



PRODUCTION GUIDE

KINDERGARTEN

The Golden Goose



Adapted from the classic tale by the Brothers Grimm

MERRY-GO-ROUND PLAYHOUSE • Ed Sayles, Producing Director • Carole Estabrook, Educational Theatre Coordinator

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The Golden Goose

Dear Teachers,

The Merry-Go-Round Playhouse is pleased to present *The Golden Goose* for you and your students as part of our Sequential Dramatics Program. The production experience consists of a live performance, a preparatory classroom workshop and this production guide. The Merry-Go-Round Playhouse’s programs are designed to assist you and your students in meeting the New York State Learning Standards. You will find the standards addressed by the components of this production experience notated at the rear of this guide.

The preparatory classroom workshop, or “prep,” is a unique opportunity for your students to gain additional value from the experience. During the prep, students are given the chance to explore the content and themes of the performance as well as relevant academic material with one of the actors in the production. **For your students to obtain the maximum benefit, we request your presence in the classroom through the entirety of the workshop.**

Time permitting, at the end of the performance, the actors will take a few questions from the audience. As often is the case, not every question can be answered. We invite you and your students to share your questions and comments by sending letters and drawings to our office. If you write to us, we will write you back!

We hope you and your students enjoy *The Golden Goose* and we look forward to visiting you soon.

Best wishes,

Carole Estabrook
Educational Theatre Coordinator



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Production Goals, About the Production & Preparatory Workshop Outline

Production Goals:

Performers bring stories to life on the stage but this requires an audience. Readers, on the other hand, bring stories to life in their mind; they are both performer and audience. Whether or not they have begun to read on their own, we want to encourage Kindergartners to channel their storytelling impulse and pursue reading. Just as we will open a book and create the story on stage, they are able to do the same through reading.

No one knows better than you how Kindergartners have a natural storytelling impulse; they revel in the world of make-believe. You've expressed this on previous evaluations. You've also shared an interest in seeing the children involved in the story. Well, your comments led to a lot of brainstorming on our part and we've decided to jump in with both feet and develop this truly unique production experience for Kindergarten students.

About the Production:

The Golden Goose has been developed to give Kindergartners the chance to fully and actively participate in a live theatrical performance. Audience members will assume roles as citizens of the Land of the Golden Goose. Each will be assigned to one of six citizen groups: Village Elders, Clowns, Hunters, Bakers, Soldiers and Farmers. Each child will be costumed with a medallion unique in color and etched with the letter that begins the name of their citizen group. The action of the play is orchestrated by the Story Sorcerer. Our actors, in addition to portraying a few of the characters in the play, will assist the children in their roles as Citizens. At the end of the performance as they leave the Land of the Golden Goose, the children will return their medallions and receive a diploma certifying that they have become Story Apprentices.

Preparatory Workshop Outline:

To enhance this storytelling experience, we have made a small adjustment to our preparatory workshops. Instead of an "actor" from the production visiting your classroom, a "character" from the play will conduct the workshop. In essence, the play will begin in your classrooms.

- I. The character will explain that books are like passports to our imagination. Upon reading them, we are taken on a magical journey in our mind. The character will discuss with students the "magic" inherent in stories.
- II. The students will explore imagination and participate in an exercise utilizing their imaginations.
- III. The character will discuss with students that, to put on a play, all the characters work together to tell the story. The students will then have the chance to demonstrate their skills at cooperating.
- IV. The character will then invite the students to train as Apprentices in Story Magic by participating in the upcoming play. They will become citizens in the Land of the Golden Goose and each of them will be given a medallion to wear as their costume.

Please Note: We request your presence in the classroom through the entirety of the workshop.



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About the Brothers Grimm & The Golden Goose

About the Brothers Grimm:

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, better known as the Brothers Grimm, were born in 1785 and 1786 respectively. They lived in Hanau, Germany with their parents, six brothers and one sister. Both Jacob and Wilhelm studied law in school, but in order to help support their family, they quit and took jobs as librarians. In 1812, they published their first collection of children's tales containing 86 stories. Over their lifetime, the collection saw six editions and was expanded to include over 200 stories. Their work has become the best known book ever created in the German Language.

