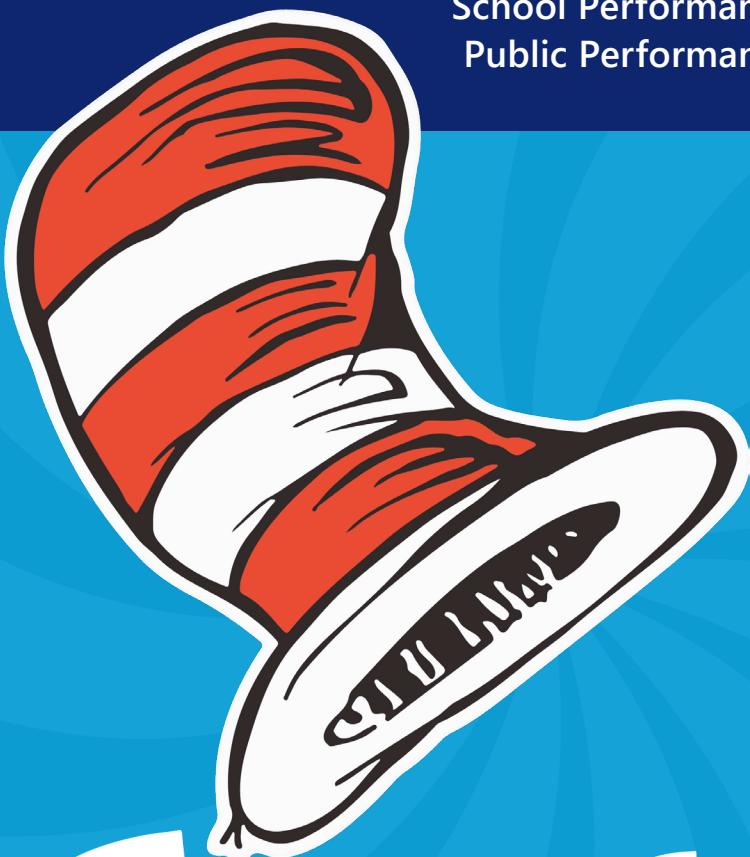


# spartanburg youth! theatre

School Performances: February 13 & 14, 2019  
Public Performances: February 15 & 16, 2019



# SEUSSICAL JR.

BASED ON THE WORKS OF  
**DR. SEUSS**

# IN THIS GUIDE

## At The Theater

- The Chapman Cultural Center ... 3
- Theatre Etiquette ... 4
- Theatre Vocabulary ... 5

## The Play

- Meet the Author ... 6
- Meet the Composers ... 6
- Plot Summary ... 7
- Production Sponsors ... 8

## Classroom Connection

- Play Vocabulary ... 9
- Learning Activities ... 10
- Activity Sheets ... 14
- Classroom Contest ... 19

# AT THE THEATER



Dear Teachers,

We are so excited to present *Seussical Jr.* for the schools in Spartanburg and surrounding counties. Enclosed in this Enrichment Guide, you will find curriculum materials and activities that you can use in your classrooms before and after attending the performance. Please feel free to adapt any of these activities to fit the needs of your students.

Thank you so much for supporting the arts in your classrooms. Please do not hesitate to call or email with any questions or concerns.

Adam Sanders  
Director of the Spartanburg Youth Theatre  
(864) 583-4891  
[asanders@spartanarts.org](mailto:asanders@spartanarts.org)

## CONTACT

Spartanburg Little Theatre: (864) 585-8272  
Spartanburg Youth Theatre: (864) 583-4891  
The Chapman Cultural Center: (864) 542-ARTS

## DO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACTOR ON THE SYT STAGE?

Anyone in grades 3-12 can audition for a Spartanburg Youth Theatre Production.

Visit our website to find out how: [www.spartanburgyouththeatre.com/audition-information](http://www.spartanburgyouththeatre.com/audition-information)



# WELCOME TO THE CHAPMAN CULTURAL CENTER

The Chapman Cultural Center brings together Spartanburg's visual and performing arts in a beautiful 85,000 square-foot campus. At the heart of the complex is the 500-seat theater.

Patrons enter the theater through an exterior courtyard plaza, enclosed by the facility's three buildings, through a columned portico, and into the Center's main lobby. Large windows overlooking

the plaza, patterned terrazzo floors, and a pair of open stairways create an elegant setting for large gatherings, as well as community or private events.

Following the tradition of great performance spaces, such as Carnegie Hall, the theater itself is a classic horseshoe-shaped design. The shape creates an intimate theatre experience for patrons sitting on both levels. Each seat

has an excellent view of the stage, and the design of the room allows patrons to see each other from the side parterres and balcony. The architectural design of the theater is defined by the horseshoe geometry with curving parterre, balcony fronts, and a stepped circular ceiling with a detailed stenciled pattern crowned with a stained glass skylight.



## THIS BOOKLET

was written and designed  
by Jana Brunkens and Callie Dean.

Contact them by email at  
[jana.brunkens@gmail.com](mailto:jana.brunkens@gmail.com)  
to discuss your curriculum  
development needs.



# STAGE POLICIES

- The use of recording equipment and cameras is not permitted during the performance.
- Electronic devices are not permitted.
- Should a student become ill, suffer an injury, or have another problem, please escort him or her out of the theater.
- In the unlikely event of a general emergency, the house lights will come on, and a SYT or Chapman Center employee will come on stage and inform the audience of the problem. Remain in your seats and wait for further instructions.
- Please find your seats prior to going to the restroom.

