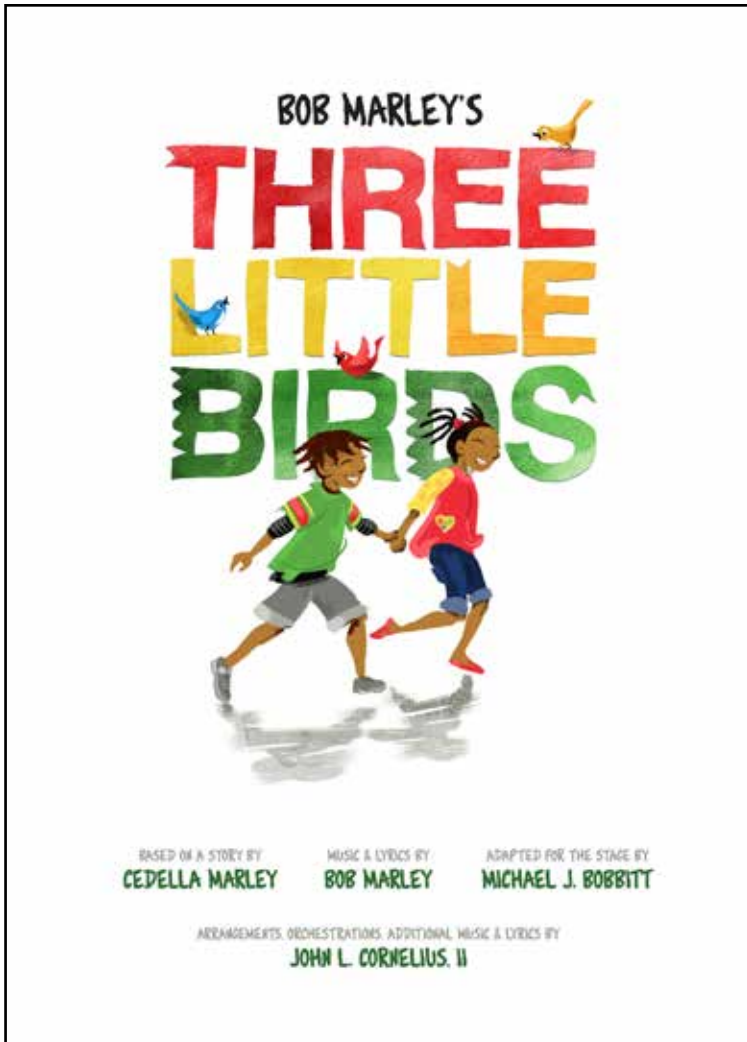


**SENSORY-  
FRIENDLY  
PERFORMANCE**



## **PARENT'S GUIDE**

**Sunday, February 10 at 4 p.m.**



# Bob Marley's Three Little Birds

Based on a story by Cedella Marley | Music & Lyrics by Bob Marley | Adapted for the stage by Michael J. Bobbitt | Arrangements, Orchestrations, Additional Music & Lyrics by John L. Cornelius, II

## About the show

Inspired by the music of the legendary reggae artist Bob Marley, this jammin' show takes audiences to the beautiful island of Jamaica. Three little birds share their sweet songs with Ziggy, a shy child who's content on seeing the world from his television inside the safety of his own room. Ziggy's friend Nansi, though, encourages him to venture outside his room and experience Jamaica. But Ziggy's afraid of hurricanes, mongooses and, most of all, the voodoo villain Duppy, who steals the hair of children. The music of the one and only Bob Marley weaves through the friends' adventures in this reggae-infused musical.

## Show sponsors

Deloitte & Touche LLP, Grant Thornton LLP, Robin & Bill Branstrom, Mitchell Kelling, Gina & Tom Lawrence  
The Dreamer Series is sponsored by The Leon Levine Foundation - Sandra and Leon Levine

## Special thanks



to Julie Higginbotham of Precious Developments. Julie has worked as our consultant in the creation and preparation of our sensory-friendly performances. We're grateful for this valued partnership.

## What to expect at a sensory-friendly performance

Sensory-friendly theatre is an approach to the audience experience that "softens" the environment. What does that mean exactly? In general, we make the theatre available to everyone, including those who may need more flexibility to help manage all of the sensory experiences that come along with attending a performance. Below are some of the adjustments Children's Theatre of Charlotte is making to create a more sensory-friendly environment tailored to each show:

- Lights in the theatre will stay low during the show, instead of turning all the way off.
- We will lower the sound levels when needed.
- We sell fewer tickets for the sensory-friendly performances so families have more room to move as needed.
- We provide fidgets, headphones and weighted toys to help children feel more organized and settled.
- Someone will be at the front of the stage with glow sticks to help give families a warning when sensory-rich moments are nearing. Raising one light means there's a smaller sensory moment coming up (like a loud sound or a change in lighting). Raising two lights means a more intense sensory-rich moment is about to occur.
- We provide a quiet room if children need to leave the theatre to feel more settled or regroup during the show.

## Support materials for you

We provide several guides to help prepare your family for your visit:

The **visit guide** that walks your family through our facility.

The **child guide** goes with each performance.

