



STUDY GUIDE FOR

The Adventure

Q41510

Fluoride Fandango

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TO THE PARENT/TEACHER

This guide has been provided to help children benefit the most from experiencing a live theatrical event. The activities described herein are only suggestions. Please feel free to pick and choose the things that will most benefit your children in the time you have available. It is our hope that the performance is not only entertaining, but is a valuable educational experience as well.

You will find that some of the activities contained in this guide are geared for younger, some for older children-- but there is something for everyone. Please feel free to reproduce and distribute any of the enclosed pages and activities for your personal use.

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Theatre Etiquette

1. Attending a theatrical performance is a social event. Just as the way you act (and behave) in church or temple is different than the way you act on the playground, there is certain behavior that is appropriate in a live theatre. Discuss with your children the types of behavior that is appropriate when they are members of an audience.
2. Explain that they need to act differently when they're watching a live play than if they're watching a movie in a theatre. Live actors can hear the audience's laughter and applause as well as their talking to their neighbor or rustling papers. And their responses-- appropriate or not-- really do affect the actors' performance. The end line is: How would they want to be treated if THEY were up on the stage.
3. Write to the actors. After you see the show, have your students write a letter to their favorite character or draw a picture of their favorite character or scene and send it to the theatre. The actors would LOVE to hear from your students. The actors may even have time to send a reply of some sort to your class (because of the volume of mail they receive, individual replies are probably not possible).
4. Audience Participation. Normally, audience members should never talk during the play--and especially not talk directly to the actors (it distracts other audience member and may even make the actors forget their lines). But the plays by KMR Scripts are unique in that we offer the audience special opportunities to participate in the production. They will probably not be asked to come onstage, but there are various times throughout the production where the actors will ask them questions or ask them to use their imaginations and pretend they are animals, trees, or people. At those times we encourage the audience to participate and/or answer them wholeheartedly (but not in an overly loud yell). Over the years, this has become one of the hallmarks of KMR Scripts' productions.

Activities & Discussion



1. **STORY CIRCLE.** Have the children make up their own version of The Adventures of the Fluoride Fandango. Have them sit in a circle. Pick one child to begin the story and go clock-wise around the circle, allowing everyone a chance to add to the story. You may have to limit each child's contribution to one story event (some children are avid storytellers!).
2. **SNACKS.** The characters in the play talked a lot about snacks. Some are “tooth-friendly” and some are not. Thinking in terms of dental health, what makes a snack “good” or “bad?” Explain why “healthy” foods aren’t always good for your teeth. Have your class make a list of “good” and “bad” snacks, explaining why each is on the list.
3. **REVIEW.** Have the students write a review of the play. What were their favorite parts? Their least favorite? Did anything happen that they didn't understand or seemed confusing? Did they like the music or did it "get in the way of the story?" What did they think of the costumes and scenery? Did they learn anything new about dental health? Help them understand that their opinions are most certainly valid and will most likely differ from that of others (and that is OK). Being able to logically and objectively discuss their opinions and others' is a skill that will benefit them the rest of their lives.
4. **GUIDE TO HEALTHY TEETH.** What can we do to ensure our teeth are in the best possible health? (Brush after every meal, floss everyday, use a fluoride mouth rinse after brushing, eat healthy foods, choose tooth-friendly snacks, get lots of exercise, get plenty of sleep and visit your dentist regularly– every 6 months. If you do this, you will have done all you can to keep your teeth in optimal health.)
8. **CRITICAL THINKING.** Ask the students questions about the story they saw onstage: Why do you think Phil Fistula was so mean? Would a robot ever really drink water? Lt Max and Capt Mandy were the only crew on the ship– do you think the future will be so automated that whole factories can be run by just a couple humans? Fluoride is in reality a very common natural resource– but as with any natural resource, if we’re not careful we could someday run out. What are some other examples of natural resources? How can we protect our various natural resources?

Facts:

- ▶ Tongue and lip piercing can cause blood poisoning, prolonged or permanent drooling, damaged sense of taste, toxic shock syndrome, permanent damage to tooth enamel and oral tissue, and transmission of infections such as hepatitis B and HIV.
- ▶ Tobacco is the primary cause of oral cancers. Smoking a pack of cigarettes a day or using smokeless tobacco quadruples the risk of developing oral cancer. Oral cancer occurs twice as frequently in men as women.
- ▶ Toothbrushes should be washed in the dishwasher or soaked overnight in mouthwash periodically to help keep them clean of bacteria. Three out of four patients don't change their toothbrush as often as they should.
- ▶ Chewing gum (sugarless!) can help eliminate food particles caught between teeth after a meal and also helps prevent plaque build up by stimulating saliva production.
- ▶ Fluoride compounds are found naturally in soil, water, and in many foods. Fluorine, from which fluoride is derived, is the 13th most abundant element and is released into the environment naturally in both water and air.
- ▶ Be sure to change your toothbrush frequently (every 3 months or so). This is especially important if you have been ill. Keep your toothbrush stored in a dry place to reduce bacteria. And never share your brush.
- ▶ Bad Breath: Plaque or food particles on the teeth are the primary sources of bad breath, which is also known as "halitosis". The solution is simple; thoroughly brush and floss your teeth regularly. Gum disease can also cause bad breath. Your dentist checks for both of these diseases during each checkup and will advise you of the need for specific gum treatment. Remember to brush your tongue as well. Everything in your mouth can potentially trap bacteria and can be a source of bad breath. The whitish coating that develops on your tongue may also be a contributor.
- ▶ Many people clench or grind their teeth, especially during sleep -- this is called bruxism. Over a long period of time, bruxism can wear down tooth surfaces.

On the Web

www.kmrscripts.com - The website of the company who publishes the show. Lots of helpful info!

www.dental-resources.com/assoc2.html - A comprehensive list of Dental Associations all over the world

www.ada.org/ - American Dental Association

www.dentalcare.com/ - Proctor & Gambol Global Dental Resources. The Makers of Crest Toothpaste.

www.crest.com - Information from the makers of Crest Toothpaste.

www.aapd.org/ - American Association of Pediatric Dentistry

www.toothfairy.org/ -

www.saveyoursmile.com/

www.smiles4ever.com - Smiles 4 Ever. An online source for Dental Information.

www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/wisdomtooth/ - University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene

www.healthyteeth.org/ - Nova Scotia Dental Association

www.dentists4kids.com - Info by the American Orthodontic Society

www.adha.org/kidstuff/facts.htm - Kids Info Page of American Dental Hygienists Association

www.jnjoralhealth.com/ - Kids Info Page from the makers of Reach Toothpaste

www.toothfairycentral.com - A nice site with fun products about the Tooth Fairy.

Coloring Page

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