

NEW STAGE *Theatre*



Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture
Book by Kevin Del Aguila Original Music and Lyrics by George Noriega & Joel Someillan

STUDY GUIDE

Sponsored by

*Sam E. and Bernice C. Wittel
Foundation*



Trustmark

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SHOW US your WORK!

We would love to see your classroom activities! Send your study guide activities, drawings, or writing assignments to
Kerri Sanders, 1100 Carlisle Street, Jackson, MS 39202

To the Teacher

Dear Teacher,

We are so thrilled to have you and your students at the theatre to experience ***Madagascar - A Musical Adventure!*** We know this will be a fun and interactive way for your students to get to know the art of theatre. The musical is based on the popular children's movie *Madagascar* produced by DreamWorks Animation.

This study guide is to help prepare you and your students for the performance. We want to prepare them to see people playing animal characters, to understand their job as audience members, and to gain a deeper knowledge of the story's themes and characters.

We have included an array of activities for before and after the play from facts about the island of Madagascar to creating and drawing their own animal character! We hope these activities will get your students excited to see the show! **Don't miss our Alex the Lion T-Shirt Coloring Contest on page 22.** Bring your students' t-shirt designs to the performance. We will choose one winner after the performance on Monday, February 6th, and that student will receive an official poster signed by the cast!

At the end of the study guide, you will find evaluations for both teachers and students. We would love to hear your feedback! Please feel free to send not only the evaluations but any activities, pictures or letters your students create in response to the show.

The cast, crew, and staff cannot wait to welcome you to the theatre. From all of us: enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

