

SOCIAL NARRATIVE

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



JAN 18 – FEB 16

 **FIRST
STAGE**
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH THEATER

PROUD CORNERSTONE MEMBER


UNITEDPERFORMINGARTSFUND

I am going to see a First Stage show at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center.



I am going to see the show with

Watching a play is like watching TV or a movie, except people are on stage in front of us.



They are called actors. They can see and hear me too. I can't turn the channel or turn the volume up and down.

A play is made up of many interesting things.



Costumes



Scenery



Sound



Lighting

When we drive to the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center, we will park in the parking lot or on the street.



**Once we get inside,
we will go down the
long blue hallway...**



**...into a large and colorful
commons area.**



There are bathrooms in the commons area. If I need to, I can use the bathroom before we go to our seats.

We may need to wait in line to scan our tickets.



When we are waiting, I can stay with my family or teacher.

Someone will show us where to sit.



The audience area is for all of us.



The stage is for the actors only.

When I am in the theater waiting for the show to start...



1. I can talk to my family or friends.
2. I can take a short break in the lobby.

There will be a lot of people in theater and it may get noisy.

If it gets too loud:

1. I can bring headphones if I want.
2. I can put my hands over my ears.
3. I can leave the room and take a short break in the lobby.



I can come back when I am ready.

During the show:

1. I can watch and listen to the actors quietly.
2. I can applaud if I like something.
3. I can hold things in my hand that make me feel comfortable.



If I need to talk:

1. I can talk quietly to my family.
2. I can write down what I want to say.
3. I can leave the room.

After the show there will be a "talkback."

The talkback is a chance for me to ask questions.

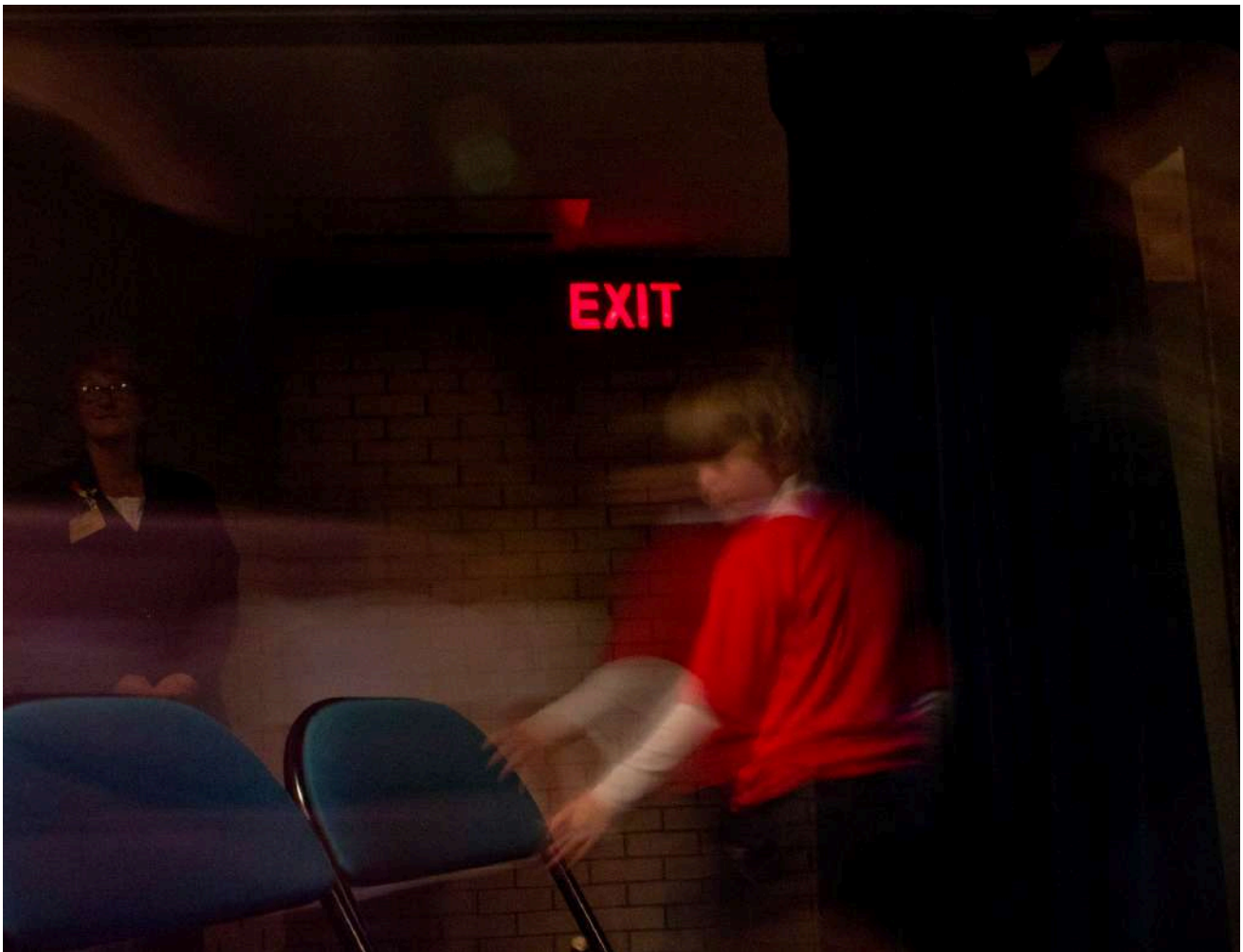
1. I will raise my hand to show that I want to ask a question.
2. I will wait for the leader to call on me to ask my question.
3. I don't have to ask a question if I don't want.



I can ask different kinds of questions:

1. I can ask questions about the show.
2. I can ask questions about the scenery, costumes, lights, or sound.

After the show is finished, I will leave the theater with my family.



THE DINOSAUR PLAY



A guide and apprentice are transported to a swamp millions of years ago during the age of the dinosaur. They hear the howling of the Brontosaurus and notice a huge dinosaur egg and wonder who could have laid an egg of this size. The guide and apprentice, with the support of the audience, strive to communicate with the egg to understand and meet its need for hatching. The audience, apprentices, and guide go on a journey of dinosaur investigation, discovery, and survival by trying out various possibilities for problem solving throughout the story.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Meet the "Stegosaurus" Cast

These are the actors you will see at
the Sensory Friendly Performance on
Saturday, February 1 at 3:30 PM.

Visit firststage.org to view the full
"Stegosaurus" Cast performance schedule.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, my name is Elena Marking,
and I play The Apprentice.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, my name is Sawyer Felkey,
and I Play Egg/Baby Tank.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, my name is Juliette De Rosa,
and I play T-Rex.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, my name is Adrian Feliciano,
and I play The Guide.

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, name is Jared Brandt Hoover,
and I play Tank

THE DINOSAUR PLAY



Hi, name is Samantha D. Montgomery,
and I play Brontosaurus.

What Happens in the Play?



(Dinosaur Play opens with the sounds of a steamy swamp and the lonely cry of the Brontosaurus. The guide and the apprentice are transported to a time millions of years ago. They are in an unfamiliar neighborhood and wonder how they might have arrived there. They notice a giant egg and questions what could have laid an egg of that size. They consult with the audience who helps them figure out who or what could have laid this huge egg.

Egg Tapping:

The guide and apprentice hear tapping and ask the audience if they hear tapping too. They consult with the audience to identify where the tapping is coming from. With the audience's support, they realize the tapping is coming from the egg. The guide and the apprentice try to talk to the egg, but the egg does not respond to them. They realize that the egg only communicates with children. The guide and apprentice will need the children's participation to communicate effectively with the egg. The children along with the guide and the apprentice become the egg's interpreters. Working together they figure out what the egg wants.

Due to some miscommunication, the egg becomes frustrated and taps furiously. Together, the guide, apprentice and audience work eagerly to identify the egg wants to hatch and needs a mother to help with the hatching process. The egg receives satisfaction in knowing the audience will help it identify its mother. The environmental sound stops and there is an eerie silence.

What Happens in the Play?