If you have special needs for any student(s) and did not indicate your needs when you ordered tickets, please call SYT director, Adam Sanders, at (864) 583-4891.

***Watching a live performance on a stage is different from viewing a film at a movie theater. Remember, the actors on stage can see and hear you at the same time you can see and hear them.***

## THEATRE ETIQUETTE

- Stay with your group at all times and pay attention to your teachers and chaperones.
- Find your seat in the theater before going to the bathroom or getting a drink of water.
- Make yourself comfortable while keeping movement to a minimum.
- Please do not stand up, walk around, or put your feet on the seat in front of you.
- No chewing gum, eating, or drinking in the theater. No backpacks, cameras, or electronic devices are permitted in the theater.
- Feel free to talk quietly in your seats before the show.
- Show your appreciation by clapping for the actors at the end of the play.
- After the lights come back up, wait for the ushers to escort your group out of the theater.



## DID YOU KNOW??

The first actors were from ancient Greece. They wore masks to show their emotions. Today we use comedy and tragedy masks as a symbol for theatre.

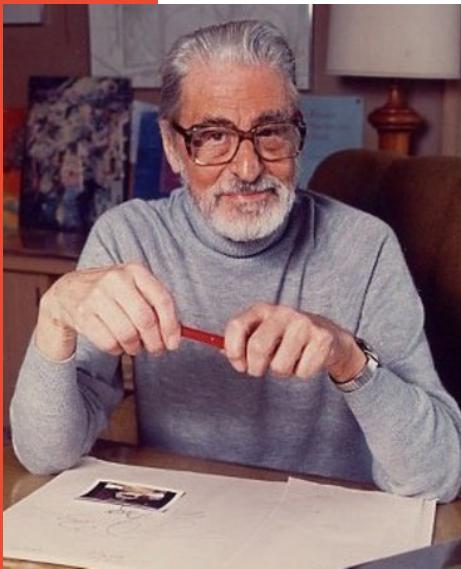
# MUSICAL THEATRE VOCABULARY

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- **Actor** – a person who acts in stage plays, motion pictures, television broadcasts, etc.
- **Author** – a person who writes a book or literary work.
- **Bookwriter** – a person who writes the talking scenes in the show which tell the story. This dialogue must fit between the songs and make the songs fit together.
- **Choreographer** – a person who helps the director stage the play, by creating and teaching the dances and movements that help to tell the story.
- **Composer** – a person who writes the musical “score”—all the musical notes that create the songs that you hear, including the orchestration.
- **Creative Team** – the team of creative artists who work together to create a musical.
- **Director** – a person who is responsible for creating the world of the play. He or she interprets the play and helps everyone on the creative team agree on the choices made in collaboration with the designers and actors.
- **Drama** – a composition presenting a story in dialogue, usually acted out on the stage.
- **Illustrator** – a person who creates drawings or pictures intended for education or adornment.
- **Lyricist** – a person who writes the words to the song. Often the composer is also the lyricist; sometimes the bookwriter is the lyricist.
- **Music Director** – a person who is responsible for teaching the music and helping the singers interpret the composer’s work. The way the ensemble sounds is the responsibility of the musical director.
- **Musical** – a play or motion picture in which the story line is interspersed with or developed by songs and dances.
- **Orchestrator** – to compose or arrange music for performance by an orchestra.
- **Play** – a dramatic performance taking place on a stage.
- **Props** – items/objects used by actors in a play.
- **Role** – a part or character played by an actor or actress.
- **Stage** – the platform on which the actors perform in a theater.

**Break a leg!**

Although the origin of the saying is unknown, well-wishers typically say “break a leg” to actors to wish them luck before they go on stage to perform. In the theatre, wishing a person “good luck” is actually considered bad luck.



## MEET THE AUTHOR

Adapted from <http://www.nea.org/grants/seuss-biography.html>

**Dr. Seuss** was born Theodor Seuss Geisel in Springfield, Massachusetts, on March 2, 1904. After graduating from Dartmouth College in 1925, he went to Oxford University, intending to acquire a doctorate in literature. At Oxford, Geisel met Helen Palmer, whom he wed in 1927. Upon his return to America later that year, Geisel published cartoons and humorous articles for *Judge*, the leading humor magazine in America at the time. His cartoons also appeared in major magazines such as *Life*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Liberty*.

Geisel developed the idea for his first children's book in 1936 while on a vacation cruise. The rhythm of the ship's engine drove the cadence to *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*.

In May of 1954, *Life* published a report on illiteracy among schoolchildren, suggesting that children were having trouble reading because their books were boring. This problem inspired Geisel's publisher, prompting him to send Geisel a list of 400 words he felt were important for children to learn. The publisher asked Geisel to cut the list to 250 words and use them to write an entertaining children's book. Nine months later, Geisel, using 225 of the words given to him, published *The Cat in the Hat*, which brought instant success.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1984 and three Academy Awards, Geisel authored and illustrated 44 children's books. Although Theodor Geisel died on September 24, 1991, Dr. Seuss lives on, inspiring generations of children of all ages to explore the joys of reading.

## MEET THE COMPOSERS

Adapted from <http://www.ahrensandflaherty.com/about-us.html>

Although long-time songwriting teams have become a rarity, **Lynn Ahrens** and **Stephen Flaherty** have proved the exception. In 1988, they burst onto the New York theater scene with the comic musical, "Lucky Stiff," and their partnership in words and music has flourished ever since. They went on to compose music for *Ragtime*, the musical theatre version of *Rocky*, and the animated film *Anastasia*.

Ahrens and Flaherty have received theatre, film, and music's highest honors -- the Tony Award, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Olivier Award, and Gold Record; as well as nominations for two Academy Awards, two Golden Globes, and three Grammys. They serve on the Council of the Dramatists Guild of America and founded the Dramatists Guild Fellows Program. In 2014 they received the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement and in 2015 they were inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame.



## SEND SNAIL MAIL

Students may wish to write letters to the cast of *Seussical Jr.* with their thoughts and comments on the production.

All correspondence should be sent to:  
The Spartanburg Youth Theatre  
200 E. Saint John St.  
Spartanburg, SC 29306



**"It's possible! It's possible! Anything's possible!"**  
- Jojo

## PLOT SUMMARY

Adapted from <https://www.mtishows.com/seussical-jr>

*Seussical Jr.* opens with a boy named Jojo, who stumbles across a red and white striped hat. All of a sudden, the Cat in the Hat appears and begins narrating the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers: Sour Kangaroo and Young Kangaroo bounce along to inform Horton that there couldn't possibly be a person on that speck, the Wickersham Brothers tease him for believing such nonsense, and two neighbor birds give an interview about Horton hearing things that don't exist.

Mayzie LaBird asks Horton to sit on her egg; when he agrees, she disappears...for 51 weeks! Horton pleads with Mayzie to take her egg back, but Mayzie relinquishes her responsibility. Just as things seem hopeless, Gertrude McFuzz appears with the clover and the Whos intact. As Horton is reunited with the Whos, everyone returns to take Horton to court for "talking with a speck, disturbing the peace, and loitering... on an egg." Judge Yertle remands Horton to the Nool Asylum and decides that the dust speck be boiled in a kettle of beezlenut oil. JoJo saves the day with the new word "Yopp!", and the Whos are saved. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him. Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant!

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Before our actors take the stage in *Seussical Jr.* we would like to thank our season sponsors and community partners. We couldn't put on these performances without them.

## Platinum Sponsors

**Pediatric Associates-Spartanburg**, part of Greenville Health System, offers a full range of healthcare needs for your children. From well-checks to sick visits, our goal is to offer you and your family the most current medical information and care available. For more information (hours, locations, and a complete list of services), visit [www.ghschildrens.org/pediatric-associates-spartanburg.php](http://www.ghschildrens.org/pediatric-associates-spartanburg.php).



**Denny's** is America's diner. This is where guests have come for over sixty years now to sit back, relax and enjoy delicious, hearty meals 24/7, every day of the year. If you're feeling hungry, we highly recommend that you stop in for a delicious breakfast all day long! For more information, visit [www.dennys.com](http://www.dennys.com).



The **Spartanburg County Public Library** is the perfect place to read more about Christmas traditions and to find more great reading adventures! For more information, visit [www.infodepot.org/](http://www.infodepot.org/).

## Community Partners

Hub City Bookshop  
[www.hubcity.org/bookshop/about/](http://www.hubcity.org/bookshop/about/)



Little Caesars Pizza  
[www.littlecaesars.com/](http://www.littlecaesars.com/)



**Little Caesars®**



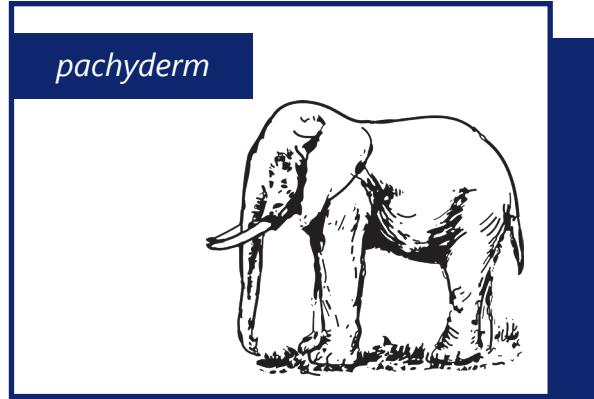
*"I have wings  
Yes, I can fly  
You teach him earth  
And I will teach him sky"*