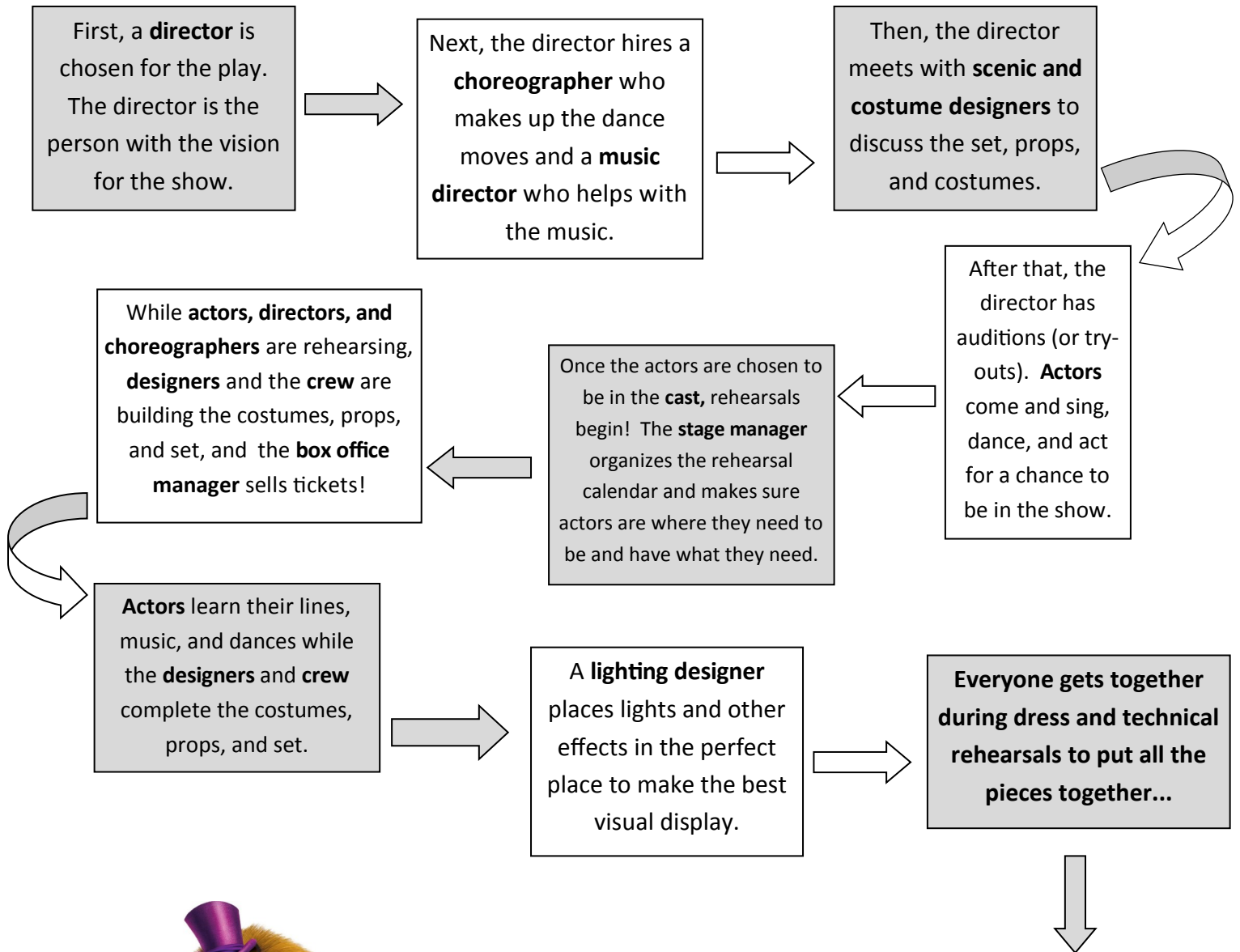
Kerri Sanders

Education Director

NEW STAGE
Theatre

Making a Play

Putting on a play is a lot of fun, but it's a lot of work too! It takes a whole crew of people doing some really cool jobs to make a play happen. Check out the details below!



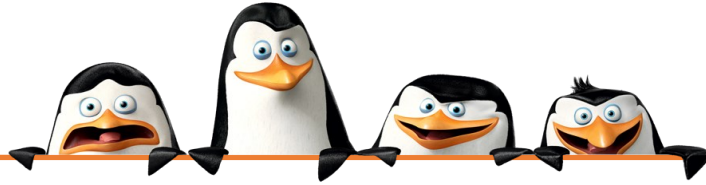
It's Showtime!

Which one of these careers sounds most interesting to you? Why? Write a paragraph about your theatre career choice.

The Audience's Job

When you come to New Stage Theatre to see *Madagascar - A Musical Adventure* you have a very important job. You are a part of the **audience**, the group of people who watch a play or other event. The actors on stage need your help to make the show the best it can be!

Here are **DO's** and **DO NOT's** to help you be the very best at your job as audience member:



DO NOT take photos or videos during the performance.

DO NOT eat, drink, or chew gum in the theatre.

DO wait quietly in your seat for the show to begin.

DO make sure all cell phones are turned **OFF** during the performance.

DO stay in your seat and be quiet during the show.

The actors might invite you to sing or dance along, but only do so when they ask!

DO laugh, applaud, dance and sing *when appropriate*.



ENJOY THE SHOW!



Plot Summary

Alex the lion, Marty the zebra, Gloria the hippo, Melman the giraffe and all the other animals at the Central Park Zoo love it when ***It's Showtime!*** People come to see their exhibits and watch crack-a-lackin' Marty and the king of New York City (Alex) in their habitats. They love their home, but Marty and the penguins dream of being ***Wild and Free*** in their natural habitats! Alex tries to cheer Marty up by reminding him that they're ***Best Friends***, but when the penguins decide to go ***Back Where They Belong***, Marty decides to run away too! Alex and the other zoosters go after Marty. Marty tries to get them to ***Relax, Be Cool, Chill Out***, but animal control catches up to the escaped animals and puts them on a boat to a wildlife reserve in Africa! The penguins break out of their crates and take control of the boat. The zoosters' crates fall off the boat as the penguins head to Antarctica.

Alex and his friends land on the island of Madagascar where they meet a group of lemurs and are introduced to the dangerous foosa! When Alex is able to scare the foosa away, the lemurs take them all to meet King Julien who shows them how he likes to ***Move It!*** Marty, Gloria, and Melman love ***Living in Paradise***, but all Alex can think about is his rumbling tummy and ***Steak***. While dreaming of the dinner he desires, Alex turns on Marty and bites him! Ashamed by his animal instincts, Alex banishes himself to the foosa side of the island. Just then, the penguins come back from too-cold Antarctica to rescue the zoosters! Marty reminds Alex that nothing can come between ***Best Friends***. The zoosters defeat the foosa, and Alex is declared the ***King of Madagascar***. The zoosters vow to be ***Together Forever***, and they join in with their new friends to ***Move It*** one more time before heading back to New York.



What is an adaptation?

Madagascar - A Musical Adventure is a **theatrical adaptation**. In a theatrical adaptation, material from a book or movie is re-written to accommodate the needs of the theatre.



Madagascar - A Musical Adventure at The Coterie Theatre

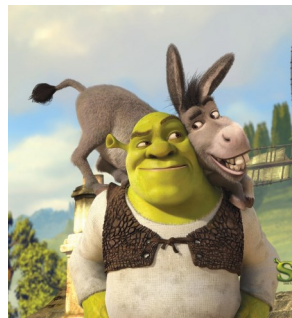
A theatrical adaptation takes the best parts of our favorite movies, puts them onstage and adds more of what we love to make it the best live play it can be!

Here are some other well-known theatrical adaptations!

Beauty and the Beast



Shrek



If you could adapt any movie into a live musical what would it be?

Draw your adaptation here!

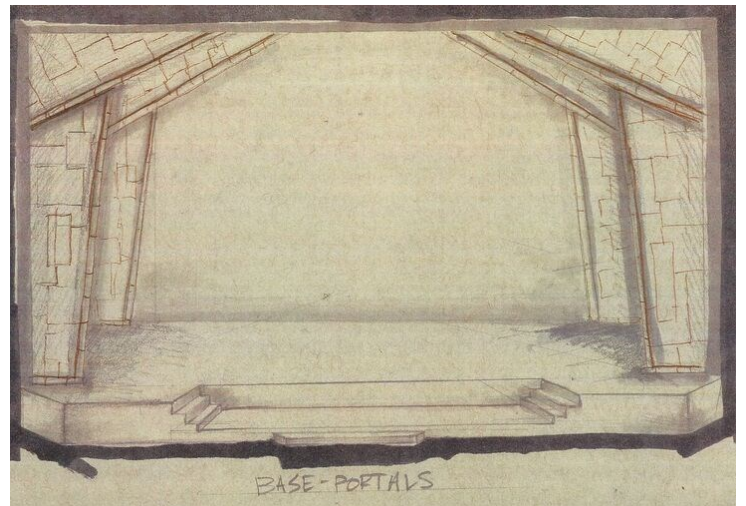
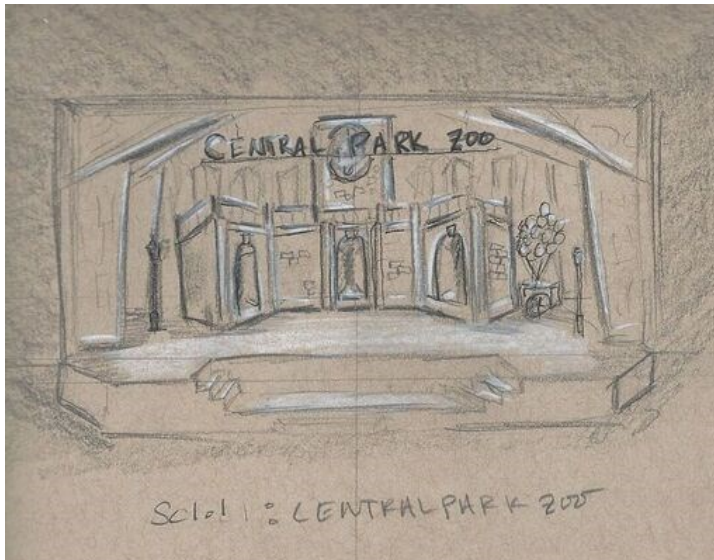


What do you think is the hardest part about making a theatrical adaptation? Design a poster for your musical! Send us a copy! We'd love to see your ideas!

Scenic & Costume Designs

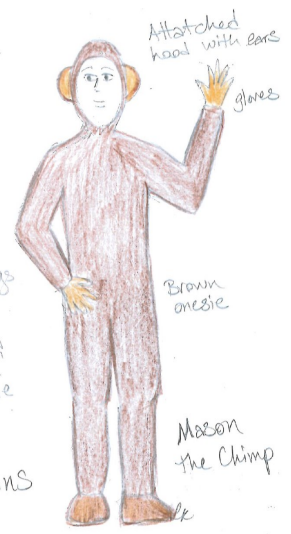
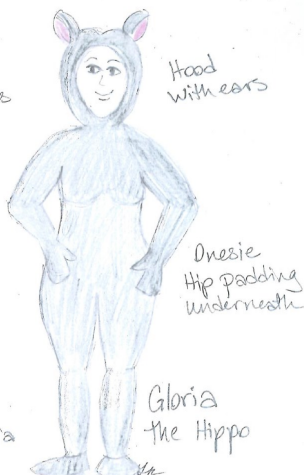
SCENIC

The **scenic elements** are the visual parts of the play, specifically the sets and props. Our scenic designer Cody Stockstill had to design a set that showed the audience a lot of different locations! Can you name all the places we go during the play?



COSTUMES

Costumes are the items that actors wear in a play. Our costume designer Lesley Raybon had the challenge of turning human actors into animals! Check out how she did it below! Can you think of other ways to make animal costumes?



Wild Words!

Zookeepers Zelda and Zeke know some pretty wild words! Check out some of them below then test your knowledge with the word search on the next page.

CARNIVORE – an animal that eats only meat

Alex the lion is a carnivore.

CLIMATE – the general weather conditions of a particular place

Mississippi's climate is hot and humid.

ENDANGERED SPECIES – a species of animal or plant that is at risk of extinction

The Madagascar pochard is an endangered species.

ENDEMIC – natural or native to a particular place

The tomato frog is endemic to Madagascar..

FLORA – the plants of a region or area

Ninety percent of Madagascar's flora is found nowhere else in the world!

FAUNA – the animals of a region or area

Check out some of Madagascar's fauna on page 12.

HABITAT – an animal's natural environment or an animal's home in a zoo

The penguin's natural habitat is Antarctica.

HERBIVORE – an animal that eats only plants

Marty the zebra is an herbivore.

ISLAND – a piece of land surrounded by water on all sides

Madagascar is one of the largest islands in the world.

NOCTURNAL – active at night

Animals that are nocturnal sleep during the day, and come out at night. Several types of lemurs are nocturnal.

OMNIVORE – an animal that eats both meat and plants

Humans are omnivores because we eat both meat and vegetables.

PRIMATE – a member of a group of animals that includes monkeys and apes

Mason the chimpanzee is a primate.

RAINFOREST – a tropical forest that receives a lot of rain and has very tall trees

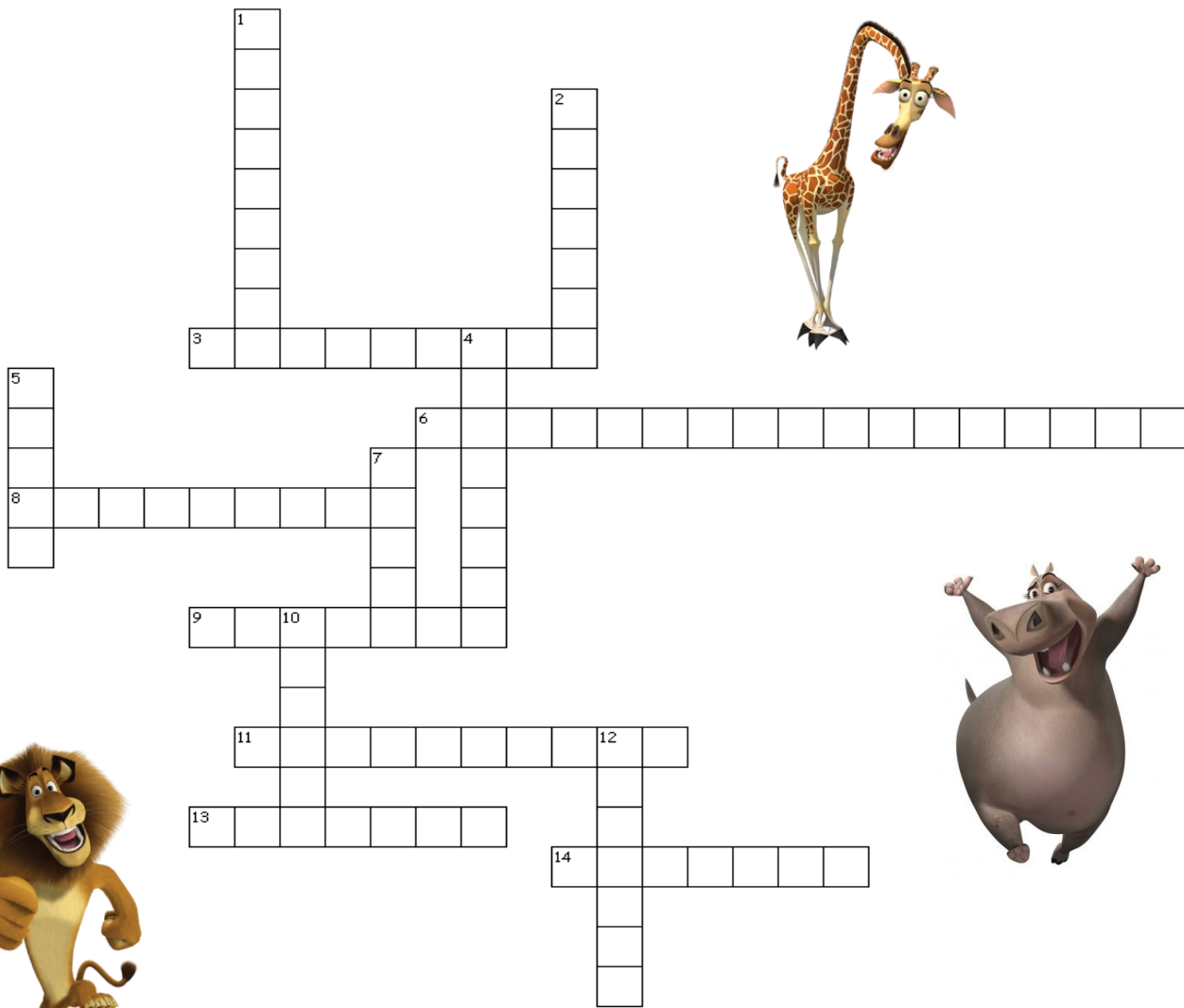
Twenty-two percent of Madagascar is rainforest.

SAVANNA – a large flat area of land with grass and very few trees usually located in Africa or South America

Marty the zebra lives in the savanna!



WILD crossWORD



ACROSS

- 3. an animal that eats only plants
- 6. the Madagascar pochard
- 8. active at night
- 9. a group of animals that includes apes
- 11. a tropical forest
- 13. native to a particular place
- 14. an animal's natural environment

DOWN

- 1. an animal that eats only meat
- 2. general weather conditions
- 4. an animal that eats meat and plants
- 5. the animals of a region or area
- 7. the plants of a region or area
- 10. land surrounded by water on all sides
- 12. Marty's habitat

Get to Know Madagascar

In the play, Alex, Marty and their friends travel to exotic Madagascar. Let's learn some fun facts about this "wild and free" island!

Madagascar is an **island** located off the coast of Africa. It is in the **Indian Ocean** and is the fourth largest island in the world!

Madagascar was a very important trading post for silk, spices and other rare goods. Because of this, it became a popular home to pirates looking to steal goods from the traders' ships! The island was settled by French **colonists** in 1895.



Source: www.worldatlas.com



The capital of Madagascar is **Antananarivo**. The **climate** is hot and rainy from November to April and cool and dry from May to October. During the rainy season, the island often has dangerous **monsoons**!

It is home to a large number of plants and animals found nowhere else on earth like the tomato frog, panther chameleon, and 50 different types of lemurs! Learn more about these animals on the next page!

Get to Know Madagascar

Check out some of the animals native (or endemic) to the island of Madagascar!

How many of these animals do Alex and his friends encounter on their trip?

Giraffe Weevil

This insect looks like it could be related to our friend Melman! The weevil gets its name from its long neck that it uses to build its nest.



The blue coua is a type of bird known for its bright blue feathers. It is a member of the cuckoo family.

Blue Coua



Fossa



“Foosa! Foosa hungry!” The character “Foosa” in our play is based on the fossa. The fossa is the largest carnivore on Madagascar.

No wonder the lemurs fear the fossa!

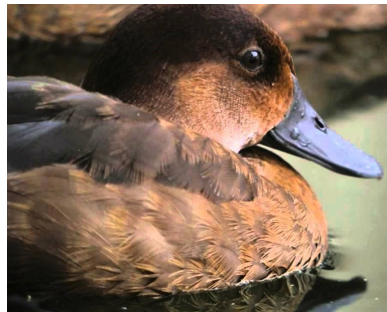
Brookesia Chameleon



The brookesia chameleon is one of the world’s smallest reptiles! One species is barely an inch long!

The Madagascar Pochard is one of the rarest diving ducks in the world. In 2013, there were only 80 left in the world.

Madagascar Pochard



Panther Chameleon



The panther chameleon is one of the largest chameleons in the world and is known for its vibrant colors!

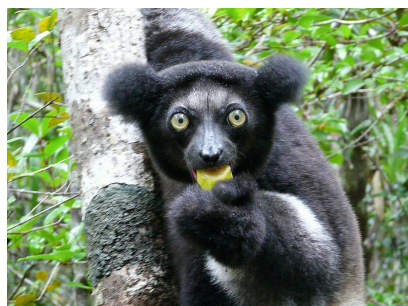
LEMURS

Madagascar is home to over 50 types of lemurs! Lemurs are cat-like animals in the same family as monkeys. They spend most of their time in beautiful trees in Madagascar’s rain forests.

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Many of Madagascar’s animal species are on the verge of extinction. Find out what you can do to help save these awesome animals on page 18!

Get to Know Madagascar

Test your reading comprehension and your knowledge of King Julien's island with the questions below!

1. Madagascar is what kind of land mass? The term means water on all four sides.
2. Name two animals that are native to Madagascar.
3. What is the capital of Madagascar?
4. In which ocean is Madagascar located?
5. Madagascar is home to how many different types of lemurs?
6. What is the largest carnivore on Madagascar?
7. Which chameleon is one of the largest on earth: brookesia or panther chameleon?



8. During the rainy season, the island often has dangerous _____.
9. What kind of lemur do you think King Julien is? Ring-tailed or sifaka?

Get to Know Madagascar-KEY

Test your reading comprehension and your knowledge of King Julien's island with the questions below!

1. Madagascar is what kind of land mass? The term means water on all four sides.

island

2. Name two animals that are native to Madagascar.

Giraffe weevil, blue coua, fossa, brookesia chameleon, Madagascar pochard, panther chameleon, or lemurs

3. What is the capital of Madagascar?

Antananarivo

4. In which ocean is Madagascar located?

Indian Ocean

5. Madagascar is home to how many different types of lemurs?

Over 50

6. What is the largest carnivore on Madagascar?

fossa

7. Which chameleon is one of the largest on earth: brookesia or panther chameleon?

Panther chameleon

8. During the rainy season, the island often has dangerous _____.

monsoons

9. What kind of lemur do you think King Julien is? Ring-tailed or sifaka?

Ring-tailed



Meet the Animals

at the Central Park Zoo!

