



# WALNUT STREET THEATRE



## THE BIG BAD BULLYSAURUS

By Tommy Jamerson

TOURING OUTREACH COMPANY

STUDY GUIDE

### SHOW SYNOPSIS

When Paleontologist Mark learns that his niece, Natalie, is being harassed by a local bully, he tells her the story of Ryan Rex Jr., a little dinosaur with a big bully problem of his own. With the help of his companions, Terry Pterodactyl and Billy Bullysaurus, Ryan and Natalie both learn a lesson about friendship and the importance of forgiveness. Filled with heart and humor, *The Big Bad Bullysaurus* entertains its audience while touching on this very timely issue.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### BEFORE THE SHOW

- What do you expect from a show called “The Big Bad Bullysaurus”?
- What does it mean to be a “bully”?
- What does bullying look like? Sound like?
- Are there different kinds of bullies?
- What should you do if you or someone else is being bullied?

#### AFTER THE SHOW

- How was Ryan Rex being bullied? By who?
- What should Ryan have done?
- What kinds of bullying took place in this play?
- Why do some people bully others?
- What will you do next time you see/experience bullying?

#### BULLY VOCAB

**BULLY** someone who inflicts unwanted, aggressive behavior on other people that involves a real or something that feels like a power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.

**VICTIM** Someone who suffers the consequences of bullying.

**BYSTANDER** a witness of the act of bullying. Bystanders must choose to help the victim, the bully, or remain silent.

#### TYPES OF BULLYING

**PHYSICAL** kicking; hitting; taking and damaging belongings

**VERBAL** Name calling; taunting, threats; making offensive remarks

**INDIRECT:** Spreading nasty stories about someone; gossip; excluding people from social groups

**CYBER:** sending nasty/threatening texts, emails, harassing phone calls, pictures, Facebook posts, chat rooms, or other social media posts.

# THEATRE 101

## Ever wondered how to put on a play?

There are many different elements that go into putting what's written on the page up on its feet. Please review the following terms with your students:

**PLAYWRIGHT** The playwright writes the script.

**DIRECTOR** The director is in charge of the production. They lead the actors, designers, and production crew to put the show on its feet.

**COSTUME** What the actors wear during the show.

**SCENERY** Everything on stage (*except props*) used to represent the place at which action is occurring.

**PROPS** All physical items on stage with the exception of the scenery. This includes lamps, chairs, pens, paper, books and more!

**LIGHTS** Stage lights illuminate the actors so that they look their best. The colors used, focus of the light, and amount of lighting can really set the mood and environment of a scene.

**SOUND** Everything that you hear during a performance that does not come from the actors.

**ACTORS** The actors are the people that perform the show onstage.

**AUDIENCE** The lucky people that get to watch the show. New to being an audience member? Follow these rules and you will be a natural!



## AUDIENCE RULES

- ◆ Unlike a movie, the actors are performing in front of you. They can see everything that you do. Talking, sleeping, poking your neighbor, or making noise during the performance distracts the actors and others around you.
- ◆ Don't bring electronics to the performance. The use of cell phones, cameras, computers, tablets, and video game devices are **not allowed**.
- ◆ Use your better judgment on when to laugh, clap, and/or cry during the performance. But don't forget to clap at the end of the show!
- ◆ Stay in your seat during the performance.
- ◆ Make sure you go to the bathroom before the show starts.

## TRY IT YOURSELF!

### DIRECTIONS

Give students a chance to act out a scene from *The Big Bad Bullysaurus*. Before jumping into the performance, think about all of the elements that go into a play. Are there any props that we can use to help improve the scene? Where are the characters when this scene is taking place? What might the scenery look like?

### VARIATION

Have students come up with their own bullying scenarios and perform them for the class. Discuss who was the bully, bystander and victim.



## SAMPLE SCENE FROM THE BIG BAD BULLYSAURUS

(Terry pulls out Billy's drawing and begins waving it at Ryan)

**TERRY:** Cryin' Ryan! Cryin' Ryan!

**RYAN:** What is that? Let me see!

(Ryan snatches the paper from Terry's claw.)

