

Bits 'N Pieces
Puppet Theatre
presents



CINDERELLA & THE CHINESE SLIPPER



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From the 9th Century T'ang Dynasty Fairy Tale "Yeh-Shen"

Created by Bickel-Rubin-Callahan

2007-2008 National Touring Company

Ms. Holli Rubin

Mr. Jonathon Conrad

Mr. Danny Ray Polson

The Cast of Characters (in Order of Appearance)

Pip Squeak the Baby Dragon, Four Panda Cubs, Pandarella, Mommy Bearest

Picki-Picki, Fansea Fish, Mystic Monkey, CawCaw Bird, Mousekin, Young King Sing

Script and Lyrics: Jerry Bickel

Giant Puppet Creator: Holli Rubin

Music Composer: Peg Callahan

Choreographer: Reginald Yates

Stage Director: Jerrod Bogard

Puppet Mechanics: Bob Anthony

Graphic Art: Chuck Majewski

Marketing Services: Terri Simons

Bits N Pieces Puppet Theatre

Jerry Bickel, Executive Director

Holli Rubin, Artistic Director



This program is sponsored in part by the Florida State Division of Cultural Affairs, Florida Arts Council, Arts Council of Hillsborough County, Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners, Hillsborough County District Schools, Southern Arts Federation, National Endowment for the Arts, presenters across the United States, and You!

Synopsis:

Cinderella and the Chinese Slipper

as told by Bits 'N Pieces Executive Director Jerry Bickel

*Based on the original story from
the 9th Century T'ang Dynasty*



Pandarella, our heroine, lived with her Mommy Bearest and sister Picki-Picki in a green bamboo forest. Pandarella often walked along the river bank to visit her one true friend, Fansea Fish.

One day Mommy Bearest came asking Pandarella to run and get her sister a new dress for the New Year's Eve Celebration. Always the obedient daughter, Pandarella helped her sister get dressed to meet the King. Word on the grapevine was Young King Sing would meet a girl this very night!

Time was short, with Pandarella away, Mommy caught Fansea Fish and served him up for dinner! Pandarella cried tears when she found out Fansea Fish was gone.

Then Pandarella laughed with joy as she watched her best friend return as magic fish bones! Fansea fish said Pandarella would go to the Ball! He dressed her in a kimono as blue as the water. He covered her feet with golden fish scale slippers. Pandarella promised to be home by the stroke of the Gong. Then Fansea Fish was gone!

Young King Sing hoped to meet the girl of his dreams. Though the entire animal kingdom was there, no girl would do until the King met the panda with the tiny golden shoes. They sang together, danced together, laughed together too until the stroke of the New Years Gong! Surprised by the sound, Pandarella jumped and ran away. She tripped and fell and lost one golden slipper. Pip Squeak the Baby Dragon found it and suggested King Sing could search for the girl who could fit the tiny slipper. Amidst the "panda"-monium, the New Year Baby Dragon accompanies the king on his search for the girl whose foot fits the golden shoe.



Answers to Crossword Puzzle

1. String/Shadow
2. Finger
3. Shadow
4. Giant
5. Rod

Yeh-Shen:

The Girl Covered in Ashes

The Oldest Cinderella Story

Told for over a thousand years, this fairy tale could be the best known story in the world. The earliest known oral version is from Mongolia, China in the 9th Century T'ang Dynasty. Children heard the story of "Yeh-Shen," a simple girl covered with dust from the ash pile. In their story, a magic fish gave Yeh-Shen slippers of his golden fish scales.

Over 700 versions of the story are found around the world from Egypt to Viet Nam. As a story, a play, an operetta, or a ballet, some version of the "Cinderella" story is known by practically every child in the world.

Every culture has contributed to the magic. In France the story was retold by Charles Perrault and he added the fairy godmother and the magic pumpkin coach. In the Brothers Grimm story the slippers were made of fine German crystal.

