SCHOOL HOUSE ROCK! LIVE!

STUDY GUIDE

Originally Adapted and Produced for the Stageby Theatre BAM
Form the Series Created by George Newall and Tom Yohe
Based on an Idea by David McCall | Book by Scott Ferguson, George
Keating, and Kyle Hall | Music and Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, Bob
Dorough, Dave Frishberg, Kathy Mandry, George Newall and Tom Yohe

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MEET THE TEAM
The people who made this production possible.

CAST
Tom: Ian Eller
Dori: Alyssa Dossett
Dina: Rosa Gardner
Shulie: Alaia Adriana
George: Digger Howard
Swing: Izabella Montes

CREATIVE TEAM
Directed by: Anthony Runfola
Choreographer: Molly Lajoie
Music Director: Jaime Ramirez
Scenic Designer: Holly Windingstad
Costume Designer: Stormie Brennan
Lighting Designer: Tim Monson
Associate Lighting Designer: Bill Rios
Sound Designer: Joe Villanueva
Projection Designer: Anthony Runfola

PRODUCTION TEAM
Stage Manager: Alyssa Snow
Technical Director: Pat Smith
Assistant Technical Director: Chris Boneta
Properties Manager: Lucian Hernandez
Audio Engineer: Zachary Walsh
Lighting Supervisor: Thaddeus Morris
Wardrobe Supervisor: Sarah Steele
American Sign Language Interpreter: Robert Cardoza

ABOUT SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE!
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From the Series Created by George Newall and Tom Yohe
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April 15 - June 4

SYNOPSIS
Schoolhouse Rock Live! follows Tom, a school teacher, who is nervous about his first day of teaching. He tries to relax by watching his favorite show on TV, Schoolhouse Rock and is amazed when the show comes to life on stage.

With classic songs such as “Just a Bill,” “Interjections,” and “Conjunction Junction” performed by the Schoolhouse Rock gang, Tom realizes just how FUN learning can be!
MEET OUR SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK GANG!

Ian Eller as Tom

Alyssa Dossett as Dori

Rosa Gardner as Dina

Alaia Adriana as Shulie

Digger Howard as George

Izabella Montes, Swing
Schoolhouse Rock’s TV Show premiered in 1973, that was 50 years ago!
The original *Schoolhouse Rock* television series was the brainchild of an advertising executive named David McCall, who noticed his son could remember all the words to popular songs on the radio, but could not remember the multiplication tables. He reasoned that if important educational information was coupled with exciting animation and catchy music, children would be able to learn and remember it.

From this simple idea, *Schoolhouse Rock* was born and quickly adopted by ABC-TV which broadcast the series on Saturday mornings from 1973 to 1985.

Fifty years, 41 songs, and four Emmy Awards later, those of us who grew up with Multiplication Rock, America Rock, Science Rock, and Grammar Rock can still sing the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution and know that "and," "but," and "or" all belong in "Conjunction Junction."

Enjoy this sing-along video of *I'm Just a Bill* with Jason Biggs and Jenny Mollen, celebrating *Schoolhouse Rock’s* 50th Birthday!

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzTzxdxKyM8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzTzxdxKyM8)
In the show, the Schoolhouse Rock gang lead Tom through songs about some pretty significant parts of history.

**Did you know!?** Before the Women’s Suffrage law was passed in 1920, women did not have the right to vote in local or National Elections. **Say What???** That would never fly these days.

**Take a Look at some of these influential women leaders:**

**Lillie Devereux Blake** was an American Woman Suffragist and reformer. Known for sailing past the statue of liberty with 200 women with signs that read, “American Women have no liberty.” Oct. 28th 1886.

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton** helped organize the first convention regarding women’s rights in the United States in 1848.

**Soujourner Truth** was a women and civil rights activist, known for giving the first speech at a convention that addressed both gender and discrimination. Her speech is remembered as one of the greatest speeches of the women’s rights era.

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**THE PREAMBLE**

The Preamble was established by the founders of our Country and is still used today!

Courts have referred to it as reliable evidence of the Founding Fathers’ intentions regarding the Constitution’s meaning and what they hoped the Constitution would achieve.

**Take a Look! ---›**

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**Preamble to the Constitution**

“We the PEOPLE, in order to form a MORE PERFECT UNION, establish JUSTICE, insure domestic TRANQUILITY, provide for the common defense, promote the general WELFARE, and secure the blessings of LIBERTY to ourselves and our POSTERITY, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION for the UNITED STATES of America.”
ACTIVITY

Our founders got together to write this.
Now YOU get together in groups and make your own version!

“We the (noun) in order to form a (noun), establish (noun), insure (noun), provide for the (noun), promote the (noun), and secure the blessings of (noun) to ourselves and our (noun), do ordain and establish this (noun) for the United states of (noun).
**Hey there people! I’m Bill! My dream is to one day become a law! Follow and discuss the flowchart and watch my journey through congress....**

- Before I was a Bill, I was an idea people had.
- Bills, like me, go on a long journey before they are signed by the President and become Laws.
- Laws are a lot like rules. We all have rules to follow whether you are younger or older and there are different rules for different places like home and school. Rules serve us by keeping us safe and providing stability.

**Now It’s Your Turn!**

What IDEA do YOU have for a new rule for your class? Think of ways to make your classroom safer, better utilized, or ways to make it more kind.

**Answer these questions:**
- What is your rule?
- Why do you think that should be a rule?
- How would it benefit your classroom?

**Share with your class and start thinking BIG about how to make the world a better place. Who knows, maybe someday you’ll draft a Bill just like me and create laws!**
Time to MOVE our Bodies!

Get your circulatory system working with Rosa and Alyssa, two members of our Schoolhouse Rock gang! Press play and watch Rosa and Alyssa as they lead you all through a short physical warm-up and teach some movements from the famous Schoolhouse Rock song, Circulation! Learning these moves will help you join in on the fun during the show!

Enjoy the video, practice your moves, and show them off when you come to the theatre! We can't wait to see you all soon!

https://youtu.be/yzZV6ocWW6o
Science Experiment Time! Gather Materials and Watch Gravity Work!

In the show, the characters sing about gravity!

**GRAVITY** is the force that attracts everything toward the center of the earth. This includes everything from an apple in a tree to even your own body.

**ACTIVITY**

As a class, complete the following experiment:

1. Gather materials to test how long it takes them to fall to the ground. This could include a rock, feathers, an apple or other fruit, shoes, etc.
2. Find a high place in your school (a stairwell) and be sure no one is walking underneath it.
3. Station one student at the bottom (but not under the drop site) with a stopwatch.
4. One at a time, drop different objects and record the time it takes to get to the ground.
5. After the experiment, answer the following discussion questions:

   - Which objects took the shortest time to fall? The longest?
   - Which objects are heavy?
   - Which objects are light?
   - If all objects fall at the same speed, what could have caused different ones to take longer?

TEKS

- ELA (K-5).1D
- SCI (K-5).1Ai
- SCI (K-5).5B
- SCI (K-5).7A
Fill in the blanks with the correct planet name and then add some color!

**MERCURY**

Many astronomers believe this planet is the core of what was once a very large planet. Appears to be a huge ball of iron covered by a thin layer of rock.

**VENUS**

This planet has more exposed water than land.

**EARTH**

This planet is so large that all the other planets in the solar system could fit inside of it.

**MARS**

This planet rotates at a 97-degree angle, meaning that it rotates on its side.

**JUPITER**

This planet is the brightest in our Solar System and can sometimes be seen with the naked eye.

**SATURN**

This is the lightest of the planets. Astronomers say if there were a bathtub big enough to hold it, it would float.

**URANUS**

This planet is known for its supersonic winds.

**NEPTUNE**

This planet is known for its supersonic winds.

**Answer Key**

- Mercury
- Jupiter
- Earth
- Mars
- Venus
- Saturn
- Uranus
- Neptune

**TEKS**

- ELA (K-5).3B
- ELA (K-5).6F
- SCI (K-5).2B
- SCI (K-5).3A
- SCI (K-5).5D

**WORD BANK**

- MERCURY
- VENUS
- EARTH
- MARS
- JUPITER
- SATURN
- URANUS
- NEPTUNE
In *Schoolhouse Rock*, Tom’s imagination helps him overcome his fear of the first day of class. Create a story about a character that overcomes their fear on the first day of school.

In the story, make sure to answer these questions:

- **Who is your main character?**
- **What scares them about the first day of school?**
- **What or who helps them face their fear?**
- **What did they learn when they overcame their fear/school day ended?**
In *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* Tom took some time to focus on the positives and found his confidence. In the space below, draw a picture of yourself and write 5 positive things about you that make you feel confident!

**Extension Activity:**

Draw a picture of a friend or family member and write 5 positive things about them. Share it with them to spread the confidence!
Q+A or brief discussion immediately following the performance.

At the end of the show please remain seated as the cast will lead the audience through a talk back. Talk backs provide a further shared experience about the themes woven throughout the show.

BEFORE THE SHOW

Here are the themes being addