

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Miami City Ballet Dance Through the Ages



Major support for the Student Enrichment Through the Arts program has been provided by

What's included in Curriculum Connections:

Letter to Teachers...page 2

Theater Etiquette...page 3

Student Theater Review...page 4

Introduction...page 5

Pre and Post Show Worksheets/Links and Activities...pages 6-15

Post Show Cooperative Learning Opportunities

(Group Work Ideas for Teachers)...page 16

Student to Family Cooperative Activity Ideas...page 17/18

Florida Standards Alignment...page 19

Know Before you Go:

- Arrive at the theater 15 to 20 minutes before show time. Allow extra time for Broward County traffic. We are unable to start a show late.
- Please stay on the bus until greeted by a SEAS usher. At that time, please give the usher your BUS document and the usher will escort you to the theater.
- Remember to watch our Know Before You Go Video:

<https://tinyurl.com/ElementarySeasWelcome>



Dear **TEACHER**,



We are excited to present this Curriculum Connection (Study Guide) as a valuable resource to support your teaching journey. This guide has been carefully designed to offer engaging and meaningful activities for use in your classroom before and after seeing a S.E.A.S. performance at The Broward Center's Amaturo Theater, The Parker, or Miniaci at NSU. Each section is structured to make it easier for you to integrate cross-curricular connections, providing a seamless experience for students to deepen their understanding while exploring the creative process.

The activities and lessons in this guide have been intentionally crafted to complement Florida's B.E.S.T. standards. By utilizing these resources, you will be able to foster a dynamic and creative learning environment while ensuring students meet key academic goals. We encourage you to adapt the materials to best fit your classroom's needs and objectives, empowering students to think critically and creatively across all disciplines.

We want to take a moment to express our sincere appreciation for the passion and dedication you bring to your classrooms every day. Your commitment to infusing art-full moments into education not only enriches your students' learning experiences but also ignites their curiosity and creativity. Thank you for inspiring the next generation of thinkers, creators, and innovators. We are truly grateful for the impact you have on your students' lives. Consider joining the Teacher's Lounge (QR code below) to be notified of special events and discounts just for Teachers.



Don't forget to distribute your S.E.A.S. stickers when you return to school (after the trip) and share the magic that is Student Enrichment Through the Arts!





Theater Etiquette

There is so much that goes into creating a show for the stage. Behind the scenes, there are people who control the lights and the sound, the sets and the props. There are directors, writers, producers, musicians, and choreographers. So many people work together to create the performance you and everyone in the audience watches.

It is helpful to remind students of appropriate audience etiquette by explaining and discussing WHY these rules of behavior are important:

- Restroom visits are best made prior to the performance.
- Listen carefully to the ushers and your teachers. This gets everyone to your seats quickly and ensures a pleasant experience.
- Turn watches and cell phones to silent.
- Walk single file, hold hand rails as you use the steps for your safety.
- Listen carefully to each performer. They are working hard to entertain and inform with lots of clues about the story.
- Refrain from TALKING. This allows everyone to enjoy the show without distraction. Sometimes we think that if we whisper it is okay. But, if everyone in the audience whispers, it becomes disruptive.
- Laugh if something is funny, but not too loudly, you don't want to miss any dialogue.
- Photography and recording are not permitted.
- Pay attention to the lighting, scenery, costumes and music. All of these elements help provide more details to tell the story in an interesting way.
- Applaud (clap) and laugh at the right moments. This shows the performers that you respect and appreciate their work.



My Theater Review

I saw: _____

Reviewed by: _____

This play/musical was about...

Here's a drawing of
my favorite character:

It made me feel:

I learned:

I gave this play/musical stars.