The basic storyline is classic and many other famous stories share the same themes as Cinderella. In *Beauty and the Beast*, Beauty has lost her mother and her sisters treat her badly. In Harry Potter, Harry is treated badly by his relatives and made to live under the stairs. All of these stories have the central character overcome obstacles and emerge the winner.

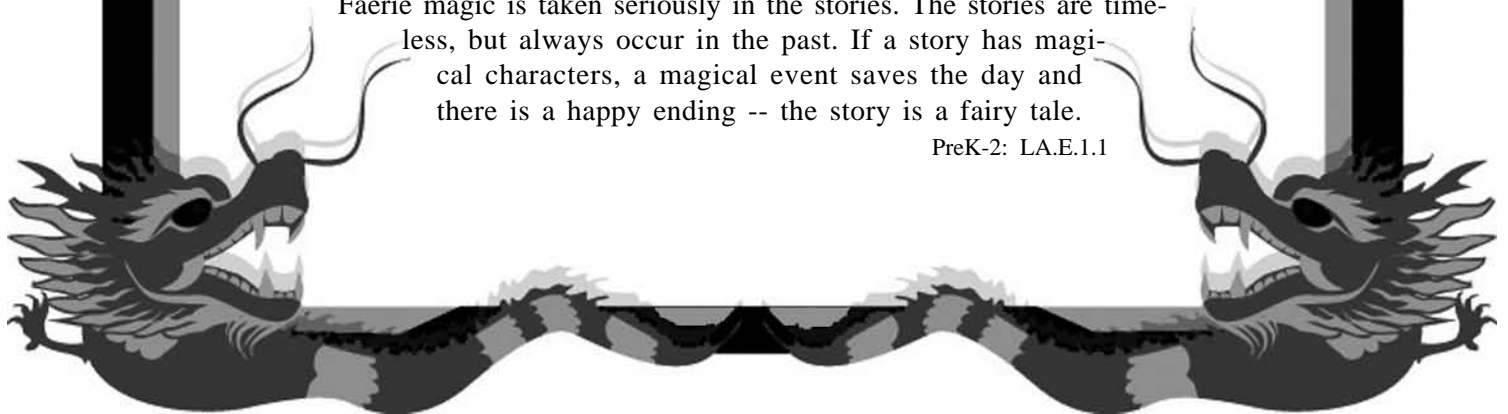
PreK-2: SS.A.1.1

About Fairy Tales

Stories told from person to person are folk tales. Folk tales include myths, legends and fairy tales. Fairy tales are oral stories that have been written down. Women in France wrote down folk tales and called them "contes de fees." The term was translated in English as Fairy Tales. The name was so popular it was used to identify stories by the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen and writers of these stories with their serious aire of magic.

Faerie magic is taken seriously in the stories. The stories are timeless, but always occur in the past. If a story has magical characters, a magical event saves the day and there is a happy ending -- the story is a fairy tale.

PreK-2: L.A.E.1.1



What is a Puppet Musical?

Our giant body puppets perform original musicals in the style of the American Broadway Musical. American musical theater is derived from other forms of theater ranging from plays to opera. It is a uniquely American art form and generally reflects the stories or beliefs of our culture in the United States.

This type of musical theater tells its story directly to the audience. It asks the audience to feel the music and to learn what's happening by listening to the words in the songs.

The songs tell the story. If you cannot tell what is happening on stage without the lyrics of the songs, the play is a musical. **Character songs, motivation songs, and action songs** show who the characters are, what they want, and what they'll do to get it. **Novelty songs** lend atmosphere to the play. **Time telescoping songs** speed up time, bringing the excitement to a fast-rushing conclusion, or freeze time so you can feel the happy ending.

beliefs of life in the United States. An American musical tells its story directly to the audience. It asks the audience to feel the music and learn what's happening by listening to the words in the songs. PreK-2: MU.C.1.1; MU.D.1.1

Songs Tell the Story

In a musical, songs are used to tell the story. The lyrics help the audience follow what is happening on stage. Songs in musicals use emotion to take action, telling us who the characters are, what they want and what they'll do to get it.