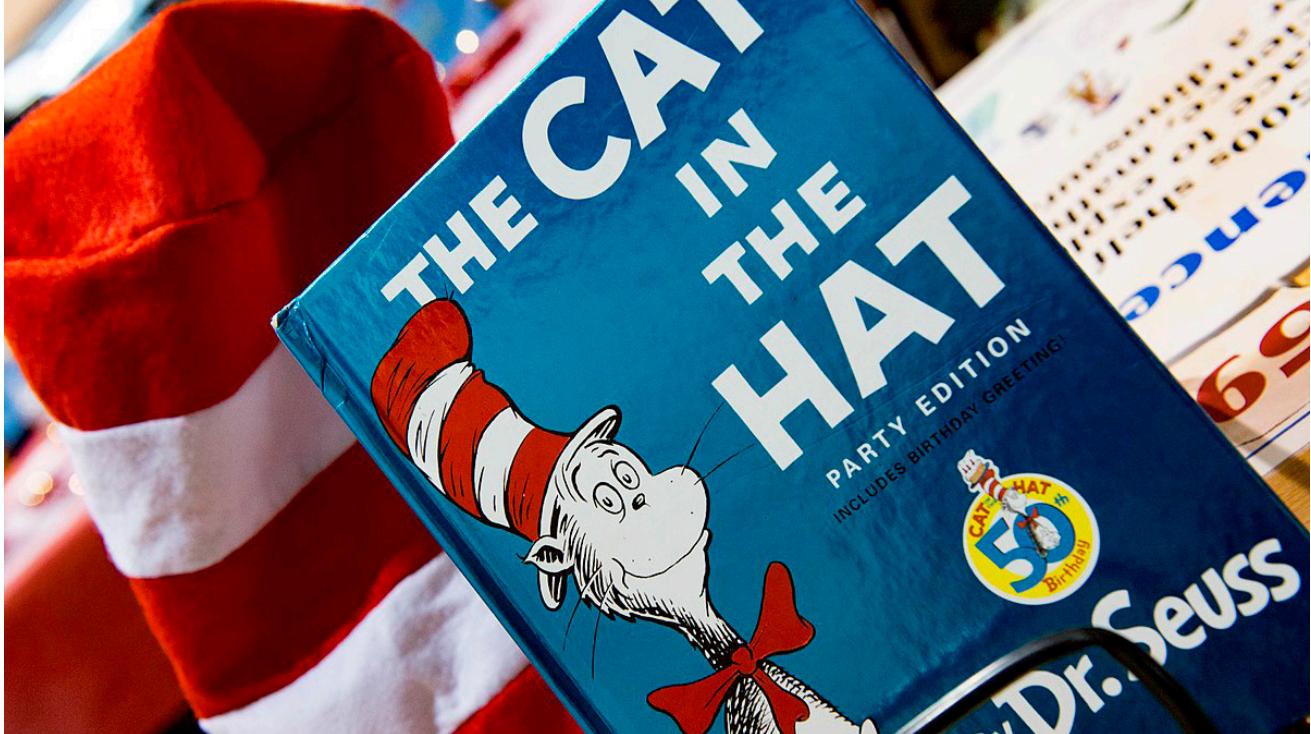
*-Gertrude McFuzz*

# CLASSROOM CONNECTION

## SEUSSICAL, JR. VOCABULARY

- **Auction** - a public sale in which goods or property are sold to the highest bidder. In New York, the Cat attempts to auction Horton off.
- **Conniption** - a fit of rage or hysterics. Mrs. Mayor uses this word to explain the result of JoJo's thinking.
- **Defendant** - someone who is sued or accused in a court of law. This term is used when Horton is put on trial for his "strange" behaviors.
- **Defy** - to openly resist or refuse to obey. Mayor uses this term as he scolds JoJo for thinking.
- **Ensue** - to happen afterward or as a result. The Cat uses this word as he describes the unpredictability of the story due to his presence.
- **Façade** - an outward appearance. Gertrude uses this word as she tries to get Horton to notice her.
- **Incubating** - sitting on eggs in order to keep them warm and bring them to hatching. Horton uses this word to describe his dilemma: to protect the Whos or to keep Mayzie's egg safe.
- **Keen** - highly developed. Horton uses this word to describe his hearing abilities.
- **Mayor** - the elected head of a city or town. Mayor is one of the characters in the show.
- **Objection** - an expression or feeling of disapproval or opposition. This term is used when Horton is put on trial for his "strange" behaviors.
- **Pachyderm** - a very large mammal with thick skin, especially an elephant, rhinoceros, or hippopotamus. Cat uses this word to describe Horton.
- **Peculiar** - strange or odd. JoJo must think of something new and peculiar to say in order to get the attention of those who do not believe the Whos exist.
- **Presiding** - be in charge of. This term is used when Horton is put on trial for his "strange" behaviors.
- **Sour** - feeling or expressing resentment, disappointment, or anger. Sour is used in the show as an adjective to describe Kangaroo.
- **Tantrum** - an uncontrolled outburst of anger and frustration. Gertrude has a fit when the doctor tells her that her tail is fine the way it is.
- **Think** - In many of his stories, Dr. Seuss uses this verb as a noun. It is unique and bizarre but is his way of expressing that there is no limit to imagination.
- **Vain** - having an excessively high opinion of one's appearance, abilities, or worth. Once she realizes that her tail is a mistake, Gertrude tells the doctor she was foolish and vain.





## LEARNING ACTIVITY #1 - MIXED-UP STORIES

**ELA Content Standards:** RL-7, W-3

**Materials Needed:** *Horton Hears a Who*, at least two other books by Dr. Seuss (complete list below)

**Instructions:**

1. As a class or in small groups, read several of the Dr. Seuss books on which *Seussical, Jr.* is based. After each story, ask students:
  - How was this book similar to the musical? (Encourage them to think about different elements of the story: characters, events, setting, themes, etc.)
  - How was it different?
  - Create a Venn diagram showing the similarities and differences between the book and the musical.
2. Composers and writers Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty adapted several of Dr. Seuss's books to write the script and songs for the musical *Seussical, Jr.*. What do you think would be tricky about that job? What would be fun?
3. Ask students to list their favorite 3-4 characters from other (non-Dr. Seuss) works of fiction. Encourage them to pick characters that are very different from each other. Then invite them to compose a short story that brings together all of these different characters.

**Optional Extension:** Have students pretend to be Broadway composers and write a poem of song lyrics that might be included in their mixed-up short story.

