

2019-2020 Season

CATCO IS
KIDS!

PLAYGUIDE



Dr. Seuss's

The Cat in the Hat



January 10-26, 2020 • Shedd Theatre, CPAC

BASED ON THE BOOK BY **Dr. Seuss**

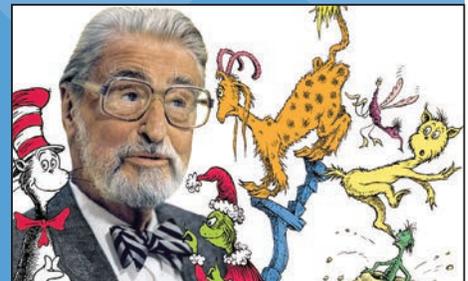
PLAY ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY **The National Theatre of Great Britain**

The Story

How do you entertain yourself on a cold, wet, rainy day? What if you received a visit from a special guest? Imagine the excitement when you find your guest is a cat—wearing a zany hat? From the moment the Cat in the Hat appears in our play, Sally and her little brother know this cat is the funniest, most mischievous creature they've ever met. This amusing cat will make their day, but he causes quite a ruckus which gets in the way. Will mom find out about what happened when she returns home? Join CATCO is Kids as the actors tell this fun-loving story that is sure to charm and delight!

About the Author: Dr. Seuss

Theodor Seuss Geisel, or Dr. Seuss as he has become well-known, was born in 1904. When he was 18 years old, Dr. Seuss went to college. After graduating, he decided to pursue cartooning full-time and worked for magazines as a cartoonist in magazines and for advertisements. Dr. Seuss's career as a children's literature started when he wrote the book *And to Think That I Saw it on Mulberry Street*, but the book wasn't published right away (see the fun facts section for more about that story). Dr. Seuss would eventually write and illustrate over 44 beloved books such as *Green Eggs and Ham*, *The Cat in the Hat*, and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. His books have been translated into more than 15 languages and have sold over 200 million copies around the world.



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BEFORE THE SHOW

Curriculum Connections



You can use this Playguide and your visit to CATCO is Kids to help your students meet the curriculum standards required in schools by the Ohio Department of Education and the Common Core State Standards Initiative. Look throughout our Playguide for the icon and you will find academic standards that correspond with the different activities listed.

Curriculum
Connection

Activities

1. Go to the library with a parent or guardian and check out *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss from the juvenile section. Read the book with a family member. With guidance and support, make a list of words that rhyme from the book, words that sound the same as other words. Can you think of words that rhyme but are not from the book? Hold onto your list for a later activity in this playguide!



Curriculum
Connection

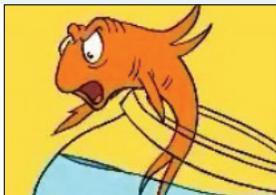
**CCSS.ELA
Literacy.R.F.K.2.A** *Recognize and produce rhyming words.*

2. With a parent or guardian, visit the local library and check out *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss, and read it with a family member. With guidance and support, create a list of the characters in the story, where it takes place, and what happens in the story. Using the list that you created, act out who the characters are, where the story takes place, and your favorite part of the story. Perform your ideas for family and friends.



Curriculum
Connection

**CCSS.ELA
Literacy.RL.1.3** *Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.*



3. Have a parent read to you Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*. Who are the characters featured in the story? How do the illustrations and text help you to determine the character's personalities? Where does the story take place? What are the series of events in the story? What is the big problem in the story? How is the problem solved? Write down or share your thoughts with a parent or friend.