Nighttime:

There is the sound of a lonely howl of the Brontosaurus. The guide and the apprentice become concerned and wake up Tank. Tank informs them there is no danger in that cry. It is just another lonely dinosaur looking for a friend. They fall back to sleep only to be awakened by a distant screech which causes them to wake up Tank again. Tank informs them there is no danger in that cry as well. It is just Pteranodon (flying dinosaurs). Then, they hear the approaching sound of the T-Rex footsteps. The egg hears the footsteps too and taps a frantic message for help. Tank commands the egg to be quiet and informs the guide and apprentice the T-Rex cannot see in the dark and they will be alright if they do not make a sound. The T-Rex gets discouraged and leaves. The Brontosaurus music is heard in the distance.

Brontosaurus Arrival:

The howling sound of the Brontosaurus is getting closer and closer. The Brontosaurus enters. Her long tail trailing behind her. She notices the egg and stops. She lumbers towards the egg, then founders to her knees. She is stuck in a large mudhole.

The egg taps out excitedly “are you, my mother?” Brontosaurus tries even harder to reach the egg, but her arms just move helplessly. “The audience is trying to awaken Tank, the guide, and apprentice to let them know Brontosaurus has arrived and needs help. Brontosaurus continues to make weak efforts to pull herself up, but it does not work. Eventually, Tank, guide, and apprentice awaken to see the Brontosaurus struggling in a mudhole.

Tank gets volunteers from the audience to form a line to help free Brontosaurus from the mudhole. The chain breaks twice before freeing Brontosaurus from the mudhole the third time. Then, Tank is insulted by the guide’s statement that dinosaurs cannot think like humans. The guide apologizes for hurting Tank’s feelings, but Tank makes the decision to exit.

What Happens in the Play?



The Triceratops (Tank):

During this eerie silence, Tank charges onto the stage snorting and blustering as he paws the ground and snorts. The guide and apprentice scatter to find hiding places and encourage the audience to cover their faces, if they are scared. The guide and apprentice want to understand what Tank's behavior means so they ask the audience to help them wish the Tank will be able to talk. With the audience's support with making the wish, Tank begins to speak.

Together the guide, apprentice, and audience strive to become friends with Tank. However, Tank is afraid of humans and does not trust them. The audience, guide, and apprentice work together to gain Tank's trust. They want Tank to know there is nothing to fear and he is safe with them.

Tank shares dinosaurs are becoming extinct and there is a limited supply of food and swamps in the forest. The guide, apprentice, and audience ask Tank if he is the father of the egg. Tank informs them he is not the father of the egg and that he is a military genius.

The guide, audience, and apprentice share the egg needs a mother. During this time, the egg begins to tap. Tank inquires where the tapping is coming from. The audience helps him realize the tapping is coming from the egg. The egg taps it wants Tank to cooperate with the humans and help them find its mother. Tank agrees to do it under one condition, everyone must agree to be his second in command and obey his orders. Together they explore the various types of dinosaurs that could possibly be considered for the egg's mother. They agree to find a Brontosaurus to be the mother of the egg. Next, Tank teaches the audience the Tank Salute and the rules of Tank warfare.

Triceratops Training:

The first rule of Tank warfare is attacking a Tyrannosaurus is not an option. A Tank defends and has plates of armor so tough it cannot be penetrated. So, when a T-Rex approaches, they are to be quiet and still. After learning the Tank salute and the rules of Tank warfare, they settle down for a goodnight sleep.

What Happens in the Play?



Egg Hatching Experience:

The guide, apprentice, and audience decide to work together to get Brontosaurus to sit on the egg. With the support of the audience, they ask the Brontosaurus to sit on the egg so it can hatch. Brontosaurus raises her head weakly and looking into the children's eyes she strives to understand what they are asking her to do.

Due to communication differences, Brontosaurus does not understand what they want her to do. Therefore, the guide decides to model how Brontosaurus should sit on the egg by inviting some volunteers from the audience to sit on him.

Brontosaurus misunderstands and instead of walking over to the egg, Brontosaurus walks over to the guide, the children scatter, and Brontosaurus sits on the guide, instead of the egg. Brontosaurus expects to be praised for her efforts, but the Guide lets Brontosaurus know sitting on him was not the desired outcome. Then the egg taps excitedly, are you, my mother?