**RYAN** (Continued.) It's—it's a picture of me! (Ryan holds up what appears to be a picture of him crying.)

**TERRY:** You have to admit, it is a pretty good likeness.

**RYAN:** It is not! It's not a good likeness and you are not a good friend!

**TERRY:** Hey – I'm sorry. I was only kidding.

**RYAN:** (Tears swelling in his eyes.) No you weren't! You were just—you were just—get out of here! Ok!? Get out of here!

**TERRY:** Fine, I'll leave—Cryin' Ryan. But I guess that picture is true after all.

(Terry exits, leaving Ryan alone on stage. Ryan looks at the picture and begins to rip it up. When he's done, he snuffles for a minute, and then wipes away his tears.)

**RYAN:** Some friends they turned out to be. I don't see how this day could get any worse.

**BILLY:** Well look who it is.

**RYAN:** Spoke too soon.

**BILLY:** Ryan Rex Jr.—or should I say— little baby, waby, Cryin' Ryan.

**RYAN:** Knock it off, Billy.

**BILLY:** Knock it off? OK, I'll knock it off. I'll knock that block of yours clean off your shoulders! What do you say to that? Huh? Huh?!

(Billy takes a threatening step toward Ryan).

**RYAN:** Okay, okay. I'm sorry.

**BILLY:** You'd better be.

# THINK before you speak!

Teach students to THINK before they speak to help prevent bullying!

Using this simple acrostic, teach them to ask the following questions about what they are going to say before they say it:

Is it...TRUE?

Is it...HELPFUL?

Is it...INSPIRING?

Is it...NCESSARY?

Is it...KIND?



## ONLINE RESOURCES

### Who What and Why . . .

<http://www.olweus.org/public/bullying.page>

### Mix it up Day!

<http://www.tolerance.org/mix-it-up>

### Bullying Statistics

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/media/facts/index.html>

### More on Bullying

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/>

## GROUP ACTIVITY: SAY SOMETHING NICE!

### DIRECTIONS

- Divide students into pairs.
- Have students take turns saying one thing positive that they really admire about their partner.
- **Encourage students to really focus on personality and behavior rather than physical traits** (i.e. "I really like that you are always so willing to share your lunch when I forget mine on the bus," "I like that you are the only person who loves Justin Bieber as much as I do", etc.)
- After a few rounds of compliments have students switch partners.
- Repeat this process, allowing students to hear from multiple classmates.

### VARIATIONS

- Instead, divide students into groups of 4-8 and have each group form a circle.
- Chose one student to stand in the center of the circle.
- One by one, have each student in the outside of the circle say their compliment about the center student to the group.
- After everyone in the circle has said something nice, rotate in a new person to stand in the center.
- Continue this exercise until all students have had a chance to stand in the center
- No repeats during a single round.

### VARIATIONS (CONT'D)

- Designate one person per group (*student or teacher*) to be the scribe and have them write down all of the compliments.
- At the end of the exercise, give each student their list of compliments or display them all in the classroom.

### FOLLOW-UP

- Discuss the following with your students after completing the exercise:
  - What did you like about this exercise?
  - How did it make you feel hearing your classmates compliment you?
  - How did it feel complimenting your classmates? Did you learn anything new?
  - How else can we find ways to incorporate this kind of behavior into our every-day life?



## STUDENT WORKSHEET: "WHAT I LIKE ABOUT ME!"

### DIRECTIONS

- Victims of bullying often do not feel good about who they are.
- Have the students take some time to reflect on what they like about themselves.
- Draw or glue a picture of themselves in the space below and have them draw images and activities around it displaying what makes them special.
- Have the students share their picture with their class or hang their drawings up in the classroom.