Curriculum
Connection

**CCSS.ELA
Literacy.RL.2.7** *Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.*

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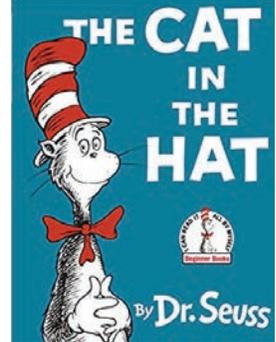
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AFTER THE SHOW

Activities

1. After seeing CATCO's production of *The Cat in the Hat*, go to the library with a parent or guardian and check out *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss from the juvenile section. Read the book with a family member. Make a list of your favorite words that rhyme. You can use the same list from the activity above. Using your voice and movement, act out the words you chose. What do those words mean? Can you think of words than mean the opposite of those words?

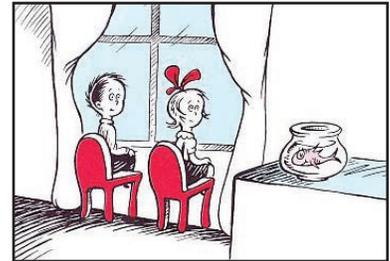


Curriculum Connection

Drama/Theatre: Grade K
Cognitive and Creative Processes: Producing and Performing 5PR

Engage in drama and theatre experiences to explore concepts from other academic areas.

2. After seeing the CATCO is Kids performance, create your own original *The Cat in the Hat* play. Can you make the characters' words rhyme? Use what you remember from the play as a guide when you create the movements and voices for all the characters in the story. Practice your play and think about the characters' feelings at the beginning of the story and how their feelings change towards the end. Perform your play for family and friends!

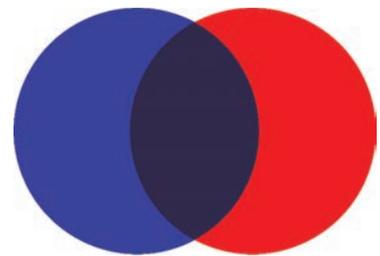


Curriculum Connection

Drama/Theatre: Grade 1
Cognitive and Creative Processes: Producing and Performing 3PR

Demonstrate various movements, voices, and feelings by performing a variety of familiar roles.

3. After watching the CATCO is Kids production of *The Cat in the Hat*, go to the library with your parent or guardian and find a copy of *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss in the juvenile section. Read the book with a family member. After reading it, create a Venn Diagram that shows the similarities and differences between *The Cat in the Hat* play and *The Cat in the Hat* book. How were the stories different? How were they the same? Share your thoughts with a family member or friend.



Curriculum Connection

CCSS.ELA Literacy.RL.2.9

Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story (e.g., Cinderella stories) by different authors or from different cultures.

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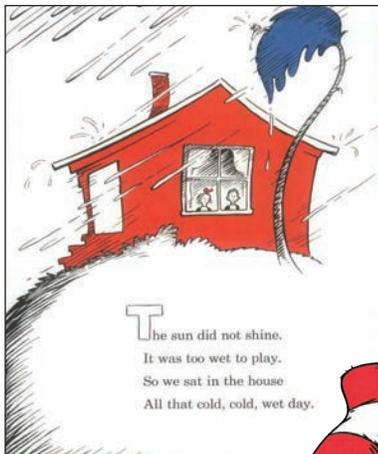
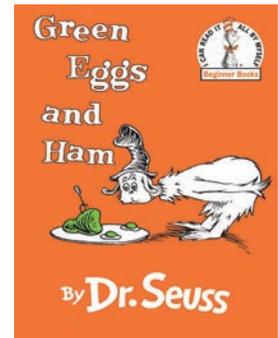
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FUN WITH DR. SEUSS

Fun Facts about Dr. Seuss

- Dr. Seuss wrote under seven different names!
- Dr. Seuss was not actually a doctor.



The sun did not shine.
It was too wet to play.
So we sat in the house
All that cold, cold, wet day.

- Dr. Seuss wrote *Green Eggs and Ham* on a dare because his publisher said that he couldn't write a book using only 50 words.
- His first children's book, *And to Think That I Saw it on Mulberry Street*, was rejected 27 times before it was published.
- Before he wrote children's books, Dr. Seuss worked as a cartoonist for advertisements.
- Dr. Seuss invented the word 'nerd.'