Alex the Lion

Did You Know?



A group of lions is called a **pride**, and both male and female roar's can be heard up to **5 miles** away. While the pride often consists of 2-3 males, females (and cubs) make up the rest of the pack. They often eat antelopes, zebras, and wildebeest caught by the female **lionesses**. These prides are found only in parts of **sub-Saharan Africa** except for a very small population of Asian lion's in the Gir Forest in India.



Marty the Zebra

Did You Know?

No two zebras have the same stripe pattern. They live mostly in **herds** similar to those of lions. Though they have to watch out for lions and hyenas, their **striped** coat often makes it difficult to pick out individuals from the herd. These animals live and eat **grasses** together with their close **family** members. If attacked, other zebras will form a protective circle around the injured member.



Meet the Animals

at the Central Park Zoo!



Gloria the Hippo

Did You Know?

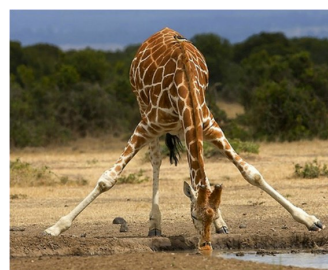
A hippopotamus can live up to **40 years** and can weigh up to **4 tons!** Their name means “**river horse**” because they love the water. They spend up to 16 hours a day in the water to stay cool. A baby hippo is called a **calf**. When hippo calves are born, they can weigh up to 100 pounds and can eat underwater. A group of hippos is called a **school**.



Melman the Giraffe

Did You Know?

Giraffes are the world's tallest **mammals**. Their legs alone are usually over 6 feet tall! They can run as fast as 35 miles per hour! Female giraffes are called **cows**, and male giraffes are called **bulls**. They use their long tongues (sometimes as long as 21 inches) to eat hundreds of pounds of leaves a day! Drinking water can be very dangerous for the tall herbivores. They have to spread their legs out far enough to allow their long neck to reach the water.



Meet the Animals

at the Central Park Zoo!

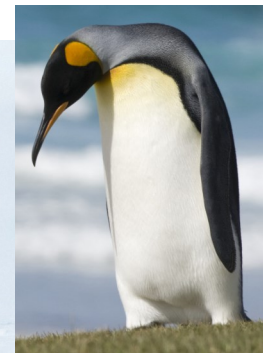
THE PENGUINS



Did You Know?

There are **17 different species** of penguins. Most species live in the **Southern Hemisphere** on the coasts of South America, Africa, Asia and the Galapagos Islands, but only the **Emperor penguin** stays in Antarctica through the frigid winter! Some penguin species have funny names like the **Macaroni penguin** or the **Chinstrap penguin**.

These species get their names from their unique physical traits. Penguins cannot fly but instead use their wings as flippers in the ocean. They spend half their time in the sea and can drink sea water! Some species of penguins have up to **four layers** of feathers that keep them warm in cold temperatures.



The Path to Extinction

SILKY SIFAKA



Madagascar is home to the largest population of endangered species, animals that are almost extinct.

Lemurs, like King Julien and Maurice are the most endangered mammals in the entire world! Imagine living in a world with no more ring-tailed lemurs or sifakas! Increased poverty levels on Madagascar have led to widespread illegal destruction of the island's forests. That means the lemurs homes are being destroyed!

NORTHERN SPORTIVE LEMUR

Several species like the indri, (the largest lemur), the blue-eyed black lemur (the only primate other than humans with blue eyes), and the mouse lemur are critically endangered. That means they are at the highest risk for extinction. The northern sportive lemur is the most rare of all with only 18 individuals left.

MOUSE LEMUR



INDRI



BLUE-EYED BLACK LEMUR

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Fortunately, the lemurs have a lot of friends out there. There are lots of charities working very hard to conserve the species. You can help by choosing one of the awesome groups below and making a donation to their efforts!

Try having a bake sale or lemonade stand and donating your proceeds to help save the lemurs!



Bristol Zoological Society



seed madagascar
sustainable environment, education & development

It's a Party!

Did you know that a group of blue jays is called a "party?"

Check out some other funny animal group names below, then match the picture to its group name on the next page!

a congregation of alligators



a caravan of camels



an army of caterpillars



a flight of butterflies



a cast of crabs



a quiver of cobras



a charm of hummingbirds

a school of hippos



a tower of giraffes



a mischief of mice



a pride of lions

a party of blue jays



a colony of ants

a coalition of cheetahs

a pod of dolphins



a romp of otters



It's a Party!

Draw a line connecting the picture to the correct name of its group!



Congregation



Colony



Flight



Caravan

Army



Coalition

Quiver



Cast



Party

School



Pod

Pride



Tower

Charm

Mischief



Romp



Here are some other great before and after the play activities for you and your students to enjoy!

Before the Play

Move It, Move It!

Design your own exercise routine at home! Do step-ups on a chair while you wait for food to be prepared. Crawl on the floor to put your toys away. Do lunges while setting the table. The possibilities are endless! Draw a picture of each move and lead the class in your routine!

Create your own animal character!

Gloria is a sassy hippo. What kind of personality do you think a tiger or a chameleon or a koala might have? Use **alliteration** to name your character. Alliteration uses the same first letters of each word, like Cammie Chameleon. **Draw a picture of your character!**

WRITE AN ADAPTATION OF YOUR FAVORITE STORY

After the Play

DISCUSSION PROMPTS:

- How do Marty and Alex resolve their conflicts in the play? How do you resolve conflicts with your friends?
- The saying "the grass is always greener on the other side" means that someone is not content with their circumstances. Have you ever felt that way? What happened? Which characters in the play feel like that?
- If you could take a trip anywhere in the world where would you go and why? How would you get there?

Act out your favorite scenes with your classmates!

Write a play review

Make a Venn diagram to list the similarities and differences between the play and the movie!

Show us your work! We'd love to see how you incorporated *Madagascar - A Musical Adventure* into your curriculum! Send copies to Kerri Sanders / 1100 Carlisle St / Jackson, MS / 39202

Alex T-Shirt Coloring Contest

In the play, Alex gives Marty a t-shirt for his birthday. Design an Alex the Lion t-shirt below and bring it with you to the performance! The winner of the contest will receive an official *Madagascar - A Musical Adventure* poster signed by the cast!



Name: _____

Grade: _____

School: _____

Teacher Evaluation Form—*Madagascar*

Name: _____ School: _____

What is your overall reaction to the production?

How do you feel about the production values of the performance (costumes, set, performers, etc?)

How did your students react to the production?

Did you utilize the study guide materials? Why or why not? (We would love to see some of the work your students have done!)

Please comment on the educational value of the program.

What is your overall reaction to the question and answer (talk-back) session?

How did you hear about the New Stage production of *Madagascar - A Musical Adventure*?

What other plays would you like for your students to see?

Please list other comments and observations.

Please help New Stage by sharing your thoughts with us! Return form to:

Kerri Sanders/ Education Director/ New Stage Theatre/ 1100 Carlisle St/ Jackson, MS 39202

or fax to 601.948.3538.

Student Evaluation Form—*Madagascar*

Name: _____ School: _____

What was your favorite part of the play?

What did you think about the costumes, props, and set? How would you have changed them if you were the designer?

Who was your favorite character? Draw a picture of them here:



How does Alex overcome his need for “steak”? Have you ever had to overcome a problem? How did you do it?

What other stories would you like to see onstage?

What else would you like to tell us about the play?

Share your thoughts with us! Return this form to
Kerri Sanders/ Education Director/ New Stage Theatre/ 1100 Carlisle St/ Jackson, MS
39202 or fax to 601.948.3538