Most of the songs follow one of three forms.

The first form is the "*I AM...*" song (or "He was..." or even "Could it be...?"). This type of song reveals character.

The second form is the "*I WANT...*" song (or "It needs..." or "What's missing is..."). This song reveals a character's motivation or desire.

A third special form in the Broadway musical is the novelty song or "*TIME TELESCOPING*" song. It can speed up time on the stage to "fast forward" the story or "freeze it" so the audience can feel and appreciate a special moment, even the happy ending!

Many hands make a musical

Our giant puppet musicals are the products of collaboration of artists from across all the arts disciplines: Literature, Music, Theatre, Dance, and Fine Art.

ACTIVITY: Using our cast and company information from the *Cast and Crew Production Sheet*, ask students to match the different artists with their arts.

Literature/story telling - author of original work, script writer

Music - composer, lyricist, vocalists, music arranger;

Theatre - actors, performers, puppeteers

Dance - performers, choreographer

Fine Art - giant puppet sculptor, costume, scene, and lighting designers, and set builder

PreK-2: TA.E.1.1; MU.E.2.1.4; VA.E.1.1.2

3rd-5th: TH.E.1.2.2; VA.D.1.2.3; VA.E.1.2.2

The Broadway Musical Art Form

Bits 'N Pieces productions are adaptations of beloved children's stories performed in the Broadway musical style. With their original lyrics, music and choreography, the giant puppet musicals are similar to the Broadway stage musical in that they are derived from other forms of theatre such as traditional plays and opera. It is a uniquely American form of theatre that generally reflects stories and



Classroom Ideas & Activities

Theatre Vocabulary

- Art:** The use of a variety of means to express ideas, entertain and enlighten.
- Blocking:** The movement of characters on the stage as planned by the director.
- Composer:** The artist who creates original music.
- Dance:** The expressive use of the body to visually convey a story or emotion.
- Lyrics:** The written verses and chorus of the song.
- Music:** The art of making sound tell a story or have a meaning.
- Puppet:** An inanimate object made to seem alive by the puppeteer who performs the show.

Activity Suggestions

Cinderella and the Chinese Slipper offers many excellent opportunities to introduce a variety of subjects. Students will gain a more complete understanding of characters, setting, plot and theme from the play through planned class discussions and activities. Similarities and differences in cultures can be discussed. Talk about the children's impressions of the play and specific scenes.

PreK-2: LA.E.1.1

Reading Comprehension

- Demonstrate Sequence Through Pictures: Ask children to place pictures depicting characters in the order which they appeared or events in the order in which they occurred.
- Demonstrate Plot Development Through Pictures: Ask children to choose a favorite scene. Draw three pictures which show the beginning situation in the scene, what happens during the scene, and how the situation has changed by the end of the scene.

Creative Writing Exercises (for groups or individuals)

- Write a different end for the story.
- Write an "I was there" story about witnessing an event.
- Ask children to pretend to be a favorite character. Write a letter to a friend about the play's events from that character's point of view.

PreK-2: LA.D.2.1; LA.E.1.1

3rd-5th: LA.B.1.2; LA.2.2

Performance Activities

- Have children make stick, finger, or paper bag puppets and act out the story or particular scenes of their choice.
- Tape a dialogue between two characters.
- Ask children to dress up as a favorite character and explain some of the important things they did in the play. Ask why they chose that character.