How Seuss Said It!

Take a look at these fun quotations by Dr. Seuss. Do you recognize any of them?

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

"So, open your voice, lad! For every voice counts!"

"Today was good. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another one!"

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"

"A person's a person no matter how small."

"Today you are you. That is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you!"



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DR. SEUSS PLAYS WITH WORDS

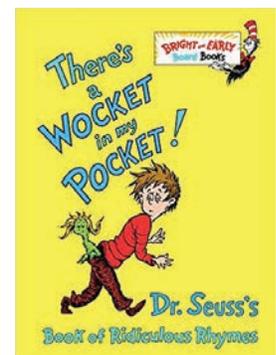
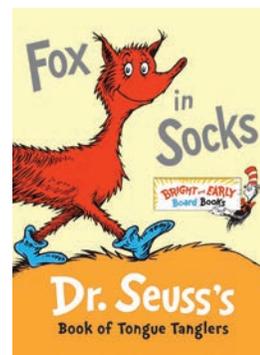
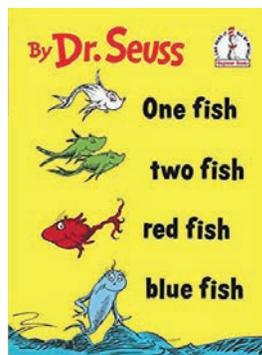
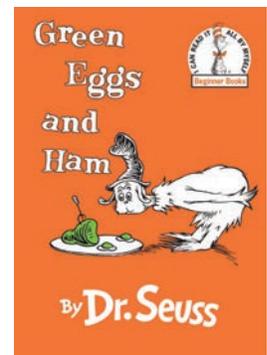
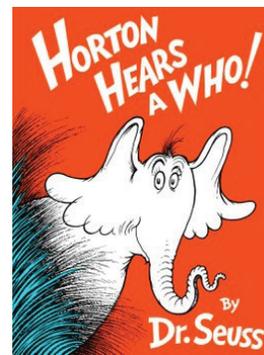
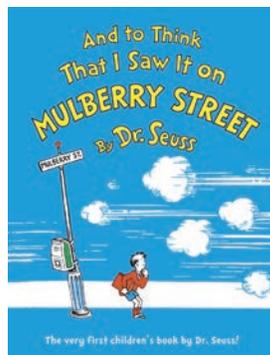
Rhyme Time Fill in the table below using words that rhyme with the word at the beginning of each row.

Hat					
Box					
Fun					
Cake					
Ball					

Further Reading

Did you enjoy *The Cat in the Hat*? Try reading some of these other classic books by Dr. Seuss:

- *And To Think I Saw it on Mulberry Street* (1937)
- *Horton Hears a Who* (1954)
- *Green Eggs and Ham* (1960)
- *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* (1960)
- *Fox in Socks* (1965)
- *There's a Wocket in my Pocket* (1974)



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The Hat of the Cat

In *The Cat in the Hat*, the Cat wears a very famous hat. Follow the directions below to create your own hat!



Supplies needed:

- white paper plate (unless you happen to have a black one around!)
- black construction paper
- white construction paper, cardstock, or posterboard
- markers, crayons, or paint
- hot glue or a gluestick
- scissors
- popsicle stick (optional)

Directions:

1. Cut out the middle of the paper plate with an adult's help.
2. Color it black using your preferred medium.
3. Use the white construction paper, cardstock, or posterboard to cut out a hat in the shape of the one the Cat in the Hat wears. Color it in alternating stripes of red. See picture above for reference.
4. Cut out six thin strips of the black construction paper for the whiskers.
5. Glue the hat and whiskers onto the paper plate, as shown in the photo.
6. (Optional step) Glue a popsicle stick on the back of the bottom of the plate to turn the plate into a mask!
7. Enjoy acting like the Cat in the Hat.



Oh Goodness! Oh gracious! How about that?

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