



A sneak peek at Childsplay's production of:



LILLY'S PURPLE PLASTIC PURSE

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By Kevin Kling

Based on the books by Kevin Henkes

September 17 to October 16, 2011

Tempe Center for the Arts

Recommended for ages 4 and older

www.childsplayaz.org

Interesting Internet Links:

www.kevinhenkes.com

-Official Website of Kevin Henkes

www.afrma.org/kidskorner.htm

-Lots of mouse puzzles and coloring printables

www.ehow.com/how_2362787_create-secret-language.html

-How to create your own secret language

www.usmint.gov/kids/index.cfm?flash=yes

-A fun site about coins

Books to Check Out:

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse, *Chester's Way*, and *Julius, Baby of the World* by **Kevin Henkes**

Show and Tell Day by **Anne Rockwell**

My Teacher's My Friend by **P. K. Hallinan**

A Baby Sister for Francis by **Russell Hoban**

The Story:

Lilly is a spunky little mouse who loves cheese snacks, her new red cowboy boots, her new teacher Mr. Slinger, and ESPECIALLY her brand new purse that holds her movie-star sunglasses, three shiny new quarters and plays music whenever it's opened. In fact, she loves her new purse so much that it gets her into trouble at school where she learns about patience, appropriate behaviors in school, and that making mistakes is all part of growing up.

Themes/Curricular Ties:

New Siblings * Imagination * Family Relationships * Rules * School * Friendship * Page to Stage * Taking Responsibility for Actions * Dealing with Bullies * Anger Management * Individuality * Secret/Made-up Languages * Bike Safety * Careers

Questions to ask before seeing the production:

- 1) If you've read the book, you know Lilly loves to wear her red boots because they go clickety-clickety-click when she walks. What is your favorite thing to wear? Why is it your favorite?
- 2) Lilly's imagination takes her on some wild rides. There are some scenes in the play where Lilly's daydreams are played out with music, dancing and special effects. What is a daydream? What do you daydream about?
- 3) What is an appropriate time and a way to express excitement about a favorite event or object? When would it be *inappropriate* to try and share something exciting with the class or teacher?

Questions to ask after seeing the production:

- 1) How was the play similar to the books? How was it different? Do you remember images from the books that appeared in the play? What do you remember from the play that was not in one of the books?
- 2) Why did Mr. Slinger take away Lilly's purse? How did it make her feel? How did she react? How did her reaction make Mr. Slinger feel? How could Lilly have reacted in a more constructive way?
- 3) Lilly is not happy about the arrival of her baby brother. What happens in the play that makes her change the way she feels about Julius?

Sample Classroom Activities Connected to Arizona Education Standards:

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Minute Activity

Lilly loves the way her boots sound when she walks down the halls of her school. For a

refocus or stretch break activity, tap out rhythm patterns with a pair of boots. Have students repeat the patterns by clapping them or stomping them with their feet.

Music:S1:C2:PO3: Echo rhythmic patterns.

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Minute Activity

Lilly experienced many emotions during the play. How many emotions can you remember? Write them down. Here are some examples:

- *Love of friends and school
- *Furious anger at Mr. Slinger
- *Regret at her anger
- *Jealousy over Julius

Now, using your body, face and imagination, communicate or show one of the emotions to your classmates. **Theatre:S1:C2:PO104:** Describe or illustrate recalled sensory experiences.

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Minute Activity

What are some of the things Lilly wants to be when she grows up? Choose a career that you would like to have. Find

out information about the job, such as how much education you'll need, how much money you might make, what you will do as part of the job, etc. Write it all down and share your research with your class. **SS:G1:S4:C4:PO3:** Describe how people earn a living in the community, and the places they work.