy Godmother who comes to his rescue! This terrifically fun original play shares the tale of the legendary Sasquatch while tying in themes of acceptance and friendship.

### ACTIVITY: WHO I AM?

#### DIRECTIONS

- For this activity you will need enough floor space for students to walk around.
- Before the activity begins, discuss emotions/feelings and make a list of all the different emotions.
- Ask students to spread out and begin walking around the room in a “neutral stance” or how they would normally walk.
- Once students settle into a rhythm, ask the class to freeze where they are.
- Once they are frozen, ask students to resume walking, this time personifying a particular emotion (I.e. walk like you are angry, sad, excited, etc.).
- Repeat this step, allowing students to walk through the space personifying a variety of emotions.



#### FOLLOW-UP

- After students have a chance to walk around with varying emotions, discuss how a feeling can change how you move.
- Prompt students with questions such as: “What was your favorite emotion walk? What was your least favorite?”



#### VARIATION FOR AFTER THE SHOW: ACT IT OUT!

- Ask the students to choose their favorite part of *The Tale of Sasquatch*.
- Place them in small groups based off of their scene choice.
- Have them each identify with a character from that scene and identify their emotion at that point in the story.
- Have the students retell the story in their own words and begin to act out their scene, using the emotion walk as a starting point.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### BEFORE THE SHOW

- Have you ever been to a live play before? How is it different from a movie?
- What do you think *The Tale of Sasquatch* will be about?
- What is a Sasquatch?
- What is an origin story? What are other origin stories you know?

### AFTER THE SHOW

- What do you think the main message/ moral of *The Tale of Sasquatch* is?
- What things helped to tell the story on stage?
- Who's your fairy godmother? In other words, who do you call upon when you need help?
- On Rupert's adventure, he travels through the Rockies. Where would you go on your own adventure?

## THEATRE 101

### Ever wondered how to put on a play?

There are many different elements that go into putting what's written on the page up on its feet. Please review the following terms with your students:

**PLAYWRIGHT** The playwright writes the script.

**DIRECTOR** The director is in charge of the production. They lead the actors, designers, and production crew to put the show on its feet.

**COSTUME** What the actors wear during the show.

**SCENERY** Everything on stage (*except props*) used to represent the place at which action is occurring.

**PROPS** All physical items on stage with the exception of the scenery. This includes lamps, chairs, pens, paper, books and more!

**LIGHTS** Stage lights illuminate the actors so that they look their best. The colors used, focus of the light, and amount of lighting can really set the mood and environment of a scene.

**SOUND** Everything that you hear during a performance that does not come from the actors.

**ACTORS** The actors are the people that perform the show onstage.

**AUDIENCE** The lucky people that get to watch the show. New to being an audience member? Follow these rules and you will be a natural!



### AUDIENCE RULES

- ◆ Unlike a movie, the actors are performing in front of you. They can see everything that you do. Talking, sleeping, poking your neighbor, or making noise during the performance distracts the actors and others around you.
- ◆ Don't bring electronics to the performance. The use of cell phones, cameras, computers, tablets, and video game devices are **not allowed**.
- ◆ Use your better judgment on when to laugh, clap, and/or cry during the performance. But don't forget to clap at the end of the show!
- ◆ Stay in your seat during the performance.
- ◆ Make sure you go to the bathroom before the show starts.



## CLASS ACTIVITY: THE MORAL OF THE STORY

At the end of "The Tale of Sasquatch", Rupert states that the moral of the story is for the audience to decide. Come up with your own story that shares a similar message as the one in this story.



### DIRECTIONS

- break the students into small groups and have them write a short story based on the message reflected in *The Tale of Sasquatch*.
- As a class, each group read their story aloud. Have the class discuss how the stories relate to *The Tale of Sasquatch*.

## ACTIVITY: NAME THAT FAIRYTALE

### DIRECTIONS

The pictures below are of classic fairytale characters. Draw a line to connect the characters that are in the same story. Use the pictures to answer the following questions:

- What is the name of the fairytale character?
- What story is the character from?
- What is the relationship between the two connecting characters?





