



Piccadilly Puppets Classroom Guide

Splish, Splash: Water Stories



Piccadilly Puppets' newest show explores our most precious resource in a fun and educational way! Large hand-puppets are used in the Australian folktale of "Tiddalick the Frog" and the Creek legend "Rabbit Plays Tug-of-War," which demonstrate that water is important to all cultures. The original shadow puppet piece, "The Adventures of Drip and Drop," shows the water cycle from the point of view of the raindrops. As the closing song says, "Everybody needs a little water!"

HISTORY

The Piccadilly Puppets have been entertaining and educating students for over four decades. Our performers are professional puppeteers who also have extensive experience working with children. We use a variety of puppetry styles and offer a large repertoire of programs that relate to curriculum.

- ◆ Awarded the UNI-MA Citation for Excellence in the Art of Puppetry
- ◆ Formerly on the Artist Roster for Arts For Learning

1

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARD

SS1.E2 The student will explain that people have to make choices about goods and services because of scarcity.

2

SCIENCE STANDARD

S4E3.d. Explain the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, and precipitation).

3

SCIENCE STANDARD

S1.E2 Students will observe and record changes in water as it relates to weather.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to give examples of ways we use water, recognize that water is a valuable resource, and identify ways we can conserve water.

Students will recognize the stages of the water cycle in the story.

Vocabulary

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| ◆ Resource | ◆ Trickster Tale | ◆ Run-off |
| ◆ Conserve | ◆ Condensation | ◆ Purification |
| ◆ Australian Outback | ◆ Precipitation | ◆ Animals: Kangaroo, Eel, Water-holding Frog, Bandicoot |
| ◆ Nocturnal | ◆ Evaporation | |

Assess the Learning : Questions to Ask the Students Following the Program

Choose one of the folktales and ask the students to identify grade-appropriate Common Core concepts like character, setting, central message, etc.

Which Australian animals were in the story of Tiddalick the Frog? Which of these was nocturnal?

Folktales fit into categories, like heroic tales, creation stories, etc. Our second story, “Rabbit Plays Tug-of-War”, is a trickster tale. How did Rabbit trick the snakes? Can you think of any other stories where one character tries to fool another? (Brer Rabbit, Tom Sawyer, the wolf in Little Red Riding Hood, the Boy who cried Wolf, Anansi the Spider)

Drip and Drop appeared as water in different states. What were those states?

Using a map of Georgia, have the students retrace the journey of Drip and Drop (Blue Ridge Mountains, Chattahoochee River, Lake Lanier, City of Atlanta water system). SS2G1

Where else might Drip & Drop go? Outside the home: Ocean, on plants, into underground aquifers. At home: in the shower, washing machine, dishwasher.

Extend the Learning: Post-Show Activities

Pre-show:

- Find the Australian Outback on the map and research what it is, and what animals live there.
- Find the answer to this question: Which Native American groups lived in what is now the State of Georgia?

Post-show activities:

- List or act out as many uses for water as you can. Draw pictures of water sources.
- Research how much water falls in other places on earth. Point out places with lots of rain. Point out a desert. Put out a rain gauge at your school to measure how much rain you get. See how the rainwater evaporates when the weather is dry (S1E1, S4E3)
- Make a rainstick, and sing a song or tell a story about rain, adding the sound effects. (See below for story ideas, or find your own).
- Pick one character from the play, and write a paragraph describing the character – where does he/she live? What is his/her personality?

World Water Day is March 22. Plan an activity for your class/school to celebrate the day.



Additional Resources

Other books about water:

[Why Should I Save Water](#) by Jen Green, Ill. Mike Gordon

[The Magic School Bus: Wet All Over](#), Scholastic Entertainment

Folktales about water:

“Elephant & the Rain God” (Africa), “The Girl & the River God” (Africa)

“The Rainmaker Wirinun” (Australia)

Project WET Website: www.projectwet.org

Lesson plans, books, a water cycle poster, and more!

