



RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE
EDUCATION

Cinderella

Based on the fairy tale by Charles Perrault
Adaptation and lyrics by Jim Eiler
Music by Jim Eiler and Jeanne Bargy

Directed by Ruthie Martinez

December 5 - 21

Study Guide

Made by Rayden Leeder
For use by Raleigh Little Theatre

About Raleigh Little Theatre

Founded in 1936, Raleigh Little Theatre [RLT] is one of the oldest, continuously operating, community theatres in the United States. RLT offers entertainment, education, and community programs year-round, reaching over 40,000 people. As a community theatre, RLT engages hundreds of volunteers, under the guidance of professional staff, to achieve its mission and to bring quality live theatre to the Triangle area.

Visit www.RaleighLittleTheatre.org for more information.

About RLT's Cinderella

Raleigh Little Theatre put on their first production of Cinderella in 1984. This version of Cinderella is unique to RLT, being written specifically for the theatre as their holiday show! This production has been done annually for over 40 years!

RLT values community, and creating this show every holiday season brings the community together to celebrate as friends and family. This version is based on the fairy tale by Charles Perrault, with the adaptation and lyrics by Jim Eiler, and music by Jim Eiler and Jeanne Bargy.

Raleigh Little Theatre's version has gone through many changes over the years and each year brings new and exciting holiday cheer! Each version makes sure to highlight the importance of reading and developing a sense of imagination and creativity in young audiences.

Teaching RLT's Cinderella in the Classroom

Pre-Show Questions

1. What kinds of books do you enjoy reading? How has reading helped you grow?
2. What is the kindest thing someone has ever done for you? How did it make you feel?
3. What acts of kindness have you shown others recently? What made you treat someone with kindness?
4. When you use your Imagination, what do you create? How has your imagination helped you in life?

Cinderella

Through the Years



7 BC

The first ever mentions of Cinderella were told through oral storytelling in Ancient Greece all the way back in 7BC!



1634

The first written version of Cinderella was published in 1634 by Giambattista Basile in Italy. This version was called "Cenerentola"



1812

In 1812 The Brothers Grimm made their own version of Cinderella, "Aschenputtel", for their book Grimms' Fairy Tales

1950

Walt Disney Studios released their animated movie "Cinderella" in 1950 to massive success.



PRESENT DAY

Cinderella is now one of the most recognizable princesses, and has had many versions of her story told through books, movies, and TV.



Disney's Cinderella

The 1950 Disney film Cinderella is the most commonly known version of the tale in modern day. For those who don't know the story, it goes a bit like this...

Cinderella is a young woman who lives with her step mother and step sisters, who force her into the role of their personal servant and maid after the passing of Cinderella's father. Despite the hardships her step family gives her, Cinderella is able to find happiness in her own world, enjoying tasks like sewing and spending time with her closest friends, a group of mice who help her out.

When it is announced that the royal family will be holding a ball, Cinderella is overjoyed at the thought of going and makes her own dress. Her step family refuse to let her go, even ripping her dress apart to make sure she has nothing to wear.

Cinderella feels all hope is lost until she is visited by her fairy godmother, who helps her attend the ball with her magic. She gives Cinderella a carriage made from a pumpkin, turns her mice into horses, and provides her a beautiful gown with matching glass slippers that only fit her. The only catch is that the magic only lasts until midnight.

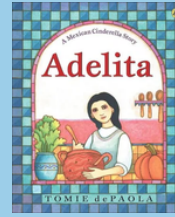
Cinderella attends the ball and she and the prince quickly fall in love. Before the prince is able to learn her name, the clock strikes midnight and Cinderella must flee! The prince fears he's lost his love forever, but he realizes Cinderella left behind one of her glass slippers!

The prince journeys through the kingdom trying the slipper on every woman, knowing that the woman who fits the shoe is the woman he fell in love with. Eventually, the prince is able to find Cinderella again and when the shoe fits, they live happily ever after.

Cinderella Around the World

ADELITA

This story is from Mexico, and tells the tale of kind-hearted Adelita, who falls in love with Javier at his fiesta, but must leave at midnight, leaving behind her rebozo, a traditional shawl.



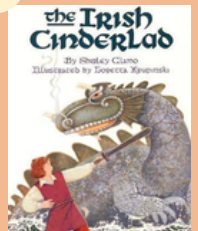
ANKLET FOR A PRINCESS

This tale comes from India. We learn about hardworking Cinduri, who is aided by her godfather snake to appear before the prince covered in gold and jewels, complete with a beautiful anklet.



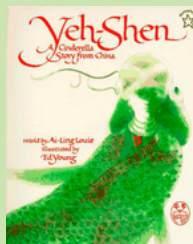
THE IRISH CINDERLAD

This story follows an Irish boy named Becan with unusually large feet! Becan runs away on a magical adventure and saves a princess, but leaves her with only a giant boot for her to find him with.



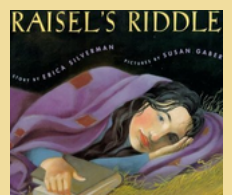
YEH-SHEN

This Cinderella story is from China. Yeh-Shen is a kind girl who is able to attend the festival through the magic of her only friend, a golden-eyed fish.



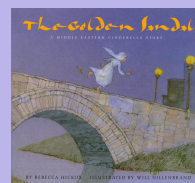
RAISEL'S RIDDLE

Taking place in Poland, Raisel works for the Rabbi and charms the Rabbi's son at Purim dinner with her riddles, showing how smart she is.



THE GOLDEN SANDAL

Maha is a young girl from Iraq who wishes to marry. Through the wishes from a magical catfish, she is able to attend a bridal party where she loses her sandal which is found by Tariq, the brother of the bride.



Similarities & Differences

What is similar and different between the Disney version of Cinderella and the adaptations around the world

SIMILARITY

All of these stories feature a step family or adoptive family that is very mean to the protagonist

DIFFERENCE

The stories from India, China, Ireland, and Iraq feature a magical animal in place of a fairy godmother

SIMILARITY

All the stories aside from Raisal's Riddle feature the protagonist losing something that is used by the love interest to find them again

DIFFERENCE

The Irish Cinderlad features a boy in the role of Cinderella

SIMILARITY

All the stories include a large party or gathering similar to a ball in the original

DIFFERENCE

Not all the stories have the rule that the magic runs out at midnight

Post Show Activities

RLT's Cinderella Main Ideas

- Kindness is always stronger than hate
- Your imagination will take you far
- Be the hero of your own story

Post-Show Questions

1. What character traits do you believe helped Cinderella through the story?
2. Why do you believe having an imagination was so important to Prince Charming?
3. What are some ways you can use your imagination to help others?

Compare and Contrast!

Talk with your group about RLT's Cinderella and see what the similarities and differences are from the Disney version!

Similarities

Differences

Order UP!

Can you put the events in the correct order? Use arrows to connect them!

1

Midnight strikes! Cinderella leaves the ball, and her glass slipper behind!

2

Cinderella and Prince Charming meet for the first time at the book stall

3

The shoe fits! Cinderella and Prince Charming live happily every after.

4

Cinderella lives with her step family and has to clean up all the messes they make for her without complaint

5

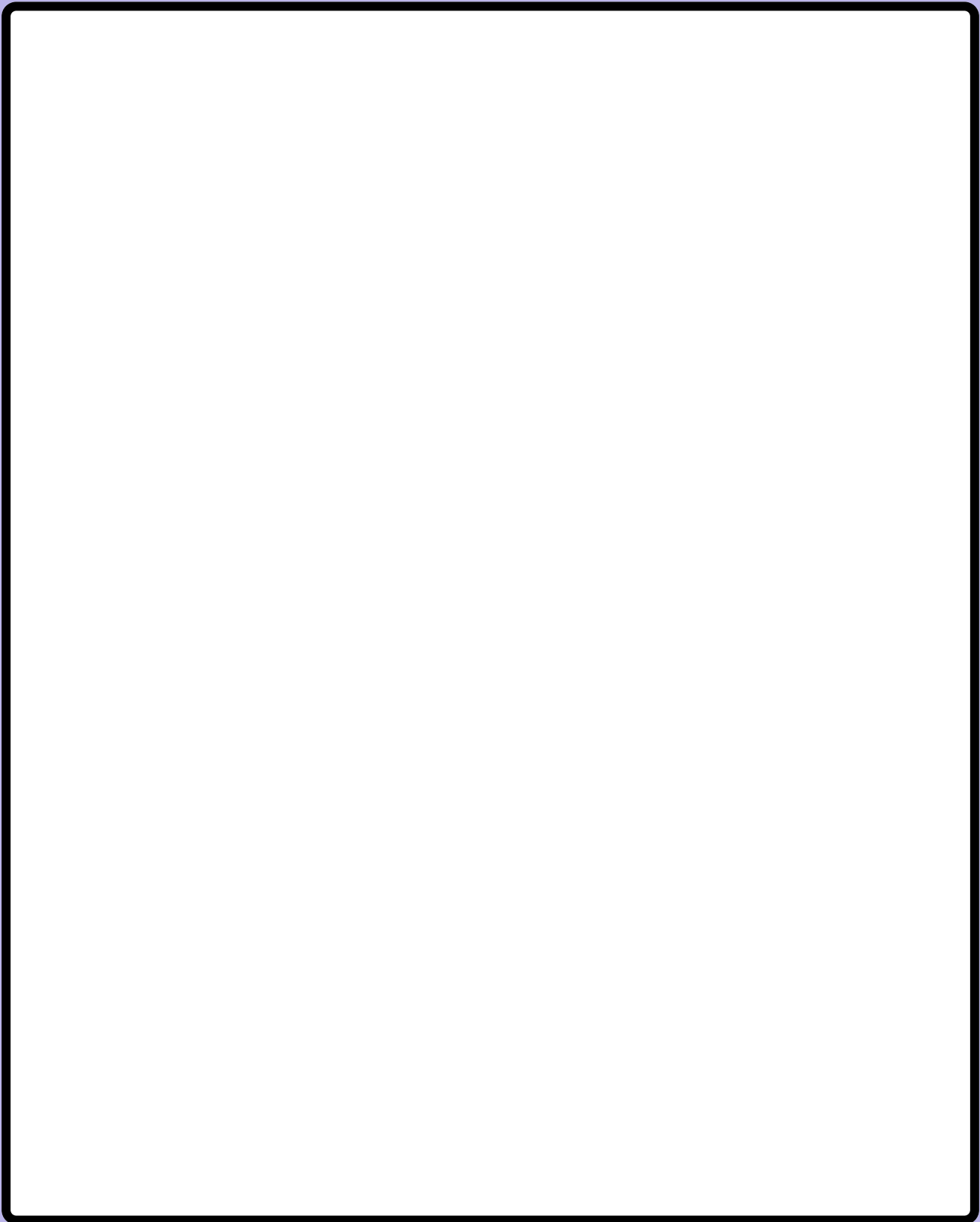
Fairy Godmother appears for Cinderella and helps her get to the ball!

6

King Darling announces they will host a ball for his sons birthday to find him a wife.

Draw a Carriage!

Draw your own pumpkin carriage to go to the ball!



Ways to get involved at RLT:



TAKE A CLASS!

Raleigh Little Theatre offers classes all throughout the year for students aged 2 all the way through seniors. Learn about improv, audition techniques, musical theatre, and so much more! Classes are offered in four six-week sessions that begin in January, March, September, and late October.



TAKE A CAMP!

Spend your summer at RLT! Raleigh Little Theatre's summer camps are award-winning and a ton of fun. Camps are offered June - August in one- or two-week sessions. We also have an immersive five-week program for high schoolers called Teens on Stage and Teens Backstage. Summer camp registration opens on January 1 and always fills up fast!



SEE A SHOW!

The second half of Raleigh Little Theatre's 2025-26 season kicks off in the new year! Check out ***The Hobbit*** in our outdoor amphitheatre (May 2-10), our "Theatre for the Very Young" productions, ***Música, Música, Máximo, Música*** (March 4-15) and ***Dinosaur!*** (May 27 - June 7), and our electric season-closing production of ***School of Rock*** (June 5-28)!



RaleighLittleTheatre.org/Education