The Golden Goose - The Brothers Grimm Tale:

Once upon a time in a far away land there was a family who had three sons. The youngest of the three went by the nickname Dummling. He was called Dummling because he was not the smartest or strongest of the three boys. This didn't bother him though, for he did have the biggest heart of them all.

One day Dummling went to chop wood for his family in the forest. Along his way, he met a little old man sitting on the path. The little old man looked very hungry and tired and asked Dummling for food and water. Dummling didn't have much but agreed to share what he had. The two ate a wonderful lunch. Afterward, the little old man thanked Dummling for his kindness and offered to return the favor. He told Dummling to go find the largest tree in the forest and chop it down for underneath he would find a great reward. Dummling did as he was told and found the largest tree and chopped it down. In the roots, he found a magnificent golden goose.

On his way home, Dummling stopped at a neighboring inn. Everyone was amazed at the sight of the golden goose. The innkeeper had three daughters and each, upon seeing the goose, wanted a golden feather to keep. That night, while Dummling slept, the three sisters crept into his room. The eldest sister reached for the goose, but when she touched the goose she became hopelessly stuck; she couldn't remove her hand. The middle sister and youngest sister then tried to take a feather from the goose, but both became stuck. When Dummling set out the next morning with the goose under his arm, the girls were forced to follow behind him.

On his journey, he came upon a minister who was quite surprised to see the young ladies following so closely to Dummling. When he approached them, he touched them and he too became stuck to the goose. Soon thereafter, the minister's aide came along and tried to free the minister but he also became glued to the goose. Two villagers approached and tried to help, but again only added to the chain of people attached to the goose.

The far away land where Dummling lived was ruled over by a King and Queen and their lovely daughter, the Princess. It so happened, however, that this young Princess was miserably sad. She had not smiled or laughed in a very long time. The King was so upset to see his daughter unhappy that he made a royal decree that whoever could make the Princess laugh would be rewarded with half of his Kingdom and the Princess's hand in marriage.

When Dummling heard of this decree, he went to call on the forlorn Princess. Upon seeing the unlikely parade of people stuck to a goose, the Princess began to laugh and instantly all seven were released from the goose. The King was pleased to hear the Princess laugh. He presented Dummling with a deed to half his kingdom. Dummling and the Princess were soon married and everyone lived happily ever after.

The Golden Goose

Popular Brothers Grimm Stories & Suggested Activities



Other Popular Brothers Grimm Stories:

Cinderella
Little Red-Cap
Rapunzel

Rumpelstiltskin
The Bremen Town Musicians
Snow-White and Rose-Red
The Brave Little Tailor

Little Snow-White
Little Briar-Rose
Hansel and Gretel

Pre-Performance Activities:

- I** Both in the play and in the original fairy tale, the character of the young boy loves to help people and willingly asks for help from others. We know that helping others is very important. Why is that so? What things can we do each day, at school and at home, to show others how good helping can be?
- II** For the play, you will be asked to take a magical journey to the Land of the Golden Goose. Have you ever pretended to take a trip to a magical land of your very own? What was it like? Were there special animals or plants? What about people? Draw a picture of your imaginary land.

Post-Performance Activities:

- I** Kings and Queens often have many advisors. The advisors are citizens of the kingdom whose job it is to help the King or Queen make good and fair decisions. Pretend that you and your class are advisors to a King or Queen. The King comes to you with a problem; he wants to make sure that his subjects learn how valuable it is to work together. He wants to hold a Festival to celebrate the importance of cooperation. You must come up with a schedule of activities, games or projects that the people could do at the Festival. Discuss with the other advisors in your class your ideas for things to do at the Festival.
- II** During the play, each group of citizens wore a medallion. The medallions were different colors and decorated with a letter. The letter on the medallion was the same as the first letter of the name of each group of citizens. Create your own personal medallion using the pattern enclosed. Begin by writing the first letter of your name in the center. Then color the medallion with anything you like. With your teacher's help, cut out the medallions and using yarn or string create a necklace for your medallion.
- III** Draw a picture of a character from one of your favorite stories. Underneath try writing the character's name. Then take turns sharing with your class your drawing and the reasons why you like the character you've chosen.