Brontosaurus shakes her head and sighs. Then she lifts her head up and listens to the egg, nods her head up and down and lumbers slowly over to the egg. She now realizes they wanted her to sit on the egg, not the guide. Therefore, she goes to sit on the egg herself. She has finally made the connection to sit on the egg to help it hatch.

At the audience command, Brontosaurus tries to sit on the egg with mild success. Greatly puzzled, she rises and circles to the other side of the egg and tries to sit on the egg again. After a few failed attempts Brontosaurus is quite discouraged. The audience asks her if she still wants to be the egg's mother. She responds "yes." Therefore, the audience decides to help Brontosaurus warm the egg.

What Happens in the Play?



Audience Help with Hatching Experience:

The audience rub their hands together and extend them towards the egg to help with the warming process that is required for the egg to hatch.

The egg begins to hatch. Brontosaurus moves across the stage and eventually turns her back to the Guide. A baby tank emerges from the egg. Baby Tank learns to stand and walk before being introduced to the Brontosaurus.

Brontosaurus is informed that she is having a new baby:

The guide tries to help Brontosaurus and Baby Tank make a family connection. Brontosaurus shakes her head and moves away from the guide. She is refusing to make the family connection. The audience helps the Guide to realize that Baby Tank and Brontosaurus are different dinosaurs and that is why Brontosaurus refuse to be the mother of Baby Tank.

The Guide asked the audience to help them convince Brontosaurus to be Baby Tank's mother by reminding her that she needs a family. Brontosaurus turns her back to Baby Tank. Baby Tank gets an idea to play the butting game with Brontosaurus. At first Brontosaurus refused to play, but with the audience's support and the realization of Baby Tank's hurt feelings, Brontosaurus accepts Baby Tank as being part of her family and engages in the butting game.

T-Rex & Tanks Confrontation:

Then, the T-Rex reappears on the scene and Baby Tank confronts T-Rex. The audience make their horns on their heads and call for Tank. Brontosaurus response in fear at the presence of the T-Rex. Tank arrives and commands the guide to calm Brontosaurus down as he confronts T-Rex. The guide and apprentice convince Tank to go in hiding with his family for their protection while they confront the T-Rex by creating a dust storm with the audience's support. The guide and apprentice, with the audience's support, defeats T-Rex. However, the effects of the dust storm have resulted in everything being covered with sand. There is sand everywhere. The swamp is gone. The lake is gone. The trees are gone. All there is for miles and miles are vast stretches of sand.

What Happens in the Play?



The Search for Swamp & Food:

Tank informs everyone they must move on because there is no food or water available for the Brontosaurus. "We must find another swamp and lake for Brontosaurus, or she'll die," says Tank. As they begin to travel, Brontosaurus tries to lift her legs and realizes she is stuck in the sand. Tank commands Baby Tank to butt Brontosaurus to get her moving. However, it does not work. After a few tries of butting Brontosaurus, with support from the audience, Brontosaurus begins to move and Tank rushes to catch up with the line leaving the desert in search of a new swamp and food.

Entering Volcano Country:

Tank, Baby Tank, Brontosaurus, Guide, Apprentice, and Audience arrive in volcano country where the audience helps them through an earthquake and saves Brontosaurus from falling into the ground opening in front of her. The audience helps them to get over and down the mountain in search of a swamp and green marshy grasses. With the guide, apprentice, and audience's support, Tank, Baby Tank, and Brontosaurus found a new home.

Conclusion:

The Guide and Apprentice shared with the audience they have accomplished their objective to help the dinosaurs find a place where they can survive and live. Brontosaurus shows appreciation for the guide and apprentice support. Tank leads the audience through the Tank salute. Then, Brontosaurus and Tank exit. However, Baby Tank remains behind and gets the idea to play the butting game with the guide and apprentice before leaving. Brontosaurus returns encouraging Baby Tank to come.

After the dinosaurs exit, the guide and apprentice transformed back into the world of today. The guide and apprentice share their hope of getting together again sometime in the future with the audience. Then, the guide and apprentice leave the stage.

Curtain Call

The end.