PreK-2: LA.C.3.1; TH.A.1.1; TH.B.1.1

3rd-5th: TH.A.1.2; TH.E.1.2

Types of Puppets

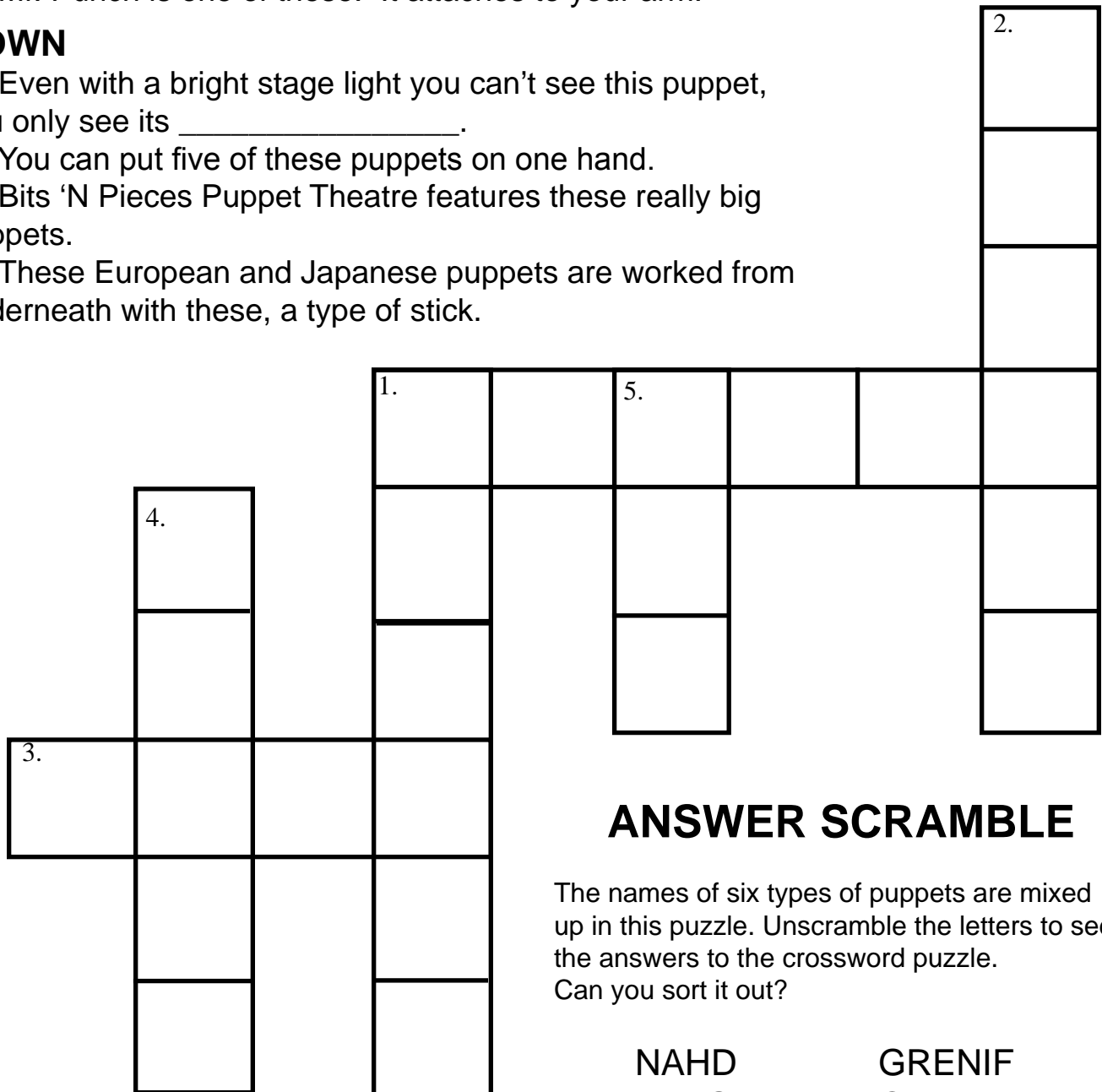
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1.) These puppets are worked from above and very good for flying. In France, they are called "Marionettes."
 3.) Mr. Punch is one of these. It attaches to your arm.

