



Mr. Scrooge

Study Guide

Nov 24 - Dec 23, 2017

Book by William Goldsmith

Music and Lyrics by Janet Yates Vogt and Mark Friedman

Based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

About the Story

“Mr. Scrooge” is based on, “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens. This story was first published in London in 1843 by Chapman & Hall. This holiday classic tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, an unfriendly and greedy old man, who is visited by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. The three experiences given to Scrooge help him learn more about who he is and helps him become a more friendly and caring man. Dickens was inspired to write this story after visiting Field Lane Ragged school, an establishment for underprivileged children in London. “A Christmas Carol” was written on the 19th of December, and the story was so popular the first edition was sold out by Christmas Eve. It only grew more popular, and one year after its publication, thirteen editions had been released. Today, there are numerous movies, and play adaptations based on this timeless tale.



About William Goldsmith

William Goldsmith has over 32 years of experience in working with young audiences. He was the first Youth Theatre Director at Players Theatre of Columbus where he developed the Youth Theatre Program. He founded Youth Performing Companies in Columbus, Texas and California. He has directed over 170 productions and performed in over 50. He has authored 35 scripts for young audiences which have toured the state playing to over 800,000 children in Ohio. He has taught theatre classes from Connecticut to California, including Professional Theatre, Community Theatre, Middle School, High School, and at three Universities. He implemented the prestigious International Youth Theatre

Program at CCT, which took 26 Young Adult Actors in the CCT Pre-Professional Company, to Britain & Scotland three times to perform in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The company also toured to France in 1994. He has served as President of the Ohio Theatre Alliance, President of the Central Ohio Theatre Roundtable, as a member of the Spring Grants Panel for the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and as a panel member for the Ohio Arts Council Artists-in-Education Program and Teacher Fellowship Program.



Student Preparation

Before
the Show

- Talk with your students about the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol". Familiarize them with the book and film adaptations.
- Have students do the activities in this guide to help them learn more about the background, and get excited about the show.
- Discuss the theatre etiquette with students.
- Talk about what show the students are going to see. Mr. Scrooge is a play with just dialogue.

Theatre Etiquette

Live theatre is very exciting and maybe a new experience for many audience members. These are the general guidelines we enforce for our performances:

- Arrive on time
- For the safety of the actors and the audience, please stay seated for the performance
- Visit the restroom before the performance begins
- The use of electronic devices (including cameras and recording devices) is strictly prohibited
- Please do not talk to your neighbor during the performance.
- If you like something that you see, you may clap or laugh - it shows the actors that you like what they are doing!

Suggested Reading

A Christmas Carol
By Charles Dickens
Grades 6-12, Scholastic Books

A Christmas Carol
By Karen Hesse, Charles Dickens, illustrated by Dean Morrissey
Grades 3-12, Scholastic Books

A Christmas Carol: A Young Reader's Edition of the
Classic Holiday Tale
By Charles Dickens
Running Press

Theatre Location

The Park Street Theatre
512 Park Street
Columbus, OH 43215

What's Involved In Putting On A Show?

Performances at Columbus Children's Theatre are a result of groups of people working together. Many people know and understand what an actor is—the people on the stage telling the story. But did you know there are many more people working hard “behind-the-scenes” to make the performance happen? Below are just a few of those people,

The Director

- Responsible for the overall concept of the show—they guide a vision to create a world on stage in which the show may exist.
- Works with the actors to help them interpret their character and move on stage.
- Works closely with designers in planning the sounds, lights, scenery, costumes, props, - basically, everything you see on the stage.

The Designers

- Work with the director and with each other to create the look of the lights, scenery, costumes, make-up, sound and special effects. They make the world on stage come to life.

The Stage Manager

- Organizes every aspect of the production—schedules, resources and communications.
- In charge of making everything run smoothly from rehearsal to performance.
- Guarantee the same great performance every single time, whether you attend a show during the school day, or with your family in the evening or on the weekend.

The Crew

- There are a lot of different crew people. Some help build the scenery, costumes, and props you see on the stage, and some are working backstage during the show helping actors change costumes, moving pieces of scenery on and off, or operating the lights and sound.

The Cast

- Cast is what we call all of the actors who are on stage performing the characters in front of the audience.

The Audience

- This is where you come in! The show you see would not exist without you. The hard work everyone puts in to create a show is all meant to share a story with you.



Learn some of the fun words used in the play Mr. Scrooge. Use a dictionary to look up the words you don't know.

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- ___ 1. Covetous A. Wanting what other people have
- ___ 2. Shrewdly B. Free from blame
- ___ 3. Dismal C. Needed material or supplies
- ___ 4. Proprietor D. Acting practical and clever
- ___ 5. Provision E. Extremely poor
- ___ 6. Destitute F. A feeling of sadness
- ___ 7. Idle G. Continuing to act or exist
- ___ 8. Surplus H. Gloomy
- ___ 9. Persist I. Tries or attempts
- ___ 10. Impeccable J. Not busy; lazy
- ___ 11. Melancholy K. Extra, leftover
- ___ 12. Endeavors L. A person who owns something, like a business

Ebenezer Scrooge learns that Christmas is about sharing joy with family and loved ones. Spread holiday fun and cheer with your loved ones this season with this fun Do-It-Yourself holiday greeting card. You can create these with just a few simple craft materials. Best of all, your whole family can get in on the fun as you make them together.

Supplies: Card stock paper, scissors, red ink pad (or your favorite color), black fine-tipped permanent marker, size A7 envelopes for mailing.

Step One: Cut 1 ½ inches off of the long side of the paper, 1 inch off the short side of the paper, then fold the paper in half vertically, aka “hamburger style” (see figures 1 and 2).

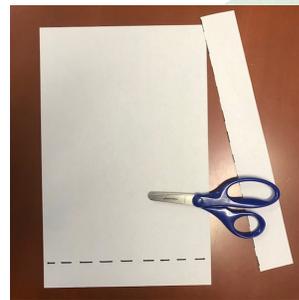


Figure 1

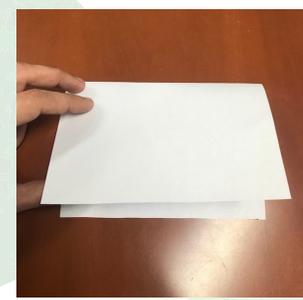


Figure 2

Step Two: Dab your index finger on the ink pad then place it firmly on the paper (see figure 3) Each member of your family can do this.



Figure 3



Figure 4

Step Three: Dab your pinky finger on the ink pad then place it on top of your index fingerprint near the bottom of the print (see figure 4). This will become the reindeer’s nose.

Step Four: Use a fine-tipped permanent marker to draw eyes and antlers on the fingerprint reindeer (see figure 5).



Figure 5



Figure 6

Step Five: Now that you have your reindeers made, you can add family members names under each of them and write a holiday saying underneath them all (see figure 6).

Step Six: Write a personal message to whoever will be receiving the card!