List of books included in *Seussical, Jr.*:

- *Horton Hears a Who!*
- *Horton Hatches the Egg*
- *Yertle the Turtle*
- *The Cat in the Hat*
- *Green Eggs and Ham*
- *And to Think that I Saw it on Mulberry Street*
- *McElligot's Pool*
- *The Cat in the Hat*
- *Dr. Seuss's ABC*
- *Oh, The Thinks You Can Think!*
- *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*
- *If I Ran the Circus*

## LEARNING ACTIVITY #2 - GUESS WHO OF WHOVILLE



### ELA Content Standards: RL-8

**Materials:** Guess Who cards (page 12), Guess Who chart (page 13), blackboard/whiteboard

**Preparation:** Print and cut out the the Guess Who cards ahead of time.

#### Instructions:

1. Explain the rules of Guess Who:
  - One volunteer will draw a card from the stack, which contains the name of a character from *Seussical, Jr.*.
  - They will pretend to be that character in front of the class by adopting the mannerisms and character traits of that particular character.
  - They can also give verbal clues to the class about who they are (e.g. for Horton: "I sat on an egg"), but they cannot say any portion of their character's name (e.g. the Cat in the Hat cannot say "I am a cat").
  - Whoever guesses correctly will then get to be the actor in the next round.
2. Choose one volunteer to go first. (Alternatively, divide students into small groups, give each group a stack of Guess Who cards and a Guess Who chart, and let them complete the game in small groups instead).
3. After each character has been guessed, fill out the Guess Who chart, either as a group or individually, to list some of the physical and personality traits of each character.
4. Ask:
  - How were you able to figure out who each person was pretending to be?
  - What about during the musical? What clues did you hear or see that helped you figure out who each character was? (Prompt them to think of specific examples of how the costumes helped to portray the characters' physical traits; and how the actor/actress portrayed the character's personality traits.)

Dr. Seuss

**"We're tiny little people  
Blowing by in the air  
Wondering how and why  
We're on Who  
The tiniest planet in the sky."**

**-the Whos**

# GUESS WHO CARDS

*Seussical, Jr. Enrichment Guide*

Name:

Date:

The Cat in the Hat	JoJo	
Horton	Gertrude McFuzz	Mayzie LaBird
Sour Kangaroo	Wickersham Brothers	Yertle the Tertle
Vlad Vladikoff	Mr. Mayor	Mrs. Mayor

# GUESS WHO CHART

*Seussical, Jr. Enrichment Guide*

Name:

Date:

Character Name	Physical Traits <i>What does the character look like?</i>	Personality Traits <i>What is the character like on the inside?</i>	Feelings <i>How does the character feel about what happens in the play?</i>

# YOPP!

## Seussical, Jr. Enrichment Guide

Name:

Date:

**Instructions:** In *Seussical, Jr.*, Jojo invents a new word, Yopp, to help the Whos to be heard by the other characters. Match the crazy (but real!) words to their definitions to test how much you know!

argle-bargle

bumbershoot

flibbertigibbet

logorrhea

nudiustertian

oocephalus

skedaddle

snickersnee

wabbit

umbrella

quarrel

to hurry

referring to the day before yesterday

talkativeness

exhausted

nonsense

egghead

knife

### Did you know?

Authors have a long history of creating new English words.

- “Boredom” was invented by Charles Dickens in his novel *Bleak House*.
- “Pandemonium” was invented by John Milton in his epic *Paradise Lost*.
- “Luggage” was invented by William Shakespeare in the play *King Henry IV Part 1*.

### Now it's your turn.

If you could invent a new word, what would it be?

New word:

Definition:

Illustrate it here:

# PATTERNS GALORE!

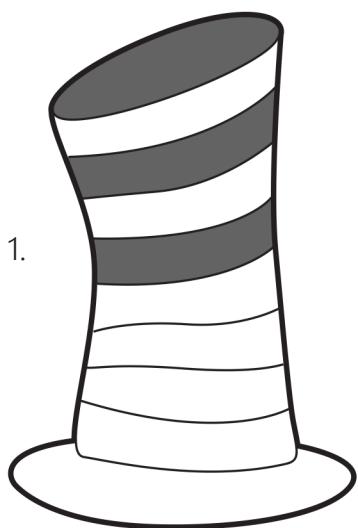
*Seussical Jr. Enrichment Guide*

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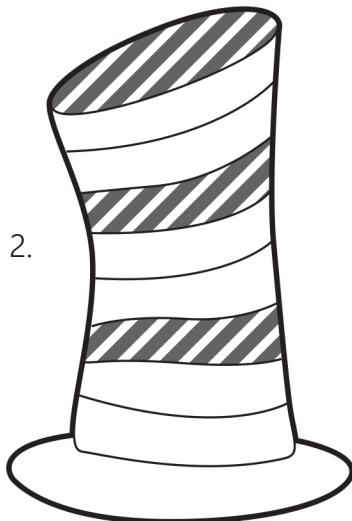
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**Instructions:** Complete the pattern for each hat.