DOWN

- 1.) Even with a bright stage light you can't see this puppet, you only see its _____.
 2.) You can put five of these puppets on one hand.
 4.) Bits 'N Pieces Puppet Theatre features these really big puppets.
 5.) These European and Japanese puppets are worked from underneath with these, a type of stick.



ANSWER SCRAMBLE

The names of six types of puppets are mixed up in this puzzle. Unscramble the letters to see the answers to the crossword puzzle. Can you sort it out?

NAHD
 ATNGI
 AHSWDO

GRENIF
 ORD
 SITNRG

How Do We Make A Giant Puppet Show?

So you say you would like to make a giant puppet show? You're going to need at least 18 months to do it. It takes a year and a half to create the puppets, script, lyrics, music, choreography and sets for one giant puppet musical.

There are 11 giant puppet shows in the Bits 'N Pieces repertory. Since we don't reuse old puppets for new, each puppet production is built as an original work of art. It's taken 30 years to build all of our shows.

Where to start?

The words come first. The story is the beginning of each new show. It can be a classic or contemporary piece of literature, a saying or an interesting event. From this first glimmer of an idea, Director Jerry Bickel writes the script and lyrics. He collaborates with a composer to create the musical score.

A little clay, a little papier-mache, And a lot of hot glue

Once the story is firm, Designer and Master Puppeteer Holli Rubin begins to build the puppets. From a giant block of clay, she sculpts the heads and casts them in plastic papier-mache. The moving facial parts are installed before Holli costumes each character. Each puppet represents weeks of creation, thousands of stitches and many hot-glue burns.



How the puppets come to life

The musical's dances are created by a choreographer. Actors first rehearse the show without the giant puppets. Once they learn their choreography, they wear the puppets and adapt their puppet's movements for the stage. Special rehearsals with video cameras help the puppeteers learn where improvements can be made in their performance.

While one production is on tour across the country, a new show can be created between engagements in the Tampa, Florida studios. Three months are devoted to writing the show. Twelve months to design and build the puppets. Finally, three more months are used to rehearse, record, add special effects and edit. A year and a half total, and the new show can open for its first public performance. Refinement continues throughout the tour until the production reaches its final form: a new giant puppet musical in the Bits 'N Pieces Puppet Theatre repertory.

PreK-2: VA.B.1.2; VA.E.1.1



About Puppets

Give the globe of the Earth a spin. Any place you can put your finger and find children, you'll find puppets. Every child sees puppet shows growing up. Every country has their own particular puppet folk hero.

- There are shadow puppets in China and Turkey and around the world.
- String puppets are called "marionettes" from the French term "little Mary."
- Figures and masks fill African stories.
- Glove puppets in England gave us Mr. Punch.
- Rod puppets are loved in Russia and Java.
- In America a moving mouth, hand-puppet frog became a national icon.



About Pandas

Did you know the Panda is not a bear? It is most closely related to a raccoon!

The Panda is probably the most famous endangered animal. The Chinese call the Panda "Xiongmao" which means Giant Cat Bear. The Panda Bear was believed to have magical powers that could ward off natural disasters and evil spirits. Writings about Pandas go back 3,000 years.

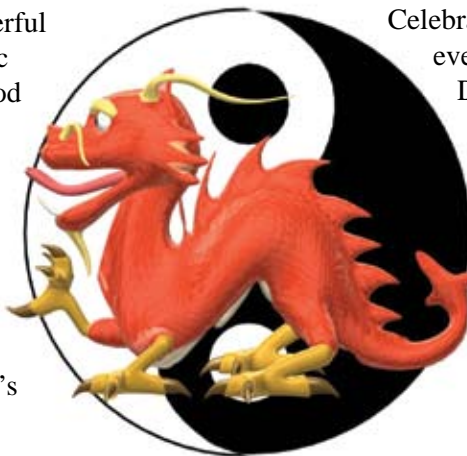
Baby Pandas are born with white coarse fur and black fur patches covering their eyes, legs, feet, chest, and shoulders. They grow to be 5-6 feet tall and weigh up to 275 pounds. Pandas eat 16 to 18 hours a day, preferring to sit while they consume 22 to 40 pounds of bamboo each day. With their short claws, Giant Pandas are capable of climbing trees to reach the bamboo and their special teeth are perfect for chewing the tender shoots. Giant Pandas are one of our species that do not hibernate. With enough food available year round, the Panda lives 25 years.