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Glossary & Additional Resources

Glossary:

Apprentice	a person who wants to learn an art or trade; a student or trainee <i>This group of apprentices looks especially wonderful...</i>
Brigade	a company of soldiers <i>The king employed a royal brigade of soldiers.</i>
Decree	a command from a king or queen <i>His majesty the King decrees that whoever can make the princess laugh will receive half of the kingdom and the biggest bag of gold he can carry!</i>
Procession	a parade; a line of people <i>When this strange procession passed the bakers' shop...</i>
Medallion	a large coin sometimes made into a necklace and often decorated with words and designs

Resources:

Websites

<http://www.classicfairytales.com/en/main> — a great kids site about fairy tales, includes some fun games; read along animated stories, downloadable coloring pages and activities; page also has a number of links for translation into French.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/grimm/index.html> — site includes versions of popular tales including some in audio format; also a few links to resources

Books

Ponsot, Marie. The Golden Book of Fairy Tales (Golden Classics). Golden Books, 1999.

Spiegelman, Art. Little Lit: Folklore & Fairy Tale Funnies. Harpercollins Juvenile Books, 2000.

Videos/DVD

Happily Every After: Fairy Tales for Every Child Series. Animated, Directed by Edward Bell. HBO Studios.

- Some of the best loved classics retold in this original musical animated series; each tale features a cast of all-star voices and all-new song. Titles Include: Goldilocks (2000), Thumbelina (2002), Puss'n Boots (2000), The Pied Piper (1997), Pinocchio (1998), The Golden Goose (1998), The Frog Prince (1995).

CD-ROM

Fairy Tale 2 Pack. Tumblebooks Inc.

- Animated picture books with sound, music and narration. Software available for download from Amazon.com. Available for both Mac& PC.



The workshop, performance and production guide for *The Golden Goose* build skills as defined by the Learning Standards indicated below:

Preparatory Classroom Workshop

ARTS 1: Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts – THEATRE

ARTS 2: Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources – THEATRE

ELA 1.1: Language for Information and Understanding – Listening and Reading

ELA 1.2: Language for Information and Understanding – Speaking and Writing

ELA 4.1: Language for Social Interaction – Listening and Speaking

***The Golden Goose* Performance**

ARTS 1: Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts – THEATRE

ARTS 2: Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources – THEATRE,

ARTS 4: Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts – THEATRE

ELA 1.1: Language for Information and Understanding – Listening and Reading

ELA 1.2: Language for Information and Understanding – Speaking and Writing

ELA 2.1: Language for Literary Response and Expression – Listening and Reading

ELA 2.2: Language for Literary Response and Expression – Speaking and Writing

ELA 4.1: Language for Social Interaction – Listening and Speaking

Production Guide

– standards addressed by the suggested activities

ARTS 1: Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts – THEATRE

ARTS 3: Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art – THEATRE

ARTS 4: Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts – THEATRE

ELA 1.1: Language for Information and Understanding – Listening and Reading

ELA 1.2: Language for Information and Understanding – Speaking and Writing

ELA 2.1: Language for Literary Response and Expression – Listening and Reading

ELA 2.2: Language for Literary Response and Expression – Speaking and Writing

ELA 3.1: Language for Critical Evaluation and Analysis – Listening and Reading

ELA 3.2: Language for Critical Evaluation and Analysis – Speaking and Writing

ELA 4.1: Language for Social Interaction – Listening and Speaking

SS 5.4: Civics, Citizenship and Government



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Merry-Go-Round Creative Team

Ed Sayles, Producing Director, is recognized in the *Who's Who in American Theatre* for his many accomplishments over his thirty year career. One of the first pioneers of the youth theatre movement, Ed helped to create innovations in performances for children and has spearheaded youth theatre companies in both Ohio and his native New York. During his tenure at the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse, his leadership has seen the company gain national recognition for both its ground breaking youth tour and artistically acclaimed summer musical theatre.