**We'd love to hear from you! If you'd like to submit this review,
please send to jenriquez@browardcenter.org**

MIAMI
CITY
BALLET

Ballet for
Young People

DANCE THROUGH THE AGES

Student Guide



MIAMI CITY BALLET'S PRODUCTION OF DANCE THROUGH THE AGES

Performed by Pre-Professional Dancers
from Miami City Ballet School

Introduction

Take a magical journey through time with Dance Through the Ages – The Story of Ballet. This program brings history to life by showcasing how ballet has evolved over the centuries. From its royal beginnings in the glittering court of King Louis XIV, to the Romantic ballets of the 1800s, audiences will see how the art form grew in elegance and expression. The journey continues into the Classical Era with dazzling excerpts from masterpieces like Swan Lake and Giselle, followed by the bold innovations of George Balanchine, who redefined ballet for the modern stage. The performance concludes with a new work by contemporary choreographer Durante Verzola, blending tradition with fresh ideas. With narration and excerpts spanning eras, this program celebrates ballet's timeless ability to inspire, connect, and tell stories across generations.

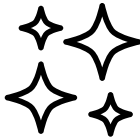


FAMOUS BALLETS AND STORIES



King Louis XIV and the Minuet

Ballet's story begins in the 1600s at the royal court of France. King Louis XIV, known as the "Sun King," loved to dance and helped make ballet an important art form. He even performed on stage himself and founded the first ballet school in 1661.



Giselle

Premiering in 1841, *Giselle* is one of the greatest Romantic ballets. It tells the story of a young girl who dies of a broken heart and joins the spirits of the forest. With pointe shoes and flowing white tutus, the ballerinas seem to float like ghosts on stage.



Swan Lake

A true Classical ballet masterpiece, *Swan Lake* (1895) tells the story of Princess Odette, who is turned into a swan by a curse.



Serenade

George Balanchine's *Serenade* (1934) was his first ballet in the United States. With simple costumes and pure movement, it shows how music and dance can speak without words.

CONTEMPORARY STORIES

Durante Verzola's Work

Today, ballet continues to grow. In this new neoclassical piece, choreographer Durante Verzola blends the strength of classical technique with a fresh, modern style. This shows how ballet is still evolving for today's audiences.

TEAMWORK

All of these people work together to create a ballet performance!



CHOREOGRAPHER

Creates steps and movements that copy the rhythm and mood of music, which ballet dancers perform.

CONDUCTOR

Leads the orchestra, making sure that the musicians play their instruments at the same time.

DANCER

Learns the choreography many months before the actual performance in sessions called rehearsals to look perfect on stage.

COSTUME DESIGNER

Creates the costumes that are worn during performances.

LIGHTING TECHNICIAN

Works with lights located high above the stage and in the wings of the curtains to create effects.

STAGEHAND

Moves props and scenery, which are objects or backdrops that are placed on stage to make the performance look like it is occurring in a real or imaginary location.

DRAW IT!

Imagine creating your own ballet. What would the dancers look like?

What costumes and scenery would you use? Draw your own ballet scene with as much detail as you can!

BALLET TERMINOLOGY



PAS DE DEUX:

A dance for two, often performed by a male and female dancer.



JETÉ:

A leap or jump across the stage.



ARABESQUE:

A pose in which the dancer stands on one leg, with the other leg extended behind.



PIROUETTE:

A complete turn or spin on one foot.

BALLET TRIVIA

Circle the correct answer for each question below!

1. Who was the famous king who helped create the first ballet in France?

- A.** King Arthur
- B.** King LouisXIV
- C.** King George
- D.** King Tut

2. What is the name of the beautiful ballet where dancers wear white tutus and pretend to be swans?

- A.** *Swan Lake*
- B.** *The Nutcracker*
- C.** *Sleeping Beauty*
- D.** *Firebird*

3. Which choreographer brought ballet to America and made it modern and exciting?

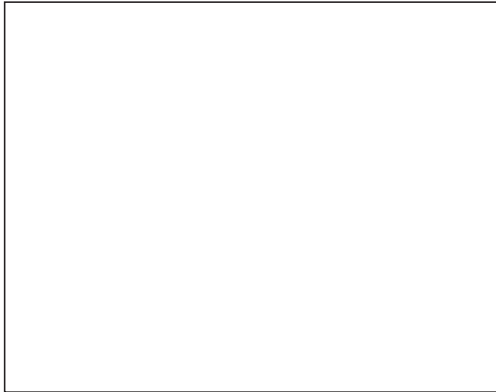
- A.** Leonardo da Vinci
- B.** George Balanchine
- C.** Pablo Picasso
- D.** Mikhail Baryshnikov

4. What do dancers wear on their feet to dance on their toes?

- A.** Tap shoes
- B.** Sneakers
- C.** Pointe shoes
- D.** Sandals

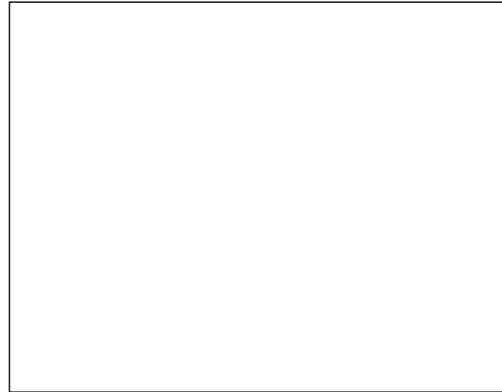


DRAW THE BALLET COSTUMES!



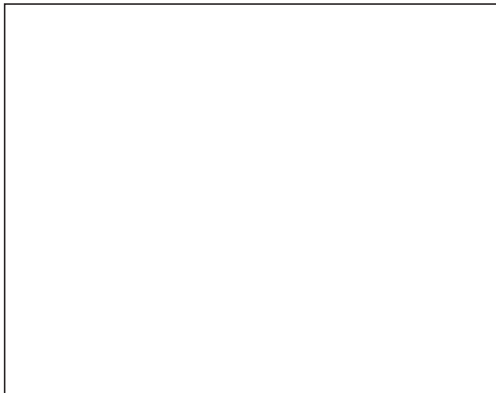
Giselle

Long romantic skirt and soft sleeves



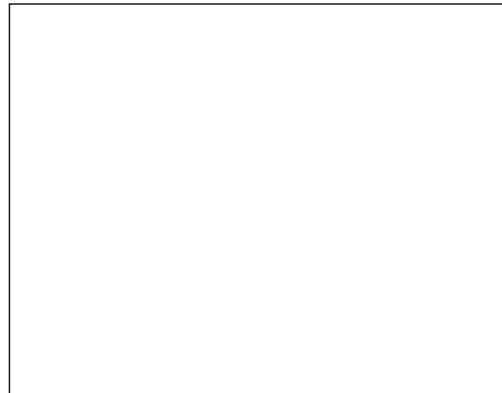
Swan Lake

Short classical tutu with bodices



King Louis XIV

Crown and royal outfit



New Ballet

Simple leotard and
modern look

Which costume would you like to wear on stage?
Circle your favorite!

WORD SEARCH



Q D C S U N K I N G Z A Z M J
Z B G Z O Q U L O M J G J J S
G R O M A N T I C Z K W Q Q W
C O N T E M P O R A R Y Q T A
X C I O D E T T E Y A T T L N
I J B A L A N C H I N E O B L
T H Z M W O P F V J E C C T A
J G X U C L A S S I C A L J K
G G N J E M B B G I S E L L E
A N L L Y I A T F Q L F P V M
A O I P E N L I L Z Y D Y S M
U D J Y G U L M C E D A S L E
O Y J C R E E Q F L H N Y U H
S Q B I Z T T S E R E N A D E
T M U B L H U V R N A E I D Y