Roughly 1600 Pandas are living today in China's cold, damp coniferous forests on mountains reaching 4,000 to 11,000 feet high. When the closest food is gone they must go down the mountains and compete with farmers for food in the foothills and river valleys.

About Dragons

The Chinese Dragon is a wonderful good creature with strong magic who is not required to bring good fortune to your door. While Western culture feared their dragon, the Chinese culture saw the dragon's possibility to bring good or bad fortune.

Two festivals are held each year to gain favor with Dragons. Then at the New Year's



Celebration, the Dragon is asked to bring everyone good fortune. His Dragon Dance chases away evil spirits and brings good fortune.

The Dragon is believed to have descended to earth from Heaven. The dragon was associated with the Emperor and appeared on China's flag. Legend says it was the dragon who taught the distinctive brush painting to the Chinese people.

Celebrate the Chinese New Year



Panderella and Pip Squeak the Baby Dragon celebrate the New Year.



A Perfect Fit!

Who? What? Where? How?

1. Who are the characters in *Cinderella and the Chinese Slipper*?

2. Where does the story take place?

3. What problem happened?

4. What are three main things that tell what happened in the story?

5. How was the problem solved?

Make A Story Map

Beginning (Who, Where, When):

Middle (Problem, Goal):

Ending (Solution):

The A-MAZING Journey



A journey of a thousand steps begins with just one.
Can you help Cinderella find her golden slipper?

Florida Department of Education

Sunshine State Standards

PreK-2

Language Arts

LA.A.1.1. Reading: The student uses the reading process effectively.

LA.E.1.1. Literature: The student understands the common features of a variety of literary forms.

L.A.E.2.1. Literature: The student responds critically to fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama.

The Arts / Music

MU.C.1.1. Cultural and Historical Connections: The student understands music in relation to culture and history.

MU.D.1.1. Aesthetic and Critical Analysis: The student listens, analyzes and describes music.

The Arts / Theatre

TH.A.1.1. Skills and Techniques: The student acts by developing, communicating, and sustaining characters in improvisation and formal or informal productions.

TH.B.1.1. Creation and Communication: The student improvises, writes, and refines scripts based on heritage, imagination, literature, history, and personal experiences.

TH.E.1.1. Applications to Life: The student understands applications of the role of theater, film, television, and electronic media in everyday life.

The Arts / Visual Arts

VA.A.1.1. Skills and Techniques: The student understands and applies media, techniques, and processes.

VA.B.1.1. Creation and Communication: The student creates and communicates a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas using knowledge of structures and functions of visual arts.

VA.E.1.1. Applications to Life: The student makes connections between the visual arts, other disciplines, and the real world.

Grades 3-5

Language Arts

LA.A.1.2. Reading: The student uses the reading process effectively.

LA.B.1.2. Writing: The student uses writing processes effectively.

LA.B.2.2. Writing: The student writes to communicate ideas and information effectively.

LA.C.3.2. Listening, viewing, and speaking: The student uses speaking strategies effectively.

LA.E.1.2. Literature: The student understands the common features of a variety of literary forms.

L.A.E.2.2. Literature: The student responds critically to fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama.

The Arts / Theatre

TH.A.1.2. Theatre - Skills and Techniques: The student acts by developing, communicating, and sustaining characters in improvisation and formal or informal productions.

TH.E.1.2. Theatre - Applications to Life: The student understands applications of the role of theater, film, television, and electronic media in everyday life.

The Arts / Visual Arts

VA.B.1.2. Visual Arts - Creation and Communication: The student creates and communicates a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas using knowledge of structures and functions of visual arts.

