



The Snow Queen Study Guide

Use this Study Guide to enhance the educational experience of this show

All About A.C.T. For Youth

A.C.T. For Youth is an acclaimed professional touring theatre company based in Orlando, FL.

Each year, the Atlantic Coast Theatre performs hundreds of shows for students across the U.S.A.

ACT For Youth's high-quality educational programming is recognized nationally by theatres, schools, art councils, libraries, and festivals—not to mention the thousands of children & families who see A.C.T. shows each year!



Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth has been awarded placement on:

~Florida State Touring Roster~

~Hillsborough County Artist Roster~

~SC Arts Commission Roster Of Approved Artists~

~Raleigh/Wake County, NC United Arts Roster~

www.atlantic-coast-theatre.com

Hans Christian Anderson



Hans Christian Anderson is one of the most loved and cherished authors in history. He is famous for writing Fairy Tales. We still tell his beautiful stories today in visual art, books, cartoons, movies, and music.

Hans was born in the Scandinavian country of Denmark in 1805.

Although he started his career as an actor, Hans Christian Anderson soon began writing as his main profession.

Even after his death in 1872, his works have remained popular around the world. Some of his most famous fairy tales include:

*The Emperor's New Clothes,
The Ugly Duckling, and
The Little Mermaid*

~THE SNOW QUEEN~

The Snow Queen is a rich and exciting fairy tale by Hans Christian Anderson.

The tale was one of his longest with many sections that span multiple locations and times. Although quite a challenge to read, The Snow Queen is a beautiful and adventurous fantasy story following a girl named Gerda. She is searching for a boy named Kay who has been enchanted by the Snow Queen. While on her journey, she encounters many lively characters.

Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tales were often lovely stories which talked about the important feelings humans experience. The Snow Queen certainly follows that format since it teaches about how people choose to see the world. It asks if you choose the warmth of love and kindness, or if you choose to freeze and close your heart to the world around you.



Scandinavia

The play THE SNOW QUEEN is set in Scandinavia- a section of Europe consisting of several countries including: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland

FIND THESE COUNTRIES ON A GLOBE

Above The Arctic Circle

Gerda must search for Kay in the Far North of Scandinavia- above the Arctic Circle. This cold northern area of Norway, Sweden, and Finland is called Samiland (Lapland).

In Samiland, native indigenous people called the Sami have herded reindeer and kept their traditions alive through sharing their history with their families and with others.

Since the Sami people had no written language, they were masterful storytellers! One of the ways that they told their stories and expressed emotions and thoughts were through songs! They called this special kind of song a JOIK!

“Joiking” sounds a bit like the chantings of Native Americans- but it is special and unique to the Sami people. This historical kind of story singing is still practiced by the Sami people today!

Positive Outlook -VS- Negative Outlook

One of the very special lessons of THE SNOW QUEEN explores how people view the world we live in.

In this worksheet, write a sentence about the subject first with a negative outlook, and THEN write a sentence with a positive outlook.

How are our words powerful in relation to our emotions?

The blue sky is covered in clouds today.

Negative Outlook:

Positive Outlook:

My family is having guests over for dinner.

Negative Outlook:

Positive Outlook:

HOW CAN WE HELP OUR FRIENDS WHEN THEY ARE
HAVING A HARD TIME SEEING THE POSITIVE?

VOCABULARY

Troll-	A mythical creature from old Scandinavian mythology and fairy tales
Looking Glass-	A magnifying glass or telescope - Sometimes mirrors are called looking glasses too
Bidding-	An order or demand a person must follow
Crow-	A large black bird, often known as a Raven
Robber-	A person who steals things
Assist-	To help someone do their work
Samiland-	The far northern arctic section of Norway, Sweden, and Finland in Scandinavia where the native Sami people have lived for thousands of years
Herder-	A person who looks after and takes care of livestock (animals) in an open area of land
Reindeer-	Deer living in the tundra and the arctic regions of the world
Joiking-	The singing of stories by the Sami native people
Sledge-	A snow sled pulled by reindeer

Before The Show Activities

- You will be seeing a live theatre production. What are the differences between a play and a movie or television? How is it different to view each type? What kinds of theatre manners should be used when watching a play?
- Talk about Hans Christian Anderson and his famous Fairy Tales. Have you heard of any them before? Have you seen movie, book, or other versions of his fairy tales?

After The Show Activities

- Our play The Snow Queen is an adaptation from the original Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale. Our version is very close to the original even though it has some differences. The Disney movie, FROZEN, is also very loosely based on the story, but departs quite dramatically from Hans Christian Anderson's plot. Compare and contrast the two adaptations of The Snow Queen. How are they alike? How are they different?
- Gerda goes on an big adventure to save Kay. Write an adventure story where you travel to help one of your friends who is having a problem. What are you saving your friend from?
- The Snow Queen's mask and her movements are important elements of this show. Create your own mask to represent a character. Use your body's movements to make the character come to life.
- How does each character in the play help Gerda find Kay. Why are they important? How do the people we meet in our life influence our own journey- how do they help us find our way?

A.C.T. For Youth loves to receive letters from our audience!



You will write letters all of your life!
You will write letters in school, to
correspond with friends and family,
and for your job one day!
It is very important to know
how to write a good letter.

Your teachers may want you to
write your letter in a proper
letter-writing style or format.
Here is an example of one style!

YOU CAN SEND US

~A DRAWING~
~WHAT YOU LEARNED~
~YOUR FAVORITE PART~

Your Opinions Count!
They Help Us When
We Write
New Shows!

A.C.T. For Youth
8297 Champions Gate Blvd. #188
Champions Gate, FL 33896

Dear Audience:

The Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth would like to thank all of you for showing us such fantastic audience manners during the show! Everyone was so respectful during the performance. You laughed when things were funny, but you were also able to quiet back down so that everyone could hear. I don't think that we heard anyone talking while the actors were on stage. That was great! You made our job so much fun.

Thanks so much! You were wonderful!

Sincerely,

Don Gruel & Noel Holland

Send your letters to:

Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth
8297 Champions Gate Blvd. #188
Champions Gate, FL 33896

Atlantic Coast Theatre (A.C.T.) For Youth Common Core Standards

The following College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards are reinforced by each A.C.T. For Youth Show by watching the production, participating in the activities listed in the study guide, & classroom discussion after the show.

The corresponding Common Core Standards for each grade level can be found at:

<http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.2 Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.3 Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.3 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.



All About The Actors

Noel Holland & Don Gruel

You will be seeing professional actors!

That means they act for their jobs!

An interesting fact about the actors:

They started acting when they were YOUR age!



NOEL HOLLAND– I cannot remember a time when I was not singing. As a child, I would sing to anyone who would listen– if nobody was there to hear, I would sing to myself! I started acting and dancing because I loved performing on stage. My sister and I would put on plays for our parents in the living room! When I was in middle school and high school, I decided that I wanted to be a performer. After I graduated college with a degree in music, I became a professional actor- working for theatres all over the country. Now, I have my dream job– owning a theatre. I am so proud to be a part of the Atlantic Coast Theatre For Youth. It gives me all kinds of opportunities to sing, act, write songs, and use my imagination. I so enjoy creating shows that children love because I loved theatre and music so much when I was a child!



Noel & her little sister, Meredith, putting on a play for family.



Don as the Easter Bunny in his 3rd Grade School Play

DON GRUEL– I grew up in Beaufort, South Carolina. When I was little, I would make up plays using my “Star Wars” Action Figures as the actors. I started doing school plays when I was in Kindergarten, but my first play outside of school I was in the musical OKLAHOMA when I was 10 years old. I really liked the feeling of being able to pretend to become other people in other places. I kept doing plays throughout Middle School & High School and decided to study Theatre in college. I graduated from the University Of South Carolina in 1993 and have worked in professional theatre ever since. I have always loved using my imagination. As an actor, I get to be creative every single day.

You can try acting too!

Get involved in a play at school or in your community!