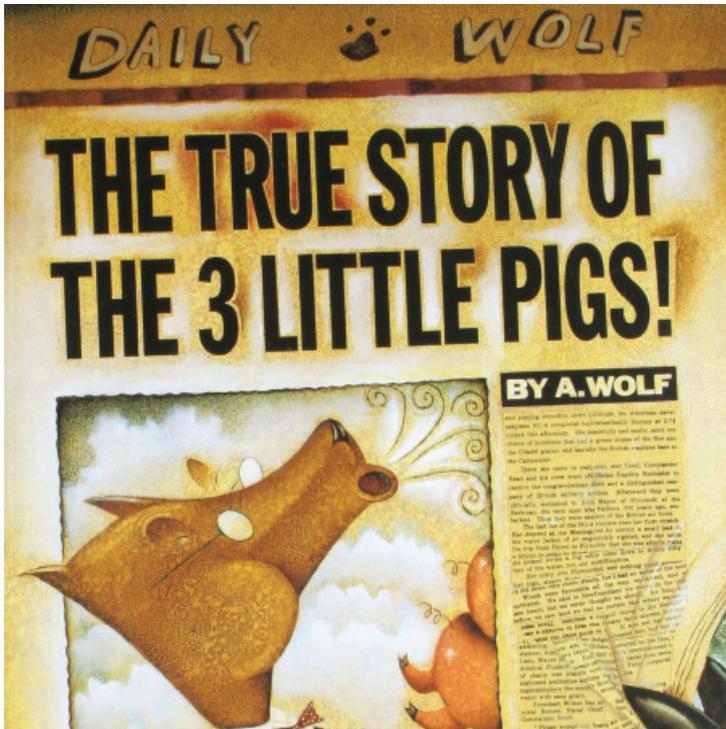


SENSORY-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE



PARENT'S GUIDE

Sunday, January 12 at 4 p.m.



The True Story of the Three Little Pigs

A musical comedy by Robert Kauzlaric, Paul Gilvary and William Rush
Based on the books by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith

About the show

You know the story. Three pigs build houses, the one who builds with bricks avoids the Big Bad Wolf and lives to tell the tale. But is that what really happened, or just porcine propaganda? In this brilliant parody of the famous fairy tale, we follow the Big Bad Wolf as he stands trial for his purported deeds. He has his own version of the story – and the audience becomes the jury, helping decide his fate: guilty or not guilty! Based on John Scieszka’s wildly popular book, this courtroom-farce-meets-musical is sure to please...it would be a crime to miss it!

Show sponsors

Bank of America Foundation, CPI Security, Mitchell Kelling, Laura and Brian Murdock, Tammy Stringer and Richard Viola.

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 *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*



Meet Rocky, our friendly court bailiff. He's going to come out and tell you a few things about this production before it starts. Pay close attention throughout the show - you're going to have a special job at the end of this performance!

Children's stories may seem silly and fun, but they often provide character building lessons, too!

Sensory-rich moments:

This production is very engaging with the audience! After this introduction, show announcements and brief music will play to start the show.



This is Magill, the newspiggy for the town of Piggsylvania! He knows there's a story to tell after the Big Bad Wolf finds himself in some trouble, and he's going after the truth.....

How do we form our perspective about those around us?

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains some mild picket chanting, squealing, and howling. It also contains a musical number with some tempo changes and soft lighting changes. It continues into the introduction below.



So this is the Big Bad Wolf, also known as Al. Do you think he's really all that Big and Bad? Maybe he is, but what if he isn't....

How often do we judge others based on limited information or the opinions someone else?

Sensory-rich moments:

The song continues here with some tempo changes in the music and soft lighting shifts.

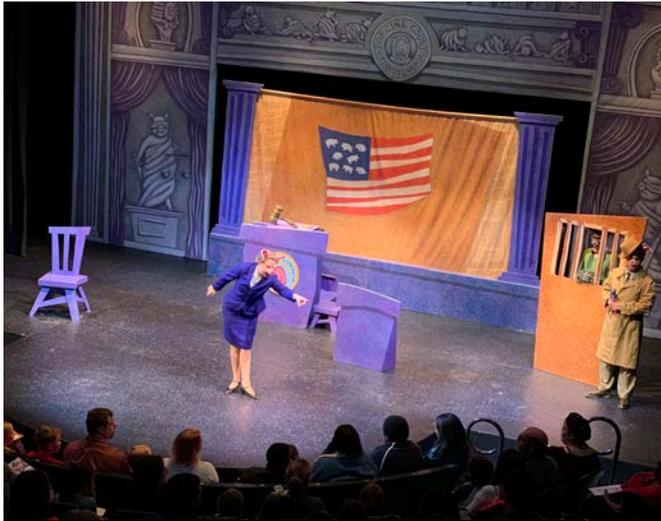


Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Magill wants you to meet Julia, the prosecuting pig who wants you to see just how Big and Bad AI really is.

How do we help children learn to build their own opinions about their peers?



OK, here's where you get to participate in this production.....you're in the jury! Pay close attention to the story, because you have a big moment coming up toward the end of this story.....

Children have lots of thoughts about what's right and wrong. How do we start conversations to help them think and problem solve?



This is Judge Prudence. She's oink-tastic! But is she going to be fair?

Fairness is a really tough concept to tackle. How do we explain it to children, especially when it comes to how we relate to each other?

Sensory-rich moments:

Judge Prudence has a gavel, but she won't bang it too hard throughout the show. She also furthers feelings of unfairness at times and judging without having all the information she might need. There is also some mild stomping.



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued

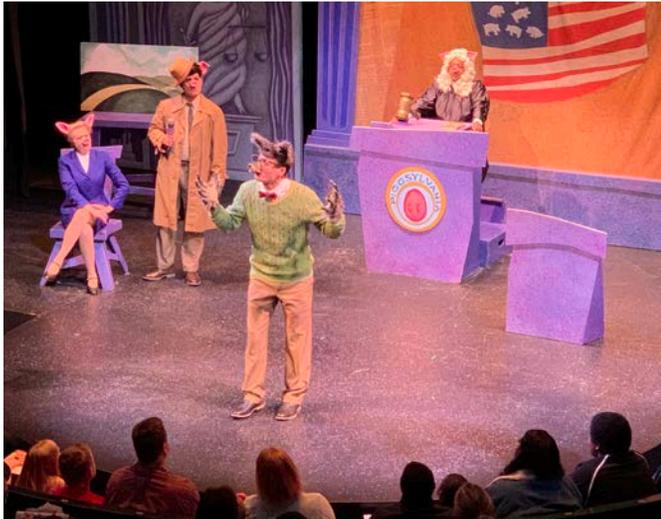


We're going to start with Julia's version of the story of the Three Little Pigs to show that Al really is a Big Bad Wolf.

It's fun to find different ways to tell familiar stories!

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a fun musical number with soft lighting shifts. It also contains puppets and silly "killing" moments to describe what happened.

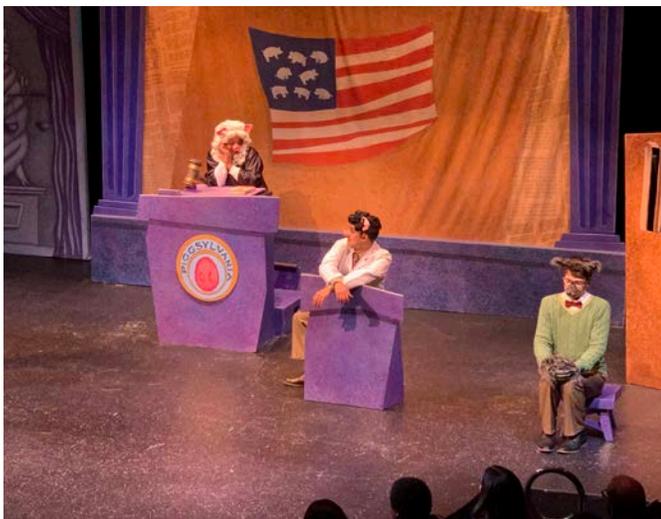


How do you think Al feels about Julia's version of the story? Let's see how he sets up his side of the story. Remember, you're in the jury, so listen closely....

Try taking your kids' favorite stories and defend the "bad guy" - it's a great way to try to see someone's behavior from their perspective.

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a fast musical number with a disco ball light feature that will not spin, as well as more significant lighting changes on stage.



In a trial, the jury has to hear from witnesses, right? First on the list is Dr. Bobby. Do you think he's telling the truth?

It's hard to decide who to believe when we hear different versions of the same story.

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains some brief moments of shouting, stomping, and some bangs that have been softened.



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Next up is Martha. She sure has an interesting take on this story..... Be ready for Julia to check in with you, the jury, to see what you think about Al's guilt or innocence!

Children learn best when information is presented in an interesting and engaging way.

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a busier musical number with some lighting shifts. There is also a bit of shouting, howling, and a mock physical fight.



Last on the witness list is Maxwell, the pig whose house was made of bricks. Julia and Al are both asking questions to see what he remembers. Judge Prudence will have some more instructions for you, the jury. What do you think about what she has to say?

It's hard when our views don't match someone else's!

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a bit of shouting.



Finally, Al gets to tell his side of the story with some help from Magill. Then you'll hear both sides give their closing summaries....kind of....

How do we help kids tell us about the things they experience?

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene contains a musical number that changes shifts throughout the song. It also contains lighting shifts, more puppets, and some howling. To transition into the final moments of the production, there's a short, busy moment that is somewhat chaotic.



Learning opportunities and sensory-rich moments continued



Alright, jury - it's time for you to decide whether AI is guilty or innocent! Rocky will show you how to vote, so get ready!

There are many ways to help children make choices and express their opinions.

Sensory-rich moments:

This scene is very engaging and is an opportunity for the audience to really participate in the story! Following the vote, the production ends with an upbeat musical number with some lighting shifts.

Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance.
Learn more and buy tickets to other sensory-friendly performances at ctcharlotte.org.
Click on **Shows & Tickets** and look for **Accessibility & Inclusion**.

Upcoming sensory-friendly performances include:

Akeelah and the Bee

Sunday, February 16 @ 7 p.m.

GRIMMZ Fairy Tales

Sunday, March 8 @ 4 p.m.

Dragons Love Tacos

Sunday, April 26 @ 4 p.m.



ctcharlotte.org