## CLASS ACTIVITY: SOLVING A PROBLEM

*In "The Tale of Sasquatch", Rupert faces many situations where he needs some help. Luckily he has a fairy godmother to keep him out of trouble. Now it's your turn to be the fairy godmother!*

### STEP ONE

- Divide students into groups of 3-5.
- Assign each group one of the scenarios listed at the bottom of the page.
- Ask the following prompts:
  - What is the problem in this scenario?
  - Who is involved?
  - How did you respond in this situation? What is your solution?

### STEP TWO

- Instruct each group to create their own short scene acting out the scenario with the solution the group brainstormed.
- Give each group a few minutes to rehearse their scene and then present their stories to the class.

### STEP THREE

- Have students identify the root of the conflict.
  - What is the setting of this scene?
  - What problem is presented?
  - What did the characters do to resolve the problem?

### STEP FOUR: PAPPARAZZI!

- Lastly, have students recreate the solution of their story as if it were captured as a photograph in a tabloid.
- *Note: Without dialogue, physicality becomes greatly important. Pay close attention to how body language can tell a story.*

### CREATING YOUR PICTURE

#### Character Roles & Relationships

- How do these characters know each other? Creating a background for the characters can help your audience understand what is happening in the scene.

#### Position: How might you convey the story without props?

- Experiment with how you can represent an item without using any props. Try miming the action with the item.

### FOLLOW-UP

- Discuss the activity with your class
  - Was it easier or harder to turn this written scenario into a scene?
  - What did you learn from this activity?
  - What was difficult?
  - How might we apply what we learned in this activity to our own problem-solving?

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Critical Analysis

Group Collaboration

Leadership

Problem Solving

Concentration

Creative Expression

## SCENARIOS

- On Rupert and Mr. Stinky's trip home, they face a rapid river that they need to cross to continue on their journey. What should they do? (Mr. Stinky can be represented as a human)
- Rupert invites Owl over for lunch! Owl says that he is hungry for Kentucky fried mice but Rupert knows that he only has one left and he also wants Kentucky fried mice. What should Rupert do?
- Rupert goes to the playground with Mr. Stinky. While they are playing, Rupert sees a classmate from school who is swinging on the swing set by himself. What should Rupert do?
- Rupert's mom bought him a brand new toy dinosaur! While Rupert is playing with his new toy, his younger brother, Mike, asks if he can have a turn playing with Rupert's dinosaur. What should Rupert do?
- Rupert's class is on a fieldtrip to New York City! Some of his classmates want to ditch going to the museum and go explore the city on their own. What should Rupert and his friends do?

## ACTIVITY: SAY SOMETHING NICE



### DIRECTIONS

- Divide students into pairs.
- Have students take turns saying one thing positive that they really admire about their partner.
- **Encourage students to really focus on personality and behavior rather than physical traits** (i.e. “I really like that you are always so willing to share your lunch when I forget mine on the bus,” “I like that you are the only person who loves Justin Bieber as much as I do”, etc.)
- After a few rounds of compliments have students switch partners.
- Repeat this process, allowing students to hear from multiple classmates.

### VARIATIONS

- Instead, divide students into groups of 4-8 and have each group form a circle.
- Choose one student to stand in the center of the circle.
- One by one, have each student in the outside of the circle say their compliment about the center student to the group.
- After everyone in the circle has said something nice, rotate in a new person to stand in the center.
- Continue this exercise until all students have had a chance to stand in the center
- No repeats during a single round.

### VARIATIONS (CONT'D)

- Designate one person per group (*student or teacher*) to be the scribe and have them write down all of the compliments.
- At the end of the exercise, give each student their list of compliments or display them all in the classroom.

### FOLLOW-UP

- Discuss the following with your students after completing the exercise:
  - What did you like about this exercise?
  - How did it make you feel hearing your classmates compliment you?
  - How did it feel complimenting your classmates? Did you learn anything new?

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Team Building

Communication

Vulnerability

Creative Thinking

Risk-Taking

## CLASS ACTIVITY : YOU GOT A FRIEND IN ME

Friendship is an important theme in “*The Tale of Sasquatch*”. Rupert’s new friend Owl comes to help Rupert when he needs it most. What does friendship mean to you?

