



# Resource Guide | for Educators and Audiences

We include information about our production along with creative activities to make connections both before and after the show. For educators, all activities are aligned to the Common Core Standards and North Carolina Essential Standards. Look for the symbol below throughout the guide.



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1: Analyze literary texts and performances. NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1.1: Recall the basic parts of a story, such as characters, setting, and events.

**Mainstage production**  
**all ages**



A Musical Based on the Play by Sir J.M. Barrie | Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh | Additional Lyrics by Betty Comden & Adolph Green | Music by Morris (Moose) Charlap | Additional Music by Jule Styne | Originally Directed, Choreographed and Adapted by Jerome Robbins

**Director**  
Jenny Male

**Music Director**  
Drina Keen

**Choreographer**  
Mavis Scully

Peter Pan is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

**Themes explored**  
growing up, imagination,  
possibility, adventure

## Summary of Peter Pan

Flying boy Peter Pan and his fairy companion Tinkerbell encounter Wendy and her brothers when searching London for Peter's shadow. When Wendy helps Peter sew his shadow back on, he offers to take them all to his home in Neverland where they meet the Lost Boys and encounter the evil Captain Hook. The conflict between Peter and Hook takes center stage as the magical adventure turns dangerous and teaches everyone the true power of friendship.

## Audience expectations

You may wish to have a discussion with your students about their role as an audience member. Live theatre only exists when an audience is present; their energy and responses directly affect the actors in performance.

Younger audiences should know watching live theatre isn't like watching more familiar forms of entertainment: there is no pause or rewind button, there are no commercials for bathroom breaks, and they can't turn up the volume if someone else is talking. Encourage your students to listen and watch the play intently, so they may laugh and cheer for their favorite characters when it is appropriate. At the end of the play, your applause is an opportunity to thank the actors for their performance. Here are some other guidelines to remember as well:

- Respect other audience members. Stay seated and keep your hands to yourself.
- Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance.
- Photography and recording of the performance is prohibited by copyright law.
- We do not permit food and drinks in the theatre.



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.CU.2: Understand the traditions, roles, and conventions of theatre as an art form. NCES-TheaArts.3.TA.CU.2.1: Illustrate theatre etiquette appropriate to the performance situation.

## The BIG QUESTIONS about the show

1. From the beginning of the story Peter tells Wendy that he doesn't want to grow up. Why do you think Peter Pan wants to always stay a boy? If he were to grow up, where do you think he would go and what would he do?
2. Peter Pan teaches Wendy, John and Michael how to fly and they leave out of the nursery window to Neverland. If you could fly, where would you go, and why?
3. Neverland is an island full of adventure and danger. If you could create your own island, what type of island would you create? What activities would you be able to play? What special places on the island would you be able to go.



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.(K-5).2: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media. NCES-TheaArts.2.TA.A.1.2: Analyze the relationships between events, characters, and settings.

## About the author



Writer and playwright J.M. Barrie was born on May 9, 1860, in Kirriemuir, Forfarshire, Scotland. After graduating from Edinburgh University in 1882, Barrie worked as a journalist. He published his first novel, *Better Dead*, in 1887. Barrie soon had a string of popular novels set in Scotland, including *A Window in Thrums* (1889).

After having some success with fiction, Barrie began writing plays in the 1890s. His play, *Walker London*, was warmly received. The comedy poked fun at the institution of marriage. He got married himself in 1894 to actress Mary Ansell, but it didn't turn out to be a happy union. (The couple later divorced.)

Perhaps to escape his difficult home life, Barrie took to going out for long walks in London's Kensington Gardens, where he met the five Llewelyn Davies brothers in the late 1890s. He found inspiration for his best-known work—*Peter Pan*—in his friendship with the Davies family. (Barrie would later become the boys' guardian after the death of their parents.)

### Other plays and musicals based on J.M Barrie's classic tale:

[Finding Neverland the musical](#)

[Peter and the Starcatcher](#)

[Peter/Wendy](#)

[Peter Pan and Wendy a musical](#)

[Wendy and Peter Pan](#)

## THEATRE CORNER

Every play Children's Theatre of Charlotte produces is created by a talented team of designers, technicians, actors and a director. As a class, discuss what you experienced when you saw the performance.

1. Name three things you noticed about the set. Did the set help tell the story? What sort of set would you have designed?
2. What did you like about the costumes? Did the costumes help tell the story? What sort of costumes would you have designed?
3. What role did lighting play in telling the story? How did the lights enhance what you were seeing?
4. Talk about the actors. Were there moments you were so caught up in the story you forgot you were watching a play?
5. Were there any actors who played more than one character? What are some ways you can be the same person but play different characters?



NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.A.1: Analyze literary texts and performances. NCES-TheaArts.(K-5).TA.AE.1.2: Understand how costumes [and technical elements] enhance dramatic play.

For more activities and content surrounding this show, [click here](#) to access Children's Theatre of Charlotte's Pinterest boards.



## Write to Us!

Children's Theatre of Charlotte  
300 E. Seventh St.  
Charlotte, N.C. 28202



CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.(K-5).1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

## Recommended Reading

If you enjoyed the show, check out these books at your local Charlotte Mecklenburg library branch. Check availability at [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org).

*Peter and the Starcatchers series by Dave Barry*

*Wondla trilogy by Tony DiTerlizzi*

*The Narnia Chronicles by C.S. Lewis*

*Nevermoor series by Jessica Townsend*