



**Childsplay's 360° Theatre Resources for Schools**  
**Pre and Post Show Discussion Questions for *Lyle the Crocodile***  
**2011-2012 Season**  
**[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)**

**Questions to Ask Before Seeing the Production:**

- 1) The production is based on two books: *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile* and *The House on East 88th Street*. Which settings (places) do you think you'll see? Which characters do you think you'll see? What will Lyle look like?
- 2) *Lyle the Crocodile* is a musical. How is a musical different from a play? Which characters will sing and why do you think they will sing instead of speak?
- 3) Lyle is an unusual pet. What are some other examples of unusual pets that people have?
- 4) Zoos are wonderful places to see animals. What are some animals that live in the zoo? How is zoo life different than living in the wild?
- 5) What does it mean to be a hero? Can you give some examples of people you think are heroes?
- 6) In the play, Mr. Primm and Joshua both have to deal with a "first day." How do you feel before you do something for the first time (like the first day of school or a summer camp)?
- 7) Cities are exciting places. Have you ever been to a different city than the one you live in? What kinds of things did you see there? How was that city different from your city?

**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) Sometimes we judge people based on how they look without getting to know them. At first, the Primm family is afraid of Lyle. Why? How do they overcome their fear of Lyle? Can you think of other examples of judging someone or something before you have all of the facts?
- 3) What are some examples of kindness, heroism and good citizenship in the play?
- 4) Lyle is left in a new place and tries to belong. What is it like going to a new place? What makes you feel like you belong?
- 5) How does Lyle help the Primm family? In what ways are you helpful to your family?
- 6) Ms. Nitpicker is very nosy. When is it ok to be nosy and when is it not?
- 7) At first, Ms. Nitpicker says Lyle can't stay in the neighborhood...what happens to change her mind?
- 8) How did Lyle feel when he was taken to the zoo? Why did he feel that way?
- 9) Why is Mr. Grumps so grumpy?
- 10) Lyle is an animal who performs. What are other examples of performing animals and where would you find them?