



Story: Cinderella

The scene begins in the realm of the Fairy Godmother. Two helpers introduce her, and the Fairy Godmother appears. She sings that, if you ever need any help, all you need to do is call for her, and she will tend to you. She then gets down to business and pulls out the list of their neediest cases of the day. At the top of the list is Ella. She is 18, an orphan and lives with her stepmother and two stepsisters. Her mother died years ago, and her father remarried. He then died, and she has been forced to become a servant to her stepmother and stepsisters. She is forced to sleep in the kitchen and sits among the cinders dreaming of being rescued. They laugh at her and have taken to calling her Cinder-Ella. This nickname inspires the Fairy Godmother, who realizes just how magical the name Cinderella is. She and her helpers rush off to look in on Ella and see if she is worthy of their help. The story continues where we meet the Stepmother and Cinderella's two stepsisters. The King with bad eyesight and of course the handsome Prince.

Cinderella Themes

Be True to Yourself

Even though Cinderella experiences hardships, she always stays true to herself. No matter how mean her step family treats her, she remains kind and good-hearted. Throughout the story Cinderella doesn't change her morals and knows the difference between right and wrong.

Good vs. Evil

In this story the classic theme of good versus evil is very apparent. That bad things happen to bad people, and good things happen to good people. Cinderella's Step Mother and step sisters are mean, cruel, self-absorbed, and jealous: while Cinderella shows kindness to all, perseverance, and a loving heart. In the end Cinderella gets the prince.





THEATER ETIQUETTE

Audience members play a special and important role in the performance. The performers are very aware of the audience while they perform, and each performance calls for different audience responses. Lively bands, musicians and dancers may desire audience members to clap and move to the beat. Other performers require silent focus on the stage and will want an audience to applaud only when they have completed a portion of their performance. As you enjoy the show, think about being a part of the performance.

- What are the differences between attending a live performance and going to a movie or watching television?
- What are some different types of live performances? Name a few as a class.
- What kind of responses might an audience give in each circumstance?
- What are the different cues that a performer will give you so that you know how to respond? For example, might they bow or pause for applause?

Also, remember that a theater is designed to magnify sound and even the smallest whispers or paper rustling can be heard throughout the auditorium. You are part of a community of audience members and you all work together to create your theater experience.



Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be kind?
2. What is a stepmother or stepsister?
3. Cinderella has a curfew and a time she must be home. Do you have a bedtime? What time?
4. Cinderella gets help from the Fairy Godmother and the helpers. Have you ever worked with a team or group of friends to accomplish a task or goal?
5. Cinderella has many chores in her home. Are there chores you must do in your house?
6. Have you ever been to a fancy party where you had to dress up? What was that like?

Match the Characters

Stepmother	A Kindhearted and beautiful young girl
The King	Someone with Magical Powers
The Helpers	Not very nice sisters
Cinderella	Does not see too well
Stepsisters	Assistants to the Fairy Godmother

Narrative Writing

Cinderella and the Prince live happily ever after – or do they? Tell what happens after they marry.

Do they go to school?

Get jobs?

Move to another place?



If the Shoe Fits

Bring in some different shoes, or use pictures of shoes, and take them out one at a time. Ask students to tell who the owner of the shoes might be? What would that person do with those shoes on? What are the clues?

Who would you like to be in the show?

If you had the chance to perform in this show, which character would you like to play and why?

Have you ever performed in a show?

Beyond the Performance:

Did you know that there are 500 versions of the story of Cinderella around the world? Learn more: <https://kidworldcitizen.org/cinderella-story-around-the-world/>