James Cantu, Company Manager, graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Acting Emphasis) in 1999. James has toured across Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and New York State, and has performed on television and the main stage. In 2002 James joined the Merry-Go-Round Youth Tour. This is his fourth year as the Youth Tour Company Manager.

Carole Estabrook, Educational Theatre Coordinator, graduated from SUNY Oswego in 2003 with a BA in English Writing Arts (Playwriting) and a minor in Theatre (Acting). Carole is very excited to be scheduling the same educational theatre tour that she enjoyed as a child in the Southern Cayuga School District.

Michael Antico hails from Chicopee, Massachusetts and has been part of a number of productions leading up to his latest venture with MGR. Most recently, he played Cardinal Richelieu on a national tour of *The Three Musketeers* after having spent the summer of 2005 in Ferrum, VA with the Blue Ridge Dinner Theater. Some of his other credits include *Godspell* (Jesus), *Guys and Dolls* (Harry the Horse), and *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Teddy) as well as various singing and dance revues for Six Flags.

Kristy Barrington is originally from Little Rock, Arkansas. Kristy has traveled the country helping children smile. She has toured with the National Theatre for Children and The Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre. Kristy has also performed at the Seaside Repertory Theatre, and most recently as the role of Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* at Murray's Dinner Playhouse in Little Rock. She is looking forward to a magically creative season with the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse.

Mike Brennan is a New Jersey native and holds a BA in Theater Arts from Rutgers University. He recently completed touring around the tri-state area with SurfFlight Theatre's touring company, SurfFlight-To-Go, playing George in *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* Some of Mike's favorite credits include *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (The Big Bopper), *Working* (Mike Dillard), *Damn Yankees* (Applegate), *South Pacific* (Luther Billis), and *Barefoot in the Park* (Paul Bratter).

James Caito, originally from Geneva, graduated with a B.A. in Theatre Arts from SUNY New Paltz in 2004. For the last three years James has resided in Rochester where he has worked extensively with Rochester Children's Theatre, TYKEs (Theatre Young Kids Enjoy), Blackfriars Theatre and the Downstairs

Cabaret. James is very excited to be joining Merry-Go-Round for their 2007-2008 season and would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support.

Sara Churchill is a 2005 graduate from SUNY Fredonia with a BFA in Acting and a Minor in Dance. She recently played Leslie in *The Bridge To Tenabithia* at The Theatre of Youth Company in Buffalo, New York. Her other TOY performances include *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Other productions include *The King and Queen's Royal Feast*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Top Girls*, *Hay Fever*, *Barnum*, *Damn Yankees*, *A New Brain* and *Peter Pan*. Sara is originally from Stafford, New York.

Jamie Dellorco is a graduate of Rhode Island College where she received degrees in both Musical Theater and English Literature. She spent two years as head of the drama and dance program at the Henry Barnard Elementary School working with children grades K-5 on jazz, tap, creative movement, improvisation, short plays and scene work. Jamie has spent the past three years working with Kaleidoscope Touring Children's Theatre based in Cranston, RI where she has played many roles including the title roles in both *Mother Goose Live* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* as well as being part of the original cast of a brand new musical *Cinderella TOO! The Story Continues* which premiered this past summer.

Chandra Lynn Diesel is a recent graduate of Shenandoah University Conservatory and has just completed her fifth season at The Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre located in Ferrum, Virginia. There her recent credits include: June in *Smoke on the Mountain* and *Smoke on the Mountain: Homecoming*, Lenya in *Fools*, and Sister Robert Anne in *Nunsense*. After all those years in Virginia, Chandra is looking forward to New York winters and her upcoming year with The Merry-Go-Round Playhouse.