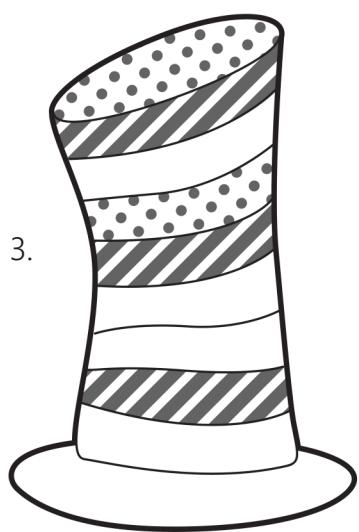
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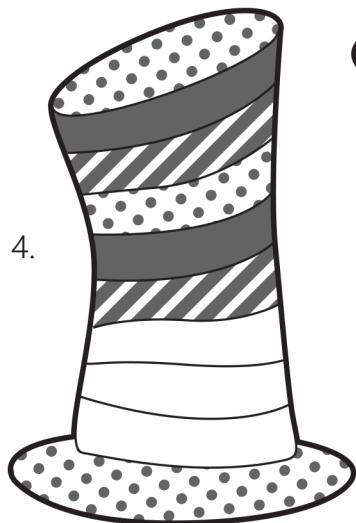
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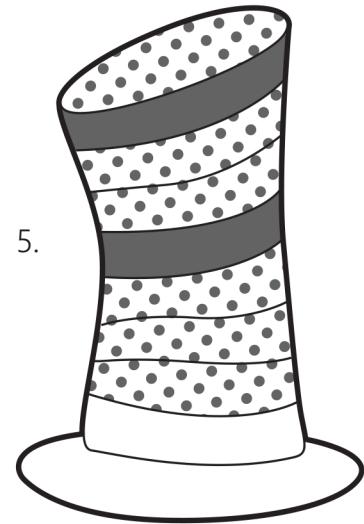
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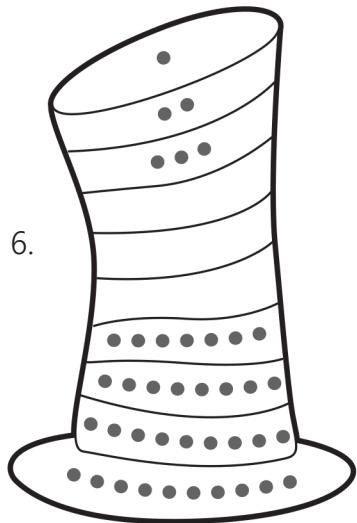
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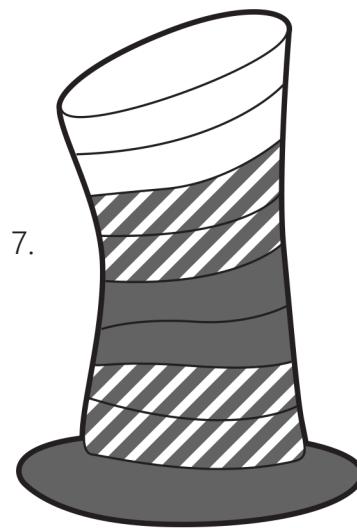
5.



6.



7.



# CELEBRATE DR. SEUSS!

Seussical Jr. Enrichment Guide

Name:

Date:

Dr. Seuss was born on March 2, 1904. Want to celebrate his birthday in a special way? Try some of these activities.

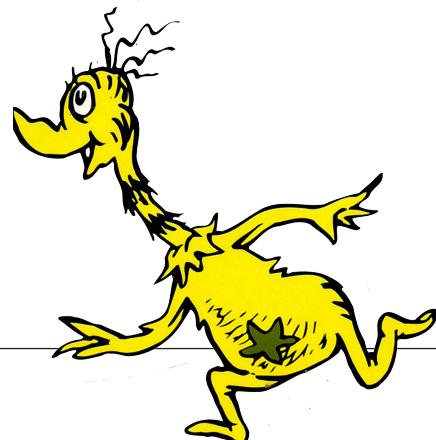
## Decorate and wear a special hat!

Or make your own!

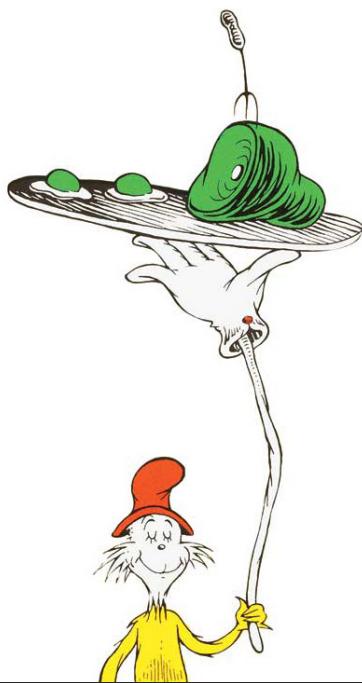
### Materials

- Red Solo cup
- White acrylic paint or paint pen
- String/twine
- Hot glue

1. Turn the red cup upside down.
2. Use the white paint to draw stripes (or other decorations) on the cup.
3. Cut the string to go around your head.
4. Hot glue the ends of the string to the bottom of the cup.



Decorate a star and pin it to your shirt, just like the Sneetches.



Make green eggs and ham for breakfast: Add 2-3 drops of blue food coloring to your eggs before you scramble them.

Why blue??  
Because blue + yellow makes green!



## Make Oobleck!

Oobleck is a non-Newtonian fluid, which means that its viscosity changes based on pressure, so it can behave like either a solid or a liquid. It is named after the fictional substance in Dr. Seuss's book *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*.

