PUPPETS: THE INSIDE STORY

All the puppets you see in the show are designed and created by members of the performing company. In case you were wondering how they are built, and how the puppeteers move them—here's the INSIDE story!





All the villagers and monkeys are traditional ROD PUPPETS. Each has a pipe inside that connects to its head. When the puppeteer turns the pipe, the puppet's head turns.

Do you know how the monkey heads are made? First, an arrist





First, an artist sculpts a monkey head in clay. Then

the head is submerged in a bucket of liquid rubber. The rubber dries in the shape of the sculpture. Now the clay is removed, leaving an empty rubber mold that can be used and reused, by pouring in liquid plastic to make a hard, hollow head that looks exactly like the original clay sculpture.

The Ogre is a BODY PUPPET (that means the puppeteer's body fits right inside the puppet). The Ogre's mask is built on a football helmet. A line is attached from the mask to the helmet's chinstrap, so that whenever the puppeteer opens his or her mouth, so does the Ogre.

The small and medium goats are LARGE SCALE, HAND-IN-MOUTH PUPPETS.

The puppeteer wears a strap that supports the puppet. One hand will go into the puppet's head to operate the lower jaw and position the head. The puppeteer's other hand operates a leg or tail, or assists in positioning the head.

The biggest Billy Goat is a BACKPACK PUPPET.

He measures 10 feet tall from horns to hooves, and is operated by a single puppeteer. The puppeteer's legs are the front legs of the goat, and pipes that rise out of the backpack hold its head. The rear legs hang from plastic pipes attached to the bottom of the backpack.

Bunraku is a style of puppetry from Japan.

In *Bunraku*, the puppeteers dress in black and hold the puppets in front of them. As they move about the stage, the puppeteers seem to become mere shadows. What puppets in the show are operated in the *Bunraku* style?

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The answers can be found on this page.

Bunraku puppets include the villagers, the Cap Seller, the Mayor, and the littlest Billy Goat Gruft.

Teacher Guides are available online. Visit us at **www.KupferbergCenter.org/revelations** to download your copy.

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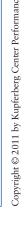
Vivian Charlop, Executive Director

Dedi Firestone, Director of Arts Education

Kathleen Devine, Writer









STUDENT GUIDE

CAPS FOR SALE and THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF
HUDSON VAGABOND PUPPETS



ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

Two of your favorite stories, Caps for Sale and The Three Billy Goats Gruff, come to life onstage with all kinds of puppets, some of them larger-than-life! Help the peddler find his caps, and help big Billy Goat Gruff find his brothers. Watch the characters sing and dance their way out of trouble and into a world of happy endings.

When plays or movies are adapted from books or stories, the playwright often makes some changes. Read the stories in class before you see the play. Be alert for changes and twists to the original. Which versions do you like best?

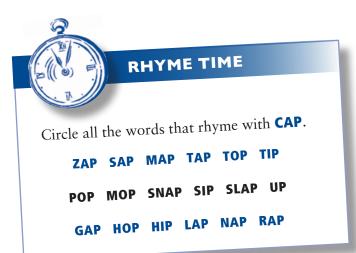
MONKEY TALE WITH A TWIST

At the end of the puppet show version of *Caps* for Sale, the monkeys steal all the tinsmith's pots, the fishmonger's fish, and the flower lady's flowers. By the time the cap peddler arrives on the scene, the other sellers think he must be the thief, just because he is new in town. What do you think about the way the playwright changed the story?

WHO SAYS WHAT?

Draw a line to match the text in the bubbles to the correct character.





A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW

In this version of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, the Ogre serenades us on his guitar, making us feel a little sorry for him:

Everybody wants to blame me. But I'm an Ogre through and through; No one really knows me It's in my nature to spit and chew.

Lunching on snakes and rats, Roaches and frogs and bats *Try the patience of a self-respecting Ogre.*

What I crave to bake *Is a chocolate goat steak—* Tummy full till the week is over.

Everybody wants to blame me, But I'm an Ogre through and through, So don't try to change me Because I'm hungry—just like you!

If you were the Ogre, how would you feel about the goats trip-trapping over your bridge?

Write three reasons, from the Ogre's point of view, why you should stop the goats from crossing—and why you might even want to eat them!

Has someone or something ever bothered you so much, just thinking about it got you mad? How did you express your feelings?

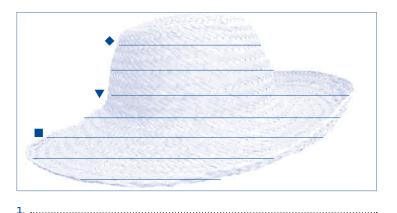
PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAP

On the lines inside the peddler's cap, write words that describe:

- ◆ the cap peddler
- ▼ what the other sellers think about him, and
- what he feels about and says to the monkeys.

Looking at your thinking cap, answer these questions:

- 1. How do the cap peddler's feelings change during the play?
- 2. How do the feelings of the other sellers change toward the cap peddler during the play?



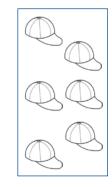
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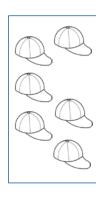
PATTERNS

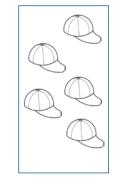
Circle the Which object comes next in each pattern? answer.

COUNT THE CAPS

Which two boxes have the same NUMBER of caps? Circle the boxes.







TAKE IT HOME PARENT AND KID CORNER

MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DO

MAKING MONKEY PUPPETS

Make simple monkey finger puppets with things you have around the house.

What you need: An old glove, scissors, glue, assorted scraps of colored felt and yarn, a fine-tip Sharpie pen, and Velcro (sticky-back).

5 STEPS FOR 5 FINGER PUPPETS!

- **1** Ask an adult to cut the fingers from the glove. These are your five monkey "bodies."
- 2 Cut five little oval or pear-shaped pieces of felt from your felt scraps. Each piece will be a monkey's face.
- 3 Glue each piece of felt to the finger-pad of each monkey body and use the Sharpie to draw a face on the felt.





- 4 Glue on a yarn tail. Let dry.
- **5** With your extra felt scraps, make little caps of different colors. If you want to get them to magically "stick," put a little piece of sticky Velcro on each monkey head with the corresponding piece on the bottom of each cap. Be sure that the glue is really dry before you play with the hats, or the Velcro will come off, spoiling your fun.

Position each monkey on your fingers and practice moving them with a simple finger play such as:

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed One fell off and bumped his head Mama called the doctor and the doctor said, "No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"