### LIKE THE SHOW? LET US KNOW!

Send letters or drawings to:

**Walnut Street Theatre**

ATTN: Education Department

825 Walnut St.

Philadelphia, PA 19107



## ACTIVITY: "ME TOO!"

### DIRECTIONS

- Have students form a circle with chairs.
- For this activity, you must have one less chair than participants.
- There will always be one person standing in the center.
- Have a volunteer or assign a student to be the first person in the center.
- They then say something about themselves that may be true of certain classmates as well (i.e. "anyone with a summer birthday" "anyone who is wearing blue" "anyone that was born in Philadelphia", etc.)
- Students are to run and find a different seat if the characteristic announced also pertains to them.
- The person unable to find a new seat will now be the person in the center and announce a new characteristic.
- The object of the game is to give students a chance to learn and celebrate the commonalities and differences between their classmates that they may not ordinarily know.



### VARIATIONS

- Once you get through a few rounds of basic characteristics, focus the conversation around bullying (i.e. people who have felt bullied)

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Public Speaking	Leadership	Peer Collaboration
Risk-Taking	Listening	Focus

## ACTIVITY: THE RUMOR TRAIN

### DIRECTIONS

- Have your students line up such that they can whisper to their immediate neighbors but not hear any players further away.
- The first person at the end of the line thinks of a message and whispers it as quietly as possible to his or her neighbor. This message can be whispered only **one time** to a new person.
- The neighbor should then pass on the phrase to the next person in line *to the best of his or her ability*. This continues until the phrase reaches the student on the other end of the line.
- At this time, the last student can call out the phrase he or she just heard. The final message should bear little or no resemblance to the original.
- At the end of the activity, have a discussion with your students: *What do you think this game teaches us about rumors? Does spreading rumors make you a bully or a bystander? Should we always believe all we hear about our peers? If not, why do we spread rumors instead of stopping them in their tracks?*

## ACTIVITY: SECRET CLASSROOM BUDDY

### DIRECTIONS

- Pick names out of a hat to assign each student a secret, classroom buddy.
- Throughout the year, have students leave encouraging notes, jokes, pictures, snacks, etc. for their secret buddy to find.



## LUNCH ROOM CHALLENGE: MIX IT UP DAY

- Often lunch is the most difficult time for victims of bullying. They may sit alone, or even with other students who bully them.
- Have a Mix-It-Up day at your school where the students have a chance to sit with different people, and get to know different groups of classmates a little better.





## ACTIVITY: A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

### DIRECTIONS

Look at the three pictures below. What types of bullying do you think are happening in each picture?

### VARIATION

Break the students up into small groups and act out what they think is happening in one of the pictures. Then, discuss what they should do if they ever find themselves involved in or witness a similar scenario.



## CLASSROOM PROJECT: MAKE YOUR OWN BULLY BOX

### WHAT IS A BULLY BOX?

- A “Bully-Box” is a box where students can confidentially submit instances of bullying to teachers and other school administrators
- Create your own Classroom “Bully Box” to help achieve a safer classroom environment.

### DO IT YOURSELF

- Using a shoe box (with a lid), cut a slit at the top for students to turn in “Bully Box Submissions.
- Wrap the box in a neutral colored paper and label it “Our Classroom Bully Box”.
- Pick a safe space in the classroom for the bully box to live throughout the year.

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Anti-Bullying	Risk-taking
Critical Thinking	Written skills
Compassion	Honesty

### BULLY BOX SUBMISSION FORM

NAME OF STUDENT (OPTIONAL): \_\_\_\_\_ I WAS A (circle one): Victim    Bully    Bystander

WHEN: \_\_\_\_\_ FOR HOW LONG: \_\_\_\_\_ WHERE: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE (In detail) WHAT HAPPENED: \_\_\_\_\_

DID YOU OR ANYONE ELSE TRY TO STAND UP TO THE BULLY? \_\_\_\_\_ IF YES, WHAT WAS THE RESULT? \_\_\_\_\_



# WALNUT STREET THEATRE



## BIOGRAPHY

Walnut Street Theatre has the unique distinction of being the oldest, continuously operating theatre in the English-speaking world, having served Philadelphia audiences for over 200 years!

