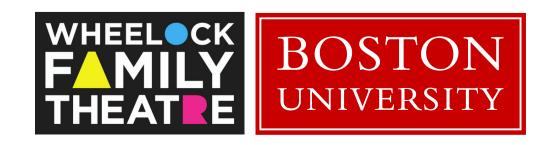


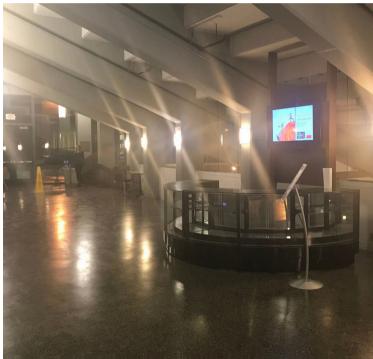
A social story to help families prepare for a visit to the theater



I am going to see a play called FLORA & ULYSSES at Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University.



When I get to the theater, we will walk through the lobby.



It might be crowded.



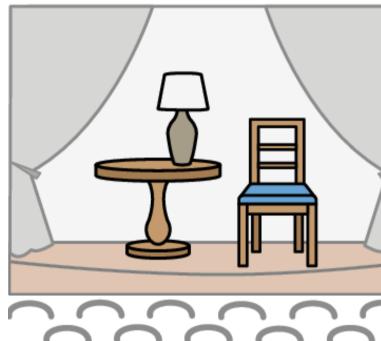
I can take deep breaths and be patient as we move through the crowd.

In a play, people on stage tell a story - right in front of us!

These people are called actors.

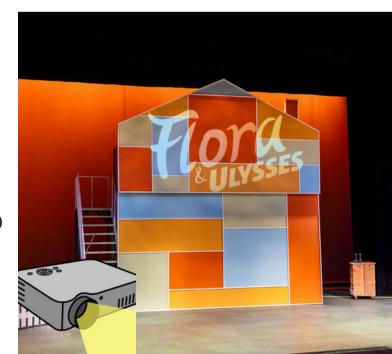


When I sit down in the theater I will see **the set**. A set is an imaginary place, built on the stage, to show where the story happens.



The set for this play looks like a house and also pages from a comic book!

There will be cool projections that help to tell the story. If I need help to read them, I can ask an adult.



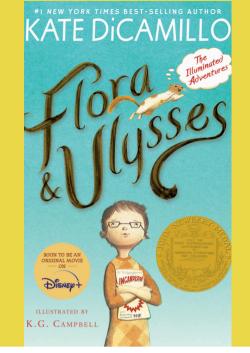
This play is based on a book called Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures by Kate DiCamillo.

I may have read this and already know the story in this play!

This play uses the story and the illustrations by K.G. Campbell in the book to bring the characters to life!

I can notice all the things that are the same and that are new and different!

How cool!







Sometimes the play can be loud.

If it is too loud for me I can always cover my ears...



...I can hug or hold hands with the people who came with me to the theater.



If I need a break I can go into the lobby...



...or to a quiet, cozy space nearby.



If I need something to hold onto I can ask an usher for a squishy toy.



I will know that the play is about to start when the lights in the room get darker and the lights on the stage get brighter.

The audience will get very quiet. It is important that I try to be quiet during the show so the play can be heard.



This play is about a girl named Flora.

She loves to read a comic book called "The Amazing Incandesto."



Flora lives with her mother, Phyllis.

Her father George doesn't live with them anymore. Phyllis and George are divorced.





Flora has a neighbor, Tootie Tickham.

She loves poety!



Mrs. Tickham has a great-nephew named William Spiver.

He is very smart but is going through a hard time with his family.

Flora's dad has a neighbor named Dr. Meescham.

She is from a far away country.



There are a few other characters:

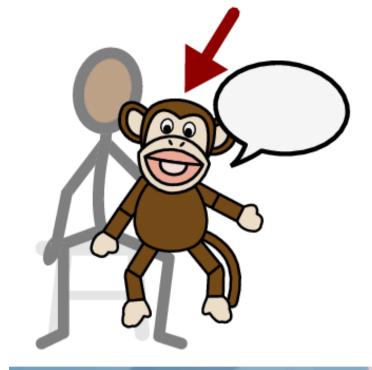
Rita and Ernie work at the donut shop.

Incandesto - Flora's favorite superhero.



This play is special because it has puppets!

We will see two main puppets who are controlled by actors.



The first is Mr. Klaus.

He is a cat who lives in Flora's dad's building. He can be mean.



The other puppet is a squirrel. There is an actor who speaks for him.

He is Flora's new best friend Ulysses.

He gets magic powers after being sucked into a vacuum!



I might be sad that the squirrel is not real.

I will remember that squirrels are wild animals that don't belong in houses or theatres. They belong in nature.

Squirrels can't be pets or on stage.

There are also times in the play when Ulysses gets hurt.

I may feel scared. This is just pretend. Ulysses is a puppet and is not real.



Flora's mom, Phyllis, talks about wanting to hurt Ulysses.

This may make me feel upset. This is pretend. In real life, the actor is very kind and would never hurt a squirrel.



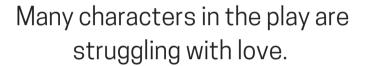




This play talks about love.

I may feel love for my family and for my friends.

Flora and Ulysses are friends and they love eachother.



They feel sad and like their family does not love them.

Sometimes the people we love may do things that hurt us.

That can feel very sad or frustrating.







Some characters feel alone and like there is no one there to love them.

This may make them do things that hurt people.

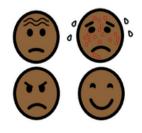


no matter o loves us.

All the characters learn that, no matter what, we all can find people who loves us.

I may feel sad for the characters or feel the same way about myself or my family.

It is okay to feel emotions. I can ask someone who came with me for help.





If anything else in the story makes me feel sad or mad or scared, I can ask an adult for support.

I can also take a deep breath or take a break.

At the end of a scene or song some people will clap. Clapping tells the actors that I liked their performance.

If I want to clap I can.
If I don't want to clap I don't have to.



This play does **not** have an intermission.



If I need the bathroom, I should ask the people I came with to bring me.



I can also get a drink of water or have a snack during a break.



At the end of the play, all of the actors will come out on stage and bow. This is called a curtain call.



I can clap. Clapping tells the actors I liked the show.

If I really like the show I can stand up and clap. This is called a standing ovation.



After I move through the lobby, I will leave Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University.



Going to the theater is very exciting!

I hope I will have a great time when I go to see FLORA & ULYSSES.



For more information about access and inclusion at Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University please contact Jeri Hammond, Director of Education, Outreach, and Community Engagement, at JeriH@bu.edu or 617-353-1459.



BOSTON UNIVERSITY