### Ingredients

- 2 cups corn starch
- 1 cup water
- Food coloring (optional)

Mix all of the ingredients together. You should be able to press the oobleck into a ball into your hand; but when it is released, it will "melt" back into a liquid. If your oobleck is too watery, add some additional corn starch. If it is too flaky or solid, add some additional water.

### What to do with it?

- Practice color mixing! Try mixing different combinations of food coloring to make your own favorite hues.
- Use oobleck to paint on the sidewalk.
- Drive toy cars through it.
- Freeze it to see what happens.
- Experiment with different amounts of liquid and corn starch in the recipe.
- Add a few squirts of dish soap to the mixture to see how the consistency changes.

# YOPP!

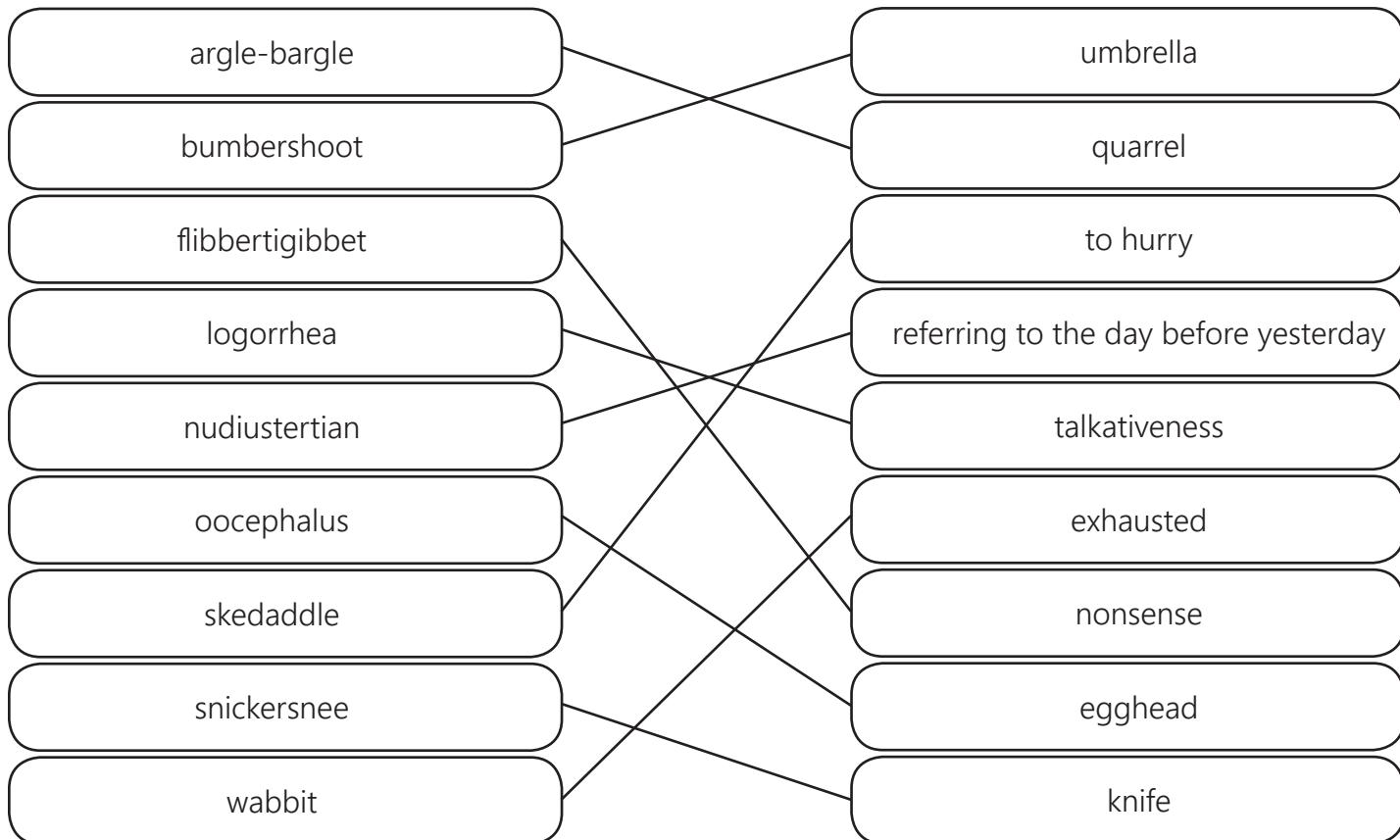
*Seussical, Jr.* Enrichment Guide

Name:

Date:

# KEY

**Instructions:** In *Seussical, Jr.*, Jojo invents a new word, Yopp, to help the Whos to be heard by the other characters. Match the crazy (but real!) words to their definitions to test how much you know!



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Authors have a long history of creating new English words.

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## Now it's your turn.

If you could invent a new word, what would it be?