The **parent guide** like this one helps parents support their children's learning and experience in the theatre.

We want you to have the opportunity to enjoy the theatre with your family, so with that, please enjoy the show!

## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments in *Bob Marley's Three Little Birds*

Welcome to “Bob Marley’s Three Little Birds!” We’re so excited that you’re here, we even wanted the cast to get to spend some time hanging out with you! Check out some of the things you will get to see and do before the actual show even starts! *Live theatre is an amazing way to learn new things and connect with each other, especially when we can create more engaging experiences!*



You can meet the cast while you play with hula hoops, beach balls, and jump ropes!



### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This whole production is very interactive with the audience, and our actors and crew do an awesome job caring for our audiences! We very strongly encourage singing, dancing, and playing the games throughout your time with us - let us know how we can best support your family so everyone can join in the fun!



You will have a chance to sing along with the cast and learn some of the games they will play during the production!



Meet the Three Little Birds that will help guide us through today’s adventure.

*Who do we want to surround our families and help us through the adventures in our lives?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

The cast will transition the audience from the preshow activities into this opening scene. This scene contains mild smoke effects and lighting changes.



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Ziggy wants to stay inside and watch the news, but Mama Cedella doesn't want him to miss out on the world around him.

*How do we support our children when they worry about real things happening around them?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains some lighting changes, soft flashing lights, and a song that builds through the end of the scene.



Ziggy and Nansi have an interesting relationship for sure! What do you think about it?

*How can we talk about the way friendships grow and change over time?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains bird chirping sounds, some audio effects, and a darker transition with somewhat scarier audio effects.



This is Duppy, and he's not here to make friends with Ziggy and Nansi....

*It can be hard for children to understand who is and is not a friend.*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains some scarier music, spotlights, and lighting changes.



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Dr. Bird wants to help Ziggy feel better so he will be brave enough to come visit his bird family. Do you think it worked?

*We can ask, “What do you think will happen?” to help us understand children’s perspectives when they are really afraid of something.*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a song that builds throughout the scene, as well as lighting changes.



Mama Cedella is worried about Duppy. What does she do to try to keep Duppy away from her family?

*We want to do everything we can to keep our families safe!*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains bird chirping sounds, a surprise moment, and some lighting changes with the music.



Ziggy is still worried about his mother, and she helps him talk about it with her.

*Children can often work through some of their fears when they can talk about them with adults. We can then share more information so they better know what to expect.*

**Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains lighting shifts, and in the transition to the next scene, Nansi will look for a friend to join her on stage! The song she will lead contains stomping and clapping.



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Nansi really wants Ziggy to go with her to explore the world the way Mama Cedella told them they could. She may have even give Ziggy a surprise...or two...

*It's important to have friends that are different from ourselves, especially when they help us feel more confident and brave!*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a big surprise with a pretend spider puppet and some lighting shifts.



Wait until you see what made Ziggy look like this! :)

*We may act one way when we really feel another way. We may even surprise ourselves!*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains lighting shifts and a quick transition into a song, followed by lighting shifts back to reality and into a brief moment with Duppy and his sound effects. He may even bring his mischief to the band.....



Ziggy and Nansi have begun their adventure, but are they on the right path?

*As children become braver, they may fall back into those feelings of fear from time to time.*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains a more active musical number with some spinning lights on the set and mild smoke effects.



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Duppy is back, and he's starting to cause more trouble for Ziggy and Nansi. What happens to their adventure now?

*What can we do to help our children overcome obstacles that might get in their way?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains more audio effects for Duppy, as well as lighting effects. It also contains an argument. In one moment, "mangos" fall from above and bounce on the stage - the actors will collect these and put them aside.



Dr. Bird knows just when to show up to help Ziggy, and he even brings along a few friends to help him tell the story of how Jamaica came to be!

*It's important for children to understand that their stories mean something to them, as well as to everyone who comes after them.*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains musical number that builds throughout the scene, different languages, lighting effects, bird sounds, and more dropping "mangos."



Duppy has been watching Ziggy and Nancy, and now he thinks he can trick them. Do you think Ziggy and Nansi will fall for it?

*How do we build a village around our children that can stand up for them when they need help?*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This longer scene contains voice echoing effects, several light effects, some scarier audio effects, and some shouting from around the audience. It contains an active musical number with a chase that moves around the whole set, so be on the lookout!



## Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Wow, Ziggy looks so strong and brave! Duppy is smart, but Ziggy and Nansi outsmarted him anyway!

*It's important to celebrate our bravery so we can be ready to be brave again!*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

This scene contains some lighting effects, a boat horn sound effect, and actors calling from the back of the audience as they run down the stairs and onto the set.



Ziggy has quite a story to tell Mama Cedella, doesn't he? What do you think she'll say about it, surprises and all?

*When our children are excited about experiencing new things, we get to enjoy their energy and enthusiasm!*

### **Sensory-rich moments:**

The end of this production contains lighting effects and a musical number that builds to the end of the show.

Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance.

We hope to see you at our other sensory-friendly performances in the future.

For details, visit: [ctcharlotte.org/online/article/sensory-friendly-performances](http://ctcharlotte.org/online/article/sensory-friendly-performances).



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