CONTEMPORARY
ROMANTIC
BALLET
GISELLE

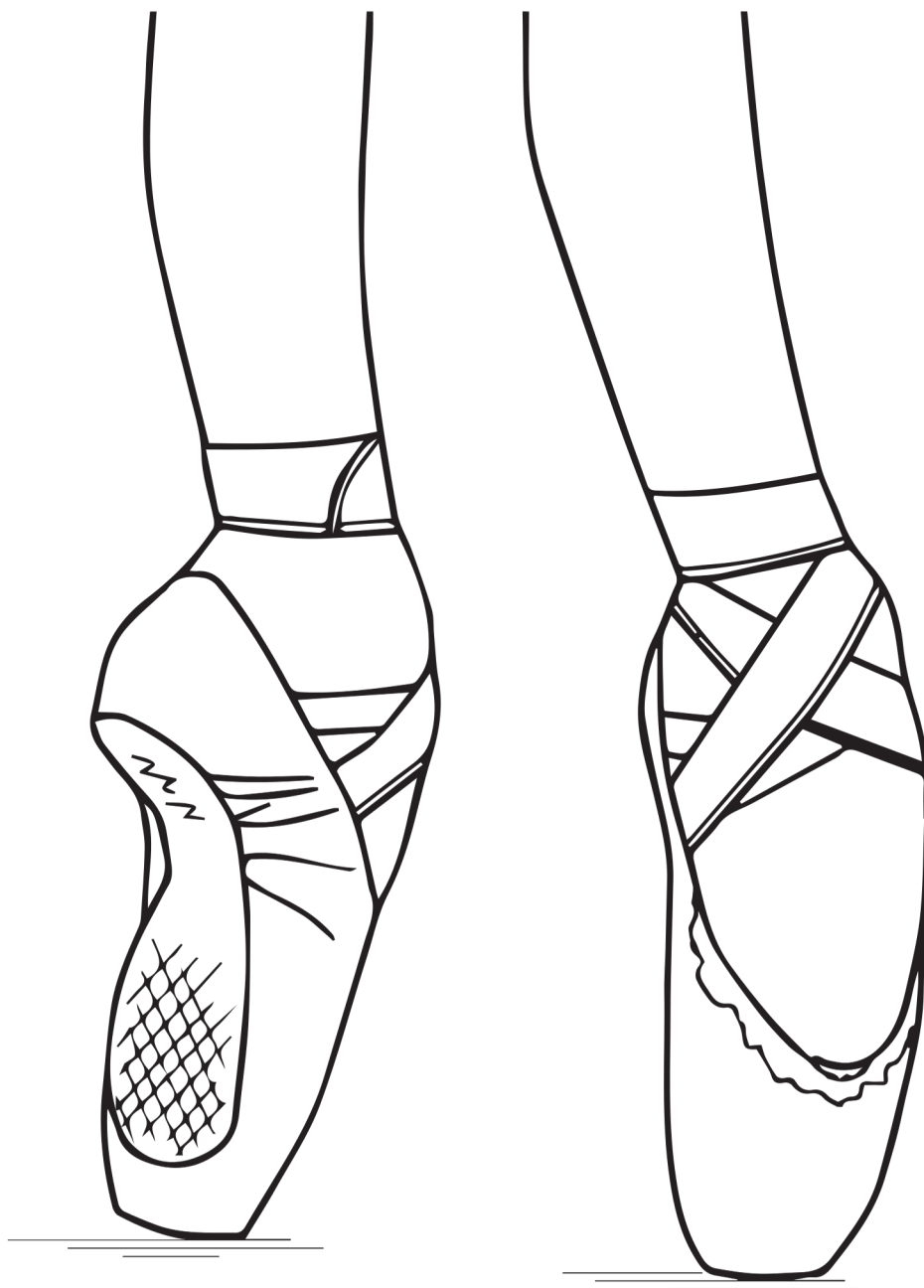
SWAN LAKE
SERENADE
ODETTE
ODILE

SUN KING
CLASSICAL
BALANCHINE
MINUET

COLOR IT!

Color in your very own pair of pointe shoes!

SHOW US YOUR CREATIONS!
Tag@miamicityballet

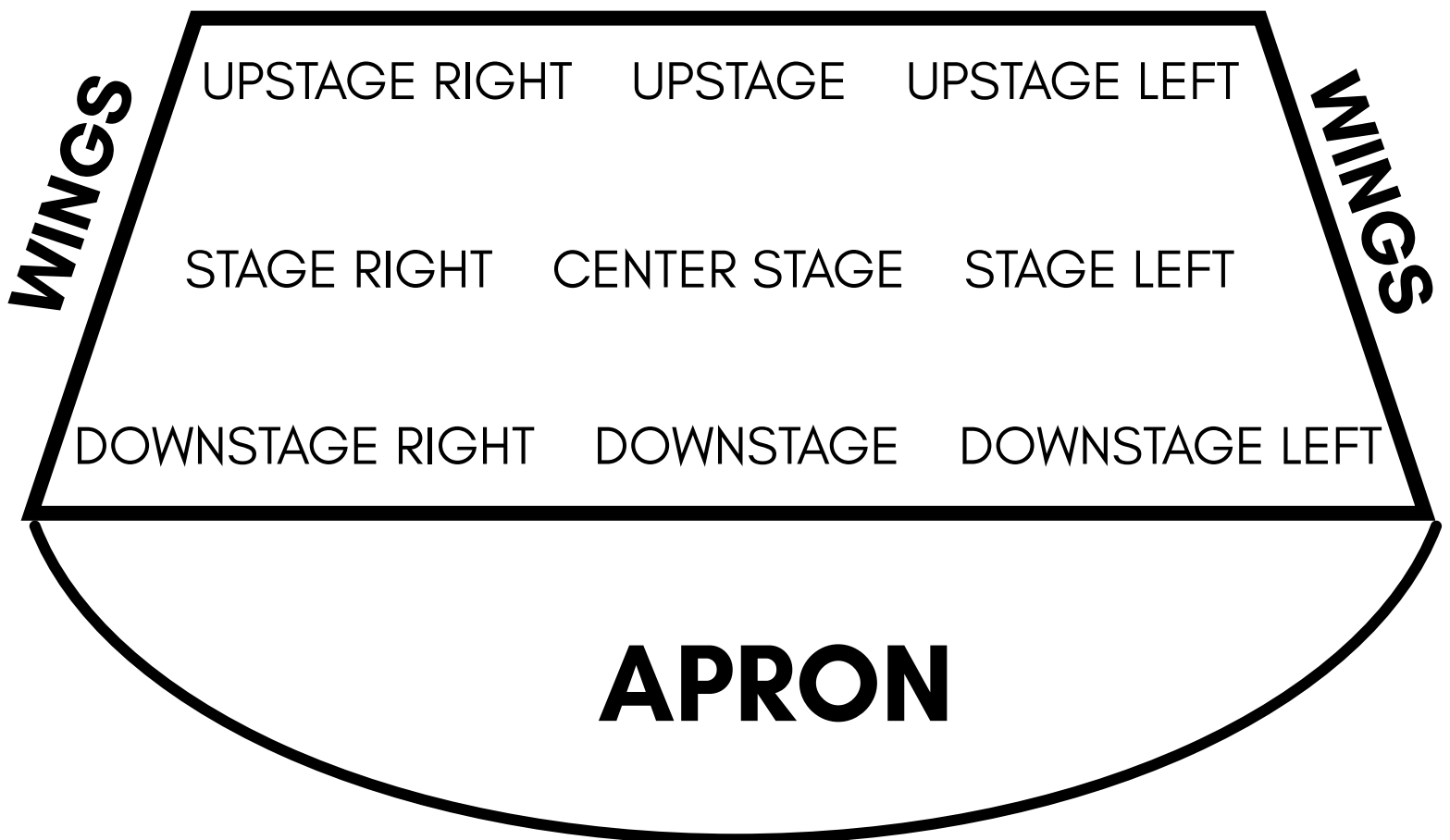


THE PARTS OF A STAGE

A proscenium stage is a traditional theatre configuration where the audience views the performance through a "picture frame" arch, separating the stage from the seating area.

- Stage Left and Stage Right are named from the actor's point of view while facing the audience, **not** from the audience's view.
- Upstage means the back of the stage, and downstage means the front. These terms come from old stages that were sloped upward toward the back.
- Wings are the areas on the sides of the stage where actors wait to enter and where scenery and props are kept out of the audience's sight.

BACKSTAGE



HOUSE

THE PARTS OF A STAGE FOUR CORNERS GAME

Adapt Four Corners with you as the **DIRECTOR**. Start at center stage, close your eyes and count to 10. Students move to a part of the room. Call out a stage direction. Students in that section are "out" and become part of the "house" to watch the rest of the game until there is a winner!

BACKSTAGE

UPSTAGE RIGHT UPSTAGE UPSTAGE LEFT

STAGE RIGHT CENTER STAGE STAGE LEFT

DOWNSTAGE RIGHT DOWNSTAGE DOWNSTAGE LEFT

APRON

HOUSE

Post Show Cooperative Learning Opportunities

(Group Work Ideas for Teachers)



1. Group Reflection Circle

Sit together and share your favorite moments, characters, or songs from the performance. Encourage everyone to explain why they liked those parts.

This builds listening skills and helps everyone appreciate different perspectives.

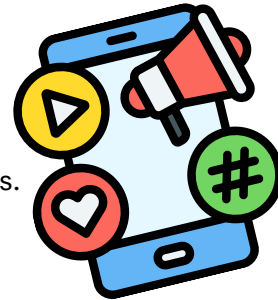


2. Create a Mini Review Together

Work as a team to write a short review of the show.

Assign roles: one person writes, another edits, others brainstorm key points.

You can post it on social media or keep it in a class journal.



3. Reenact a Scene

Pick a favorite scene and act it out as a group.

Add your own twist—maybe change the setting or improvise new dialogue.

This sparks creativity and teamwork.



4. Design a Poster or Program

Collaborate to create a poster or program for the performance you saw.

Include drawings, quotes, and fun facts.

This is great for artistic expression and memory keeping.



5. Plan a "Behind the Scenes" Discussion

Research how the performance was made (costumes, music, choreography).

Assign each group member a topic to present.

This turns curiosity into a cooperative learning activity.



K-5 Student to Family Cooperative Activity Ideas:

- Create a home theater space: Dedicate a specific area in your home as a temporary theater space. It can be anywhere with a little bit of space to "put on a show". Create a cozy ambiance with lighting and comfortable seating.
- Create tickets and programs: Design and print them at home or even hand made. Deliver the tickets to family members, and the programs can include information about the performance, cast, and crew. This adds a touch of authenticity and excitement.
- Snack bar and concessions: Set up a snack bar or concessions stand with a variety of treats and refreshments. You can even create special themed snacks related to the performance you are watching.
- Interactive viewing experience: Encourage audience participation during the performance. For example, during a musical, you can sing along to the songs and clap during applause-worthy moments!
- Post-show discussions: After the performance, have a family discussion about the show. Share your thoughts, favorite moments, and discuss the themes or lessons portrayed. This can foster critical thinking and encourage creativity in your kids.
- **Remember, the goal is to create a memorable and immersive experience. Adapt these ideas based on your family's preferences and the resources available to you. The key is to have fun and enjoy the theater experience in your digs!**

Additional Activity Ideas:



- Memory jars: Create a memory jar with your children. Write down favorite childhood memories on small pieces of paper and put them in a jar. Each week or month, take turns pulling out a memory and sharing it. This can spark conversations and lead to further discussions about your childhood experiences, and theirs too!
- Bedtime stories: Instead of reading traditional bedtime stories, take turns sharing personal stories from your childhood. These could be tales of adventure, funny incidents, or heartwarming experiences. This can create a strong bond between you and your children as you share personal narratives.
- Encourage your kids to create their own journals or scrapbooks to document their childhood memories. Take the opportunity to share your childhood stories as you help them with their own projects. You can even contribute by adding some of your own stories or mementos to their journals.
- What was your favorite song, band or genre growing up? Play a few songs for your child/children and let them play a few of their favorites for you!
- Create traditions with your child/children!: Establish special rituals or traditions that you can share. It could be a weekly movie night, cooking together on weekends, going for a walk after dinner, or singing at the top of your lungs before bedtime.

M/H Student to Family Cooperative Activity Ideas:

- Cook a themed meal: If the play had cultural or culinary references, consider cooking a themed meal together as a family. Research recipes from that culture or recreate dishes mentioned in the play. This culinary exploration can add a delicious dimension to your theater experience and allow you to immerse yourselves further in the production.
- Watch a related film or documentary: If there are any film adaptations or documentaries related to the play or its subject matter, plan a family movie night to watch them together. This can provide additional context, offer a different perspective, or deepen your understanding of the themes explored in the theater production.
- Share impressions and discuss the play: Sit down with your kids and have a conversation about the play you all watched. Share your impressions, thoughts, and emotions. Discuss the elements that stood out to each of you, such as the performances, the set design, or the storytelling. This exchange of perspectives can deepen your understanding and appreciation of the production.
- **Remember, the goal is to create a memorable and immersive experience. Adapt these ideas based on your family's preferences and the resources available to you. The key is to have fun and enjoy the theater experience in your digs!**

Additional Activity Ideas:

- Attend workshops or classes: Look for theater workshops or classes that interest you and your child. Participating in these educational opportunities can help your kids develop their skills, gain confidence, and connect with others who share their interest in the performing arts.
- Encourage your kids to create their own journals or scrapbooks to document their childhood memories. Take the opportunity to share your childhood stories as you help them with their own projects. You can even contribute by adding some of your own stories or mementos to their journals.
- What was your favorite song, band or genre growing up? Play a few songs for your child/children and let them play a few of their favorites for you!
- Volunteer or participate in theater activities: If your kids have developed a keen interest in theater, encourage them to get involved in local theater groups or school productions. Volunteer backstage, audition for roles, or assist with set design and costumes. This hands-on experience allows us to gain practical knowledge and further nurture a passion for the performing arts, and the whole family can volunteer with the show!

Standards Alignment: MCB Dance Through the Ages

Standards Alignment: The activities in this guide are aligned with the standards listed below. When teachers incorporate the arts, they increase student engagement, offer multiple points for students to access the curriculum, and provide alternate means for students to demonstrate what they know.

Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.)	
Kindergarten through Grade 12/ English Language Arts	
ELA.K12.EE.1.1	Cite evidence to explain and justify reasoning.
ELA.K12.EE.2.1	Read and comprehend grade-level complex texts proficiently.
ELA.K12.EE.3.1	Make inferences to support comprehension.
ELA.K12.EE.4.1	Use appropriate collaborative techniques and active listening skills when engaging in discussions in a variety of situations.
ELA.K12.EE.5.1	Use the accepted rules governing a specific format to create quality work.
ELA.K12.EE.6.1	Use appropriate voice and tone when speaking or writing.
Elementary Florida Fine Arts (Dance)	
DA.3.C.1.1	Observe and describe how movement communicates ideas and feelings.
DA.3.S.1.3	Demonstrate the elements of dance (body, space, time, and energy) through movement.
DA.3.H.3.1	Identify how dance reflects history and culture.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS DONORS

We thank the Broward Performing Arts Foundation and the following funding partners for their support of educational programming at the Broward Center this season.

Linda and Ed Appleby & Family
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Community Foundation of Broward
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation
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Florida Panthers Foundation
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