New word:

Definition:

Illustrate it here:

# PATTERNS GALORE!

*Seussical Jr. Enrichment Guide*

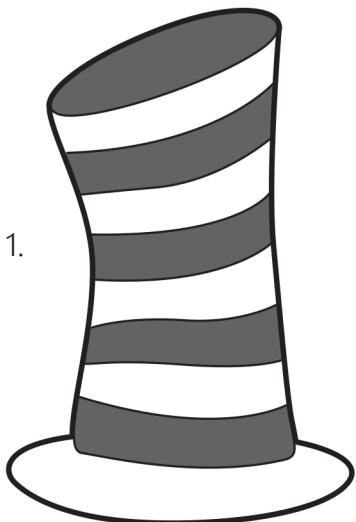
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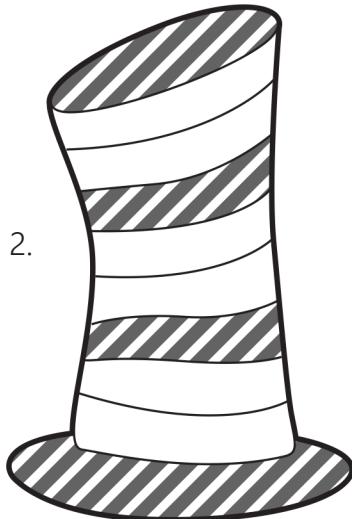
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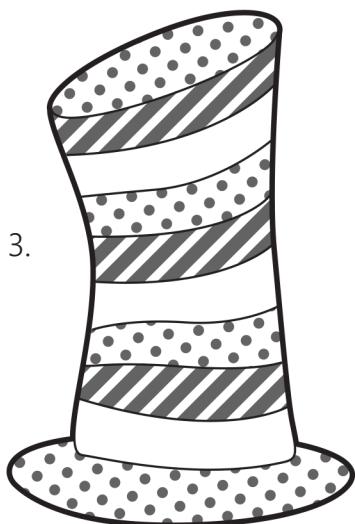
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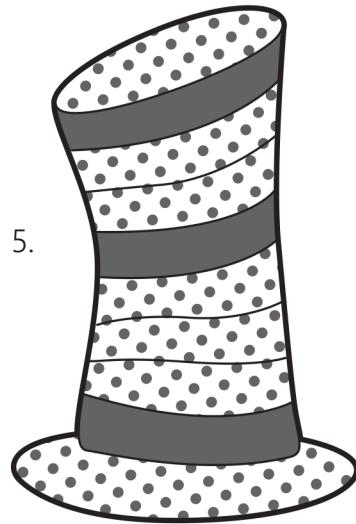
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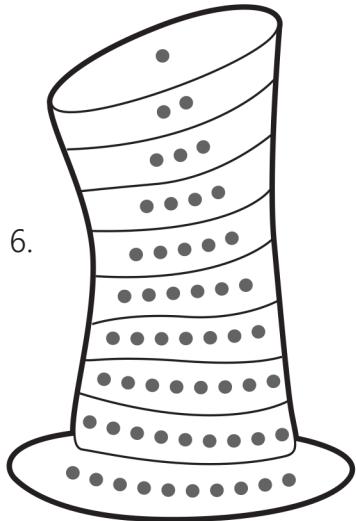
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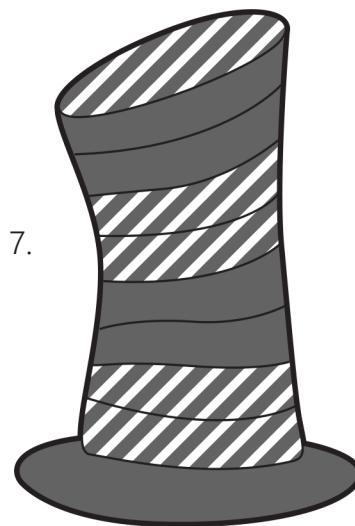
5.



6.



7.



SPARTANBURG YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS:

# THE "OH ,THE THINKS YOU CAN THINK" CONTEST!

In Seussical Jr., JoJo must come up with a new word to save Whoville. He needs your help to invent a new word or contraption to get Horton's attention!



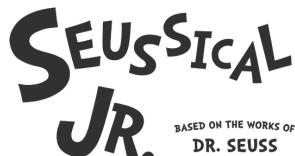
## INSTRUCTIONS

- INVENT A NEW WORD OR CONTRAPTION THAT YOU THINK COULD GET HORTON'S ATTENTION AND SAVE WHOVILLE.
- DRAW YOUR WORD OR INVENTION ON THE TEMPLATE PROVIDED. DON'T FORGET TO MAKE IT COLORFUL AND CREATIVE! USE YOUR IMAGINATION!
- BELOW YOUR WORD/INVENTION, WRITE 2-3 SENTENCES ABOUT YOUR WORD/INVENTION AND WHAT IT MEANS/HOW IT WORKS.

# SUBMISSION

1. SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY 5PM ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019
2. ONE DRAWING PER STUDENT
3. PLEASE LABEL EACH DRAWING WITH: THE STUDENT'S NAME, SCHOOL, TEACHER, & GRADE
4. INCLUDE ALL DRAWINGS IN ONE SUBMISSION

The winning submission will be chosen by the cast of



The winner will be notified by  
Wednesday, February 6, 2019.

*The winner will be recognized from the stage at all performances. Each class's submissions will be displayed in the Chapman Cultural Center lobby for all performances.*

Mail or drop off your submissions at the Chapman Cultural Center:  
**ATTN: Adam Sanders**  
**Spartanburg Youth Theatre**  
**200 E. St John St.**  
**Spartanburg, SC 29306**

SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE  
BY 5:00 PM ON FRIDAY,  
FEBRUARY 1, 2019.

Have questions? Email: [asanders@spartanarts.org](mailto:asanders@spartanarts.org)

# MY "THINK"



STUDENT:

SCHOOL:

TEACHER:

GRADE:

