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!*

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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

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Find many other ways to explore online with Childsplay here:

childsplayaz.org/imagine-online

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Want to Imagine Together Online some more?

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RESOURCES