VA.E.1.2. Visual Arts - Applications to Life: The student makes connections between the visual arts, other disciplines, and the real world.

Bits 'N Pieces Puppet Theatre Evaluation

Special Offer for Teachers: Please help us better serve you by completing this evaluation and mailing to **Bits 'N Pieces Puppet Theatre, 12904 Tom Gallagher Rd., Dover, FL 33529**. In appreciation you will receive this production's video for your school.

Show: _____ Performance Date: _____ Location: _____

Your Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

PERFORMANCE (Artistic Merit)

1. The performance was a professional artistic production of high aesthetic merit and technical quality. ☐ **Strongly agree** ☐ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**
2. What part of the show worked especially well for your group?

PERFORMANCE (Educational Merit)

3. The performance was a valuable educational tool that enhanced the students' learning experience. ☐ **Strongly agree** ☐ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**
4. What aspect(s) of the show were most valuable as a teaching tool?
5. How did your students respond to the show?

EDUCATIONAL GUIDE AND ACTIVITY SHEETS

6. The teachers' guide contained an array of background information useful for pre-show preparation. ☐ **Strongly agree** ☐ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**
7. Which elements of the educational guide were particularly useful in your pre-show preparation?
8. The activity pages were useful tools in helping children demonstrate evidence of achieving Florida benchmarks. ☐ **Strongly agree** ☐ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**
9. Which elements of the activity sheets worked particularly well?
10. Do you have any suggestions to improve the resource guide or activity sheets?

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

11. Please rate the following by circling the number best representing your opinion. If you indicate "needs improvement" for any answer, please specify. (Use additional sheets if needed.)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs
Improvement				
Artistic quality of program	1	2	3	4
Technical quality of program	1	2	3	4
Students' response to program	1	2	3	4
Educational quality of program	1	2	3	4
Quality of educational guide and activity sheets	1	2	3	4



BITS 'N PIECES PUPPET THEATRE

America's GIANT Puppet Company

Bits 'N Pieces is dedicated to influencing the world of tomorrow by enchanting the children of today. Through the theatrical retelling of classic children's stories, each with its own unique life lesson and moral, Bits 'N Pieces brings to life the magical wonderment of children's fantasy and reinforces the core values long told and emphasized by our great storytellers.

Utilizing the talented resources of multidisciplinary professionals in theatre arts and education, each musical production is adapted and specifically developed to complement elementary school curriculums. Our education guides are a valuable classroom resource.

The company was founded in 1973 in a Tampa, Florida studio by Executive Director **Jerry Bickel**. He was joined by Artistic Director **Holli Rubin** in 1976. In the beginning they used traditional forms of puppetry, combining as many as ten types of puppets in one production. It was while performing in large theatres that the concept of nine-foot-tall puppets was inspired.

The experiment with these towering, fanciful creations was so successful that the giant body puppet became the company's larger-than-life hallmark. Now the giants perform in each of the company's original musical adaptations of classic children's literature.

From script and design to actual building and choreography, it takes nearly two years to produce each complete giant puppet production. Today, these unique musical productions may be seen in a variety of venues.

The company tours extensively throughout the United States and makes international appearances under the sponsorship of cultural exchange programs in Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and the Czech Republic.

See All of Our Original Musicals

- Gaspar the Florida Pirate
- Thumbelina
- Phantom of the Opera
- Rip Van Winkle
- Puss in Boots, The Magical Cat
- The Ugly Duckling starring Pinky Flamingo
- Cinderella and the Chinese Slipper
- Aesop's Dinosaur & Ant
- Three Billy Goats Gruff
- The Musical Tale of Peter Rabbit
- Alice in Wonderland

BITS 'N PIECES PUPPET THEATRE

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It's Good for Humanity!

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- Performance Tours of the Giant Puppets
- Educational Artist Residencies
- Student Workshops
- Museum Exhibitions

or visit www.PuppetWorld.com!