- What do you think the word “friendship” means?
- Use the space below to write a message to one of your friends expressing what they mean to you.

## DRAW IT OUT: MY SIDEKICK

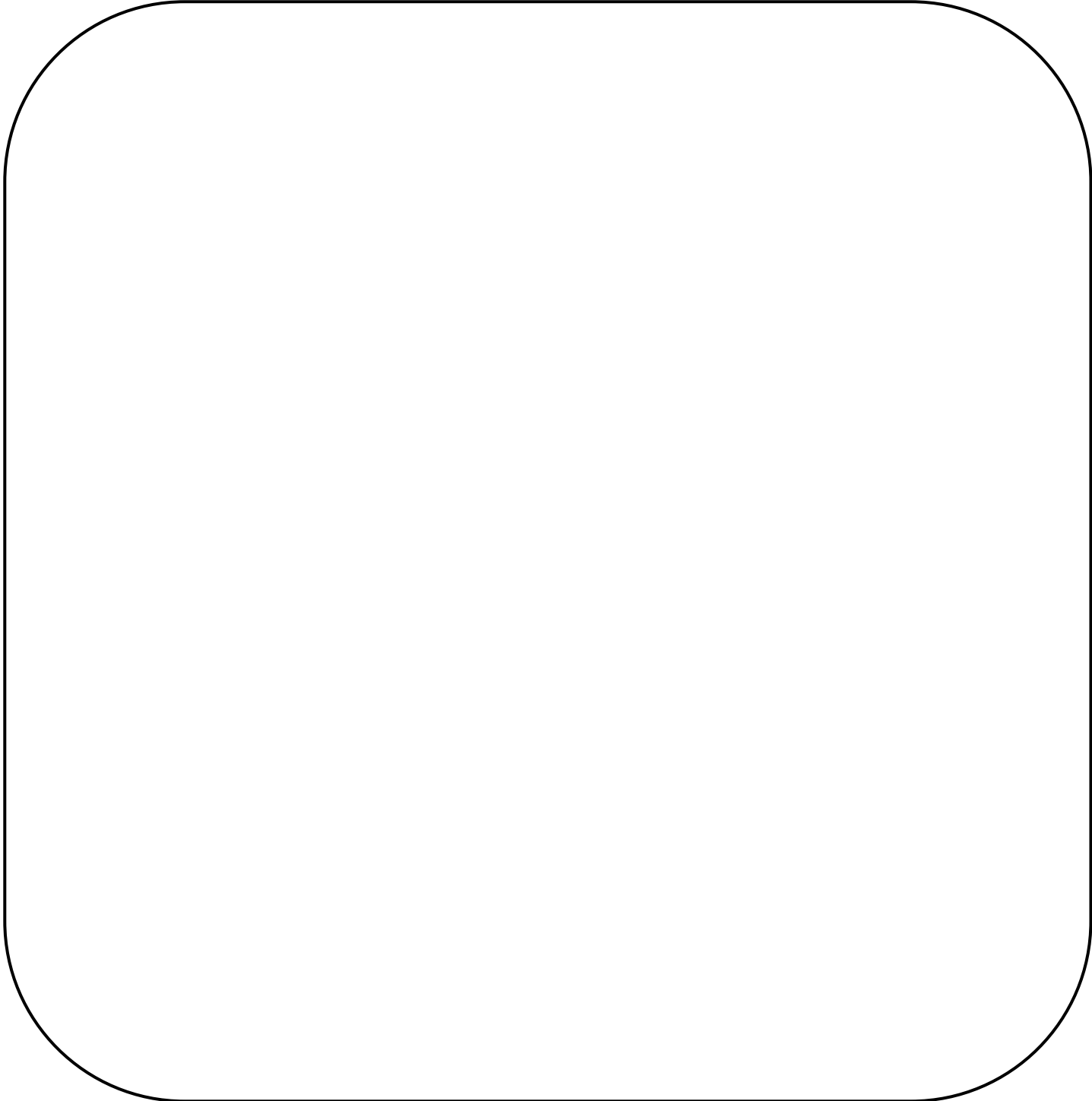
In *The Tale of Sasquatch*, Rupert has a sock puppet sidekick named Mr. Stinky. If you had a sidekick, who would it be? Draw your sidekick below and give your sidekick a name.

What is the purpose of a sidekick? Who is your real-life sidekick?

### LIKE THE SHOW? LET US KNOW!

Send letters or drawings to:

Walnut Street Theatre  
ATTN: Education Department  
825 Walnut St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107





# WALNUT STREET THEATRE

## BIOGRAPHY

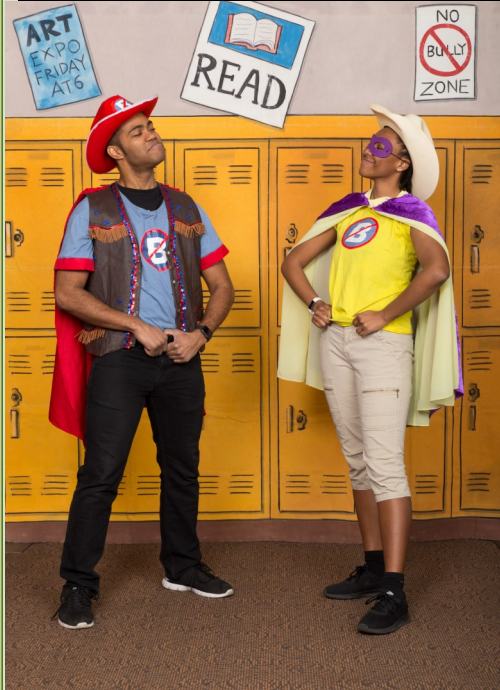
Walnut Street Theatre has the unique distinction of being the oldest, continuously operating theatre in the English-speaking world, having served Philadelphia audiences for over 200 years!

Today, under the direction of Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard, Walnut Street Theatre is in its 36th season as a self-producing, non-profit theatre company. Walnut Street Theatre continues to entertain and enlighten diverse audiences with high quality theatrical programming. With more than 55,000 subscribers, the Walnut is also the most subscribed theatre company in the world!

The Walnut Street Theatre is celebrating over 30 years of bringing high-quality professional theatre to schools across the Delaware Valley. Our multi-cultural Touring Outreach Company introduces students to the world of theatre through age-appropriate, curriculum-based pieces that are socially relevant, entertaining, and exciting. Last season, 126,718 children and adults were impacted by the Walnut's Education Programs.

## TOURING ACTORS

Each season, Walnut Street Theatre holds a nation-wide search to recruit accomplished young professionals for Acting Apprenticeships. These actors form our Touring Outreach Company. Nearly 500 candidates are considered each year for these four positions.



## WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION STAFF

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### WEB

- **Creative Drama & Theatre Education Resource Site**  
<http://www.creativedrama.com/category/creative-drama/>
- **Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach Company**  
<https://walnutstreettheatre.org/education/outreach.php>
- **Drama Games for Kids**  
<http://www.bbbpress.com/dramagames/>



## NO EASY ROAD TO FREEDOM CREATIVE TEAM

### PLAYWRIGHT

Randall Paris Dark

### DIRECTOR

Amanda Pasquini

## TOURING OUTREACH SPONSORS



## THANK YOU

The Walnut Street Theatre Education Department gratefully acknowledges the support from the following:

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# Walnut Street Theatre

## Educational Opportunities!

2018-2019  
SEASON

### WALNUT STREET THEATRE TOURING OUTREACH

*Bring a show to your school!*

The Big, Bad Bullysauros

Finding Your People

The Tale of Sasquatch

Freedom Riders

*Open a dialogue with students about issues that affect them!*

Call 215-574-3550 , ext. 584

### Walnut Street Theatre for Kids!

*Bring your kids to Walnut Street Theatre!*

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (December)

Aladdin Jr.

GOOSEBUMPS: Phantom of the Auditorium

Pinkalicious

Fly Guy

**Tickets just \$15-\$18!**

Read the books, then see the stories LIVE!



### *The Theatre School at* WALNUT STREET THEATRE

*Classes for kids, students, and adults!*

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### RESIDENCY PROGRAM

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# When we PLAY, Learning Happens!