Today, under the direction of Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard, Walnut Street Theatre is in its 36th season as a self-producing, non-profit theatre company. Walnut Street Theatre continues to entertain and enlighten diverse audiences with high quality theatrical programming. With more than 55,000 subscribers, the Walnut is also the most subscribed theatre company in the world!

The Walnut Street Theatre is celebrating over 30 years of bringing high-quality professional theatre to schools across the Delaware Valley. Our multi-cultural Touring Outreach Company introduces students to the world of theatre through age-appropriate, curriculum-based pieces that are socially relevant, entertaining, and exciting. Last season, 126,718 children and adults were impacted by the Walnut's Education Programs.

### TOURING ACTORS

Each season, Walnut Street Theatre holds a nation-wide search to recruit accomplished young professionals for Acting Apprenticeships. These actors form our Touring Outreach Company. Nearly 500 candidates are considered each year for these four positions.

## WALNUT STREET THEATRE EDUCATION STAFF

<b>DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION</b>	Thomas Quinn
<b>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION</b>	Jasmine Hammond
<b>EDUCATION PROGRAMS ASSOCIATE</b>	Amanda Pasquini
<b>EDUCATION PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE</b>	Stephanie Sintef
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<b>ACTING APPRENTICES</b>	Taylor Mitchell
	Katie Raulerson
	Kahlil Wyatt
	Blake Lowry

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### WEB

- **Bully Prevention**  
[www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)
- **Bullying Statistics**  
<https://www.stopbullying.gov/media/facts/index.html>
- **Drama Games for Kids**  
<http://www.bbbpress.com/dramagames/>
- **Walnut Street Theatre Touring Outreach Company**  
<http://walnutstreettheatre.org/education/outreach.php>



## THE BIG BAD BULLYSAURUS CREATIVE TEAM

<b>PLAYWRIGHT</b>	Tommy Jamerson
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Sarah Biddle

### TOURING OUTREACH SPONSORS



## THANK YOU

The Walnut Street Theatre Education Department gratefully acknowledges the support from the following:

Ash Family Foundation\* Bryn Mawr Trust Company \* Louis N. Cassett Foundation \* Connelly Foundation \* Covenant Bank \* Peter & Audrey Denton Fund \* William Goldman Foundation \* Hamilton Family Foundation \* Hassel Foundation \* Hellendall Family Foundation \* Herman Goldner Company \* Syde Hurdus Foundation \* William Penn Foundation \* Lincoln Financial Group Foundation \* M&T Bank/ Wilmington Trust \* National Endowment for the Arts \* PECO \* Philadelphia Insurance Companies \* PNC Arts Alive \* TD Charitable Foundation \* Theatre Forward \* United Way of Bucks County, Cumberland County, Capital Region, Delaware Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, Greater Portland, and the Tri-State \* Universal Health Services \* Vulcan Spring & Mfg. co. \* The Walt Disney Company \*

# Walnut Street Theatre

## Educational Opportunities!

2018-2019  
SEASON

### WALNUT STREET THEATRE TOURING OUTREACH

*Bring a show to your school!*

The Big, Bad Bullysauros

Finding Your People

The Tale of Sasquatch

Freedom Riders

*Open a dialogue with students about issues that affect them!*

Call 215-574-3550 , ext. 584

### Walnut Street Theatre for Kids!

*Bring your kids to Walnut Street Theatre!*

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (December)

Aladdin Jr.

GOOSEBUMPS: Phantom of the Auditorium

Pinkalicious

Fly Guy

**Tickets just \$15-\$18!**

Read the books, then see the stories LIVE!



### *The Theatre School at* WALNUT STREET THEATRE

*Classes for kids, students, and adults!*

For students from 5 to 105! Great for networking, providing a creative outlet, and professional training.

Find your inner star at the Walnut!

Call 215-574-3550, ext. 510

### RESIDENCY PROGRAM

*Let us design a dramatic and educational program for your school!*

We support teacher's objectives with personalized programs that meet your needs and budget.

Call 215-574-3550, ext. 511

# When we PLAY, Learning Happens!