At CTC, our mission is to **Educate, Challenge**, and **Inspire** our multigenerational audience. This Audience Resource Guide is just one of the ways through which we aim to enhance your experience and further engagement, beyond just seeing the shows on our stage. Use these articles, conversation starters, and activities both before and after you see **Snow White**!

*Prepared by the CTC Education, Marketing, and Audience Services teams*
SNOW WHITE

September 29 — December 8 2019
Cargill Stage
Best for everyone ages 5 and up

Written and Directed by GREG BANKS | Original Music by VICTOR ZUPANC | Featuring JOY DOLO and DEAN HOLT

This is not your usual "Once Upon a Time." Classic? No. Wild? Yes! To start with, it’s a two-person play. Do the math. Snow White and the Seven Dwarves? Two fabulous, whip-smart, super-fast actors play Snow White, the huntsman, the prince, and all seven dwarves! And it’s funny. Really, really funny. So expect the unexpected in this fabulous fairy tale with a (spoiler alert) you-won’t-see-it-coming twist.

Things to Know About the Show

- This show is a play with music performed by two adult actors who work together to portray all characters in the story, performed on a super-thrust stage, with the audience surrounding three-quarters of the set. Director Greg Banks chose this layout so the audience could see each other engaging and reacting to the story!
- This show closely follows the Brothers’ Grimm fairy tale, and contains some moments that may frighten young children, such as Snow White’s flight from the Huntsman through the woods.
- Playwright and Director Greg Banks has over 18 years of history developing and direct new plays for multigenerational audiences at Children’s Theatre Company. Snow White will be his 14th production on CTC’s stage.

EDUCATE: About Snow White

Did you know that the story of “Snow White” in German is called “Sneewittchen?” Check out the articles below to learn more about the history of the Snow White fairy tale and its various adaptations around the world. Then, visit Off Book, our online journal, to learn more about our production from the director and the actors playing all fourteen characters!

More About Snow White

Original ‘Snow White’ fairytale by Jacob and Wilhem Grimm
https://www.pitt.edu/~dash/grimm053.html

Snow White adaptations from Around the World
https://www.pitt.edu/~dash/type0709.html

More About CTC’s Production

‘Snow White’ with only two actors? Challenge Accepted!
https://offbook.childrenstheatre.org/snow-white-with-only-two-actors-challenge-accepted-c150f8711b6b

A Pictorial History of Greg Banks’ Productions at CTC
https://offbook.childrenstheatre.org/a-pictorial-history-of-greg-banks-productions-at-ctc-9683661f7d1d

Meet the Two Actors Playing all 14 Roles
EDUCATE: Small Cast, Large Adventure

Greg Banks, director and playwright of Snow White, is a master at adapting classic stories to the stage for small casts. Snow White features only two actors who work together to weave the story. Banks feels that the playing of multiple roles explores the idea that people can exist on several levels, which we naturally do every day in different ways we behave. Take a look at these other Greg Banks creations from the CTC archives. Which ones have you seen?

Huck Finn

This adaptation of Mark Twain's original story features three actors who play 17 characters and was originally produced in 2007.

The Jungle Book

Based on the original story by Rudyard Kipling, Banks manages to tell the story of Mowgli using only five actors.

Pinocchio

Originally produced in 2013, this Greg Banks adaptation features only four actors who tell this story within a story.

Robin Hood

This Greg Banks adaptation features four actors and one musician who work together to convey the story of this heroic outlaw and portray 15 roles.

The Hobbit

Greg Banks most recent adaptation, The Hobbit features five actors and one musician who travel through Middle Earth.
**EDUCATE: Conversation Topics and Activities**

Check out the ideas below of what to talk about, write about, create, and explore before and after you see *Snow White* at CTC!

- **Before the show**, brainstorm character traits you anticipate seeing in the Prince. Compare your vision of the Prince to CTC’s version.

- **What are some common characters in fairytales?**

- **Dwarf #4 feels anxious about starting the show. Have you ever felt anxious? What made you feel better?**

- **Write a sequel to Snow White.**

- **The dwarves love to tell Knock Knock jokes! Make up your own jokes and perform a comedy show for your family!**

- **Build your own magic mirror.**

- **All of the dwarves have a very different reaction to finding Snow White in their house. How would you react if you found someone in your house? Who could you ask for help?**

- **What was the message or moral of the play?**

- **Why do you think CTC chose to change the ending?**

- **The Evil Queen says, “I don’t have to be nice because I’m beautiful.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?**

- **Retell the story from the Evil Queen’s perspective. How does the story change?**

- **Snow White asks, “Can’t grown-ups do whatever they want?” Do you think adults can do anything they want?**

- **What other stories do you think could be told using only two people?**
**CHALLENGE: Fractured Fairy Tales**

CTC’s *Snow White* is an adaptation of the original Brothers Grimm fairy tale. The Brothers Grimm dedicated their lives to the conservation of fairy tales because they believed they were culturally significant and important for future generations to know!

In this activity, you’ll practice writing skills, imagination, and storytelling by creating your own adaptation of a well-known fairy tale. Choose a fairy tale with which you are familiar; as you think about that fairy tale, identify the setting, characters, conflict, ending, and point of view of the fairy tale you just heard. Now, change one of the elements listed above to write your own adaptation of the story! Perhaps Cinderella loses a pocket watch instead of a slipper, or Little Red Riding Hood has to walk through a city instead of a forest, or Sleeping Beauty wakes up too soon!

How does one change affect the rest of the story? Did the moral or lesson of the story change? Can you change more than one element?

**CHALLENGE: Scene Work**

A script is written much differently than a book. The character who is speaking will be in ALL CAPS on the left. Words appearing in *italics* are stage directions, which are not read aloud in the play. They provide information that clarifies the action, setting, intentions, and more.

In this activity, you’ll read a page from the script of *Snow White* by Greg Banks—the same script the actors use! Analyze characters, settings, actions, intent, and more.

Read the script excerpt on the next page with your family. It may be helpful for the first read to have someone read the stage directions aloud. As you read, think about the following questions:

- Who are the characters in the scene?
- What is the setting of the scene?
- What is the most important moment in the scene?
- What are the actions in the scene?
- What is each character’s goal in the scene?

**Mix It Up:** Perform your scene for your family and friends! Find costume pieces and props that you think the characters might hold and try to memorize your lines!
**Script Excerpt**

Below is an excerpt of *Snow White* by Greg Banks.

| Snow White | If only I wasn’t so lonely… |
| 4 | (enters) What are you doing? |
| Snow White | I’ve started |
| 4 | Started! Without the others? |
| Snow White | I had to. Look, everyone’s here. |
| 4 | (to audience) oh my goodness. Hello! (to Snow White) Wait! This is no good. It won’t work. We can’t tell the story on our own. What if we get it wrong? |
| Snow White | We won’t get it wrong |
| 4 | If we did, the others would never forgive us. No, we need all of us if we are going to |
| Snow White | Where are they? |
| 4 | (to audience) Have any of you seen siz shortish looking men wandering around, carrying pixk aces, whistling a little tunr… looking a bit lost… have you?… Anyone? |
| Snow White | We can start and the others can join in when they get here. |
| 4 | This is a disaster. A complete disaster. The story is about all of us and most of us |
| Snow White | We can tell the story on our own. We both know what happened. |
| 4 | How can we do that? It says Snow White and the seven… seven and there’s only two of us! It’s impossible. I’ll get muddled up and say the wrong things. They won’t understand what’s going on. |
| Snow White | Of course they will! Anyway its my story. |
| 4 | It’s OUR story and I can’t tell it without the others. |
| Snow White | Well, I’m starting anyway— If only… If only… |
| 4 | You can’t start it like that. You have to start it like a proper fairy tale. Once upon a |
| Snow White | But its not a fairy tale, its real, its my story and it starts like this. |
**CHALLENGE: Snow White Venn Diagram**

Use the Venn Diagram below to compare the original Brothers Grimm tale, the 1937 Disney movie, and the play at Children’s Theatre Company.
**CHALLENGE: Sardines**

In the play, Snow White and the Dwarves play Sardines to help pass the time. Sardines is basically Hide-and-Go-Seek, but in reverse! You can play this game at home with your family and friends, too; it is best played outside or in a large open area.

First, set physical boundaries for hiding (for example, stay within the backyard, or only in these two rooms, etc.). Then, elect someone to be the first person to hide. Allow this person a few minutes to find a hiding spot while everyone else closes their eyes or stays in a neutral area. When the hider is hidden, everyone splits up to try to find the hider. When someone finds the hider, they quietly hide alongside that person attempting not to draw attention or give away the location to the rest of the seekers. Over time, more and more people will find the hider and the location starts to look like a can of sardines! The last person to find the hider becomes the hider for the next round.

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**INSPIRE: Collaborative Story Telling**

This is a great activity for families and friends to do while driving in the car, sitting down for a meal, or at any time, as it doesn’t require any materials—just your imagination! Use your predicting skills and improvisation to make up a fairy tale or story one word at a time.

Establish a path that the story will travel (clockwise or counterclockwise) so everyone knows when their turn is coming up. One person starts by saying, “Once upon a time…” Then, each person will add one word to the story in the order you decided, ensuring that their word connects and makes sense with the other words that have already been said. Continue this pattern until everyone has had a turn or the story is complete.

Then, do some group thinking about whether the story made sense. Did the story have a beginning, middle, and end? Did your story include any fairy tale elements such as protagonist, antagonist, obstacle, etc.? You can also work as a group to give your fairy tale a name!

**Mix It Up:**

- Try to incorporate vocabulary or spelling words that you’re studying in school!
- Try out different genres, pre-decided characters, or topics. They don’t all have to be fairy tales!
- Collaborate on a sequel to your first story the next day. What has changed about your characters, setting, or original story?
INSPIRE: Poison Apples

Explore the scientific method and make a “poison” apple.

**Step 1:** Make a prediction about the outcome of your experiment. Fill in the “Hypothesis” section on the table below. Read the directions all the way through before starting your experiment!

**Step 2:** Check off the list to make sure you have all of the needed ingredients and equipment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Apple corer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baking soda</td>
<td>Mixing bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vinegar</td>
<td>Spoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food coloring</td>
<td>Paper towels (it gets messy!)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 3:** Ask an adult to help you cut the core out of the apple using an apple corer.

**Step 4:** Choose your favorite color and mix the food coloring with one cup of vinegar.

**Step 2:** Add a spoonful of baking soda into the core of the apple.

**Step 4:** Slowly pour vinegar into the core of the apple until it begins to erupt.

**Step 5:** Observe your creation and fill in the boxes below. Add more baking soda to the apple core and try using a different color of vinegar or different amounts. Observe the differences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sense</th>
<th>Hypothesis</th>
<th>Observation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feels Like</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smells Like</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks Like</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: do NOT eat the apple after your experiment.
INSPIRE: Extra! Extra!

Snow White is determined to set the record straight about her story. Use the template below and write a newspaper article detailing her real story.

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**Fairy Tale Times**

headline

picture

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headline

picture

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headline

picture

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headline

picture

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headline

picture

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Cork Board Conversations

Use the sticky notes below to think critically about *Snow White*.

Three adjectives that describe this play are...
1.
2.
3.

This play made me feel...

This play made me think about...

A status I would post on my social media after seeing the show is...

A question I still have is...

This play taught me...

My Rating of *Snow White* at Children’s Theatre Company