Tim Dunn is originally from Minneapolis, MN and recently graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with a BFA in Acting. Professionally, he has worked with The Big Picture Group in their Chicago productions of *The Wild Duck* and *Three Sisters* and he recently spent a summer working with The Lost Colony in Manteo, NC. Along with his acting training, Tim has studied improv for five years with theatres including The Second City and the I.O. Theatre. Tim is very excited to be working with Merry-Go-Round Playhouse.

Hilary Ford comes to Merry-Go-Round from Paducah, Kentucky (the quilt capitol of the world) and has a degree in Theatre Performance and Mass Communications from Missouri Valley College. Her first big break in theatre was as Princess #3 in a local production of *The King and I*. Hilary recently worked for Prairie Fire Children's Theatre and has an extensive background in performing with and for children.

Kathryn Holmes has spent most of her life in Birmingham, AL. When she's not acting, she loves to read, especially Harry Potter books. She has also been playing the piano almost forever (well, since she was

five, to be exact). When she grows up she wants to act, write children's books, and teach.

Joshua Katzker has been acting since he was eleven. He was born in Ft. Lauderdale, FL and he has acted all over the country, most recently in Ohio. Josh has appeared in many different plays and musicals including *Guys and Dolls*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *The Threepenny Opera*, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. When he isn't acting, you can find Josh cheering on his beloved Chicago Cubs. He also enjoys writing songs, playing guitar and singing.

Carl D. Krickmire is a native of Rochester, NY and a 2004 graduate of Niagara University with a BFA in Acting. While at Niagara he performed in everything from *Sondheim* to Shakespeare. For the last three years Carl has been very active in the Rochester theatre scene playing varied roles including Linus in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and most recently Tom Joad in *The Grapes Of Wrath*. He has also performed Off Broadway in the original comedy *Last Laugh*.

Kara Minute comes to Merry-Go-Round Theatre from Rochester, NY, where she just finished performing in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, as Woman 1 and in *Water Coolers* as Brooke with the Downstairs Cabaret Theatre. She also taught theatre in DCT's Summer Education Program for Young Performers. Kara holds a BFA in acting from Adelphi University on Long Island. While living there, she was blessed with the opportunity to direct *Oklahoma!* at Carey High School. Some of Kara's favorite roles include: Miranda in *The Tempest* and Cinderella in *Into the Woods* (because she got to be a princess and talk to birds!)

Lisa Myers is excited to be starting her third season with Merry-Go-Round! Past MGR shows include: *The Oldest Story Ever Told*, *The Paper Bag Princess*, and the *Comedia Princess and the Pea*. She recently worked with Prairie Fire Children's Theatre in her home state of Minnesota where she was the Genie in *Aladdin* and Puck in a *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Lisa graduated from Concordia College with a BA in Theatre. In addition to acting, Lisa loves teaching, directing, working with power tools in the scene shop and playing with her fish.

Joe Pine is an Auburn native. He recently made his professional acting debut in the Merry-Go-Round production of *Miss Saigon*. Other Roles include Tom in *Glass Menagerie*, Michael in *Len's Secret Garden*, Russ in *Bonjour Raconteur* and Paul in *Balcony Scene*.

Robert Williams is a native of Omaha, Nebraska. After leaving Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri, Robert continued to perform, direct, & teach in Omaha. Recently Robert completed a tour of *Pimocchio* and is now happy to join Merry-Go-Round. Some stage highlights include *Angels In America*, *Smokey Joes Cafe*, and *See What I Wanna See*. Robert's passions include video games, musicals, & playing the "glass armonica." He would like to thank his parents & friends for their continued support and patience!

Production guide created by Tim Fox & Designed by Beth Culver, Coburn Design

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