

# W elcome to Chicago Shakespeare Theater!

We are excited that you're here. Let's travel the world far and wide with Horton, the Cat, and Gertrude McFuzz. (You may even see a *Zizzer-Zizzer-zuzz!*) But in the Jungle of Nool and the Planet of Who, we can't tell our story without the most important person—you! Watch closely as we bring you a circus, an elephant, and birds that strut, because as Dr. Seuss says, "You'll miss the best things if you keep your eyes shut."



Look for these storytelling tools we use in theater to bring our story to life....

## Music

Can you tell how a character is feeling by what they sing?

## Costumes

What can we learn about the characters by the clothing they wear?

## Puppets

Which characters are puppets? Can you see how the puppets work?

## Props

What objects do the characters use? What are the "props" YOU use the most in your life?



# Bringing **SEUSSICAL** home!

## Read All About It!

Now that you've met many of Dr. Seuss's characters on stage, perhaps you'd like to spend more time with them in the books where they were first imagined.

**Cat in the Hat:** Maybe you've already met the Cat in the book that's named after him.

**JoJo:** Learn more about JoJo (and her yo-yo) in *Horton Hears a Who*, where you can read about how JoJo's voice saves the Whos.

**Horton the Elephant:** This very loyal elephant and friend appears in two of Dr. Seuss's books—*Horton Hears a Who* and *Horton Hatches the Egg*.

**Mr. and Mrs. Mayor:** These leaders of Whoville are also from *Horton Hears a Who*.

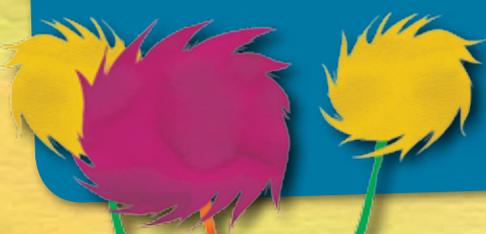
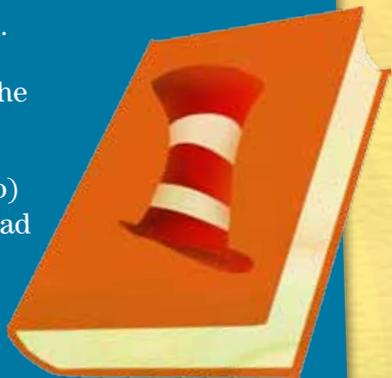
**Gertrude McFuzz:** Gertrude is right out of the story that's named after her, and she hopes that fancier feathers might make her more lovable.

**Mayzie La Bird:** Read all about this sassy bird in *Horton Hatches the Egg*, in which Mayzie heads off for vacation and leaves poor Horton on her nest.

**Sour Kangaroo:** This marsupial is the troublemaker in *Horton Hears a Who*, who wants to boil Horton's clover in oil.

**The Wickersham Brothers:** There are so many characters in *Horton Hears a Who* trying to keep Horton from saving the Whos, including three monkeys who steal Horton's clover.

**Yertle the Turtle:** In the book named after him, Yertle is king of the pond, but has desires to expand his kingdom. You'll have to read the whole story to find out how it ends!



# Bringing **Seussical** home!

## Your Own Special Tail (and Tale!)

Gertrude McFuzz isn't happy with her one-feather tail—until she realizes how useful her tiny tail is and how it makes her unique.

Ask your grownup to write three special things about you.

Just as Gertrude's tail helps her to fly, what do your special qualities help you to do?

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# Bringing **Seussical** home!



Chicago Shakespeare Theater and its neighbor, Chicago Children's Museum, are partners in creating the learning activities in this program and onsite.

In **Seussical**, the stories and pictures from Dr. Seuss's books are used as inspiration to create a new story on the stage. Now it's your turn to bring a story to life by creating your own handmade book. Wear your book proudly and share your story with friends and family!

## Recipe for Play!

**WEARABLE BOOKS**

Ages 3-Up

### Ingredients

1. Your very own imaginative story!
2. One 11" x 2" strip of white paper
3. Two 3" x 2.5" rectangles of cardboard or construction paper for bookends
4. Glue stick or glue
5. Colorful paper, scrap paper, magazine images, etc.
6. String or ribbon cut one arm's length
7. Colored pencils and/or markers
8. Scissors
9. Hole punch

### Process

1. Imagine the story you will tell. How will you make the characters and the setting come to life? What words or images will you use? The possibilities are boundless!
2. Create the inside pages by accordion-folding one long strip of paper back and forth. Fold it an odd number of times (at least 3 times). Cut off the last page if you have excess.
3. To add covers, glue one rectangle of cardboard or construction paper to each end of the folded paper.
4. Tell your story in a creative way by using poetry, found images, collage or your own drawings.
5. Punch one or two holes on the top of each book cover. Thread a ribbon or string through each hole and tie off the end. Decorate the covers.
6. Wear your book around to show others or use the book as a wearable journal.

[ChicagoChildrensMuseum.org](http://ChicagoChildrensMuseum.org)

Photo by Rebecca Solomon



The collaboration between Chicago Children's Museum and Chicago Shakespeare Theater is made possible by ComEd.

For more activities, visit [www.chicagoshakes.com/seussical](http://www.chicagoshakes.com/seussical)

# Bringing **Seussical** home!

## “Oh, the Thinks You Can Think” (and Draw!)

JoJo is a master of creating new and unusual things in her imagination—so much so that she is honored as “Thinker Non-Stop” by her fellow Whos. Now you give it a try! Put your imagination and creativity to work.

What might a Feather Truck look like? Where would the driver sit? Would it have wheels? What would it carry? Try drawing a Feather Truck. 

Now make up your own weird combinations, and draw them!

1. A Thorny \_\_\_\_\_

2. A \_\_\_\_\_ Tree

What's another unusual combination you can imagine?

A \_\_\_\_\_

# Bringing **Seussical** home!

**“A person’s a person, no matter how small.”**

In this play, Horton helps the Whos by speaking up for them when no one else can even see or hear them. Horton is an **ally** for the Whos—an ally is someone who stands up for another person. Who is someone who has been an ally for you? Write down his or her name on the first line below. Now create an award for this special person in your life!

\_\_\_\_\_ (your ally's name)  
is hereby presented the...  
**“Amazing” Ally Award**  
presented on \_\_\_\_\_ (today's date)  
by \_\_\_\_\_ (your name)

Draw a picture that reminds you of your ally's special qualities and be sure to share the award with him or her!

# Bringing **Seussical** home!

## On the car ride home....

What do you talk about when the play is over? Perhaps your favorite character or song. Or the part in the play you enjoyed the most. And you can think about...

### How this story connects to you...

**Horton** has a big heart and cares a lot about helping the **Whos**, which no one else seems to understand. Have you ever felt different from everyone else because you cared so much about something?

**JoJo** gets in trouble with her parents and her teachers for “thinking new thinks” and telling imaginative stories—but in the end, it’s her voice that saves the **Whos**. Have you ever been told to be quiet—even when you felt like you had something important to say?

**Mayzie** asks **Horton** to sit on her egg for a little while, but then she leaves for a very long time. Horton stays because he doesn’t want to abandon the egg. Have you ever done something because it was the responsible thing, although it was very hard to do?

