



# THE GRUMPIEST BOY IN THE WORLD

THE  
GUIDE!

EXPLORE

*The Grumpiest Boy in the World*  
by Finegan Kruckemeyer  
was produced by Childsplay during our 2016 - 2017 season

## DISCUSS

- ★ What does it mean to be grumpy? When do you get grumpy?
- ★ What is something that makes you unique and special?
- ★ Our imaginations are powerful! When your mind wanders, where does your imagination take you?
- ★ What was something about the play that made you laugh? What was something that surprised you?
- ★ Two of the actors play several characters in the play. How did they change their voice and body to make the characters different from one another?

## Actors as Close Readers

Part of an actor's job is to closely read the script, and use their imagination to make choices that bring characters to life on stage.

## Close Reading Activity: Speaking with Emotion

- Make a word bank of synonyms for "grumpy." The words will be similar in meaning, but will have differences in tone or emotion.
- Choose a word from your grumpy word bank.
- Read the line below aloud with that word in mind.

In the play, someone asks Zachary what he is about to go do and he responds with this line:

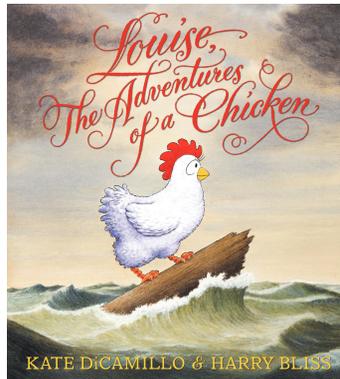
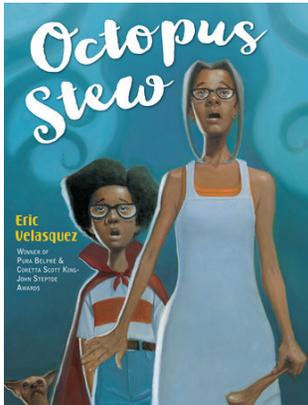
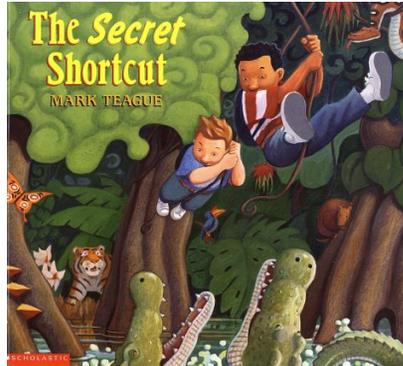
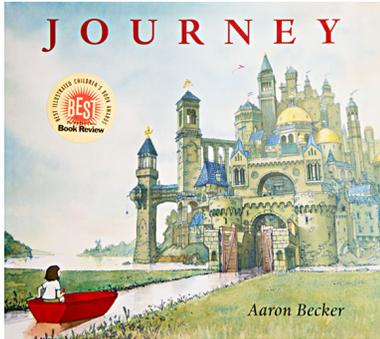
*"Oh nothing -just heading off on probably the most amazing adventure ever, to find the most not-normal place there is, and just basically... melt everyone's brains with my weirdness!"*

- When you say the line aloud think about ways you can use voice and body to give clues about the emotion you are trying to communicate.
- Try changing where you pause, emphasizing a different part, or using your hands in different ways!

Try out multiple versions and share them with someone or share them online and tag [@childsplayaz!](#)

## CHECK OUT THESE BOOKS!

Our volunteer librarian put together a great list of books connected to themes in *The Grumpiest Boy in the World!*



Want to  
Imagine  
Together  
Online some  
more?

Find many other ways to  
explore online with Childsplay  
here:  
[childsplayaz.org/imagine-online](https://childsplayaz.org/imagine-online)

## CREATE

### Adventure Maps

Every great journey has a map.

Maps help us to know where we are, where we have been, and where we can go next!

### Let's make a map!

- Grab a piece of paper & something to draw with
- Pick what you want to map:
  - Map Zachary's adventure and all the characters he met along the way, your next big adventure and all the places you'll go, or your house and all the places inside
- Decide what will be on your map:
  - Think about the main locations that you want to include, and what is special about them
- Draw a Compass Rose to show the directions North, South, East, and West
- Draw your map:
  - Use a symbol to show the reader each spot on the map (a mountain to show a mountain pass, a person made out of all hair to show where Zachary met that new friend, a lego to show where you like to play legos in your house)
- Make a Legend so that everyone knows what each symbol means
- Connect each location with a suggested path
- Learn more about maps here: <https://youtu.be/vOLEchqAKLo>

Share your map with someone or share them online and tag  
[@childsplayaz!](https://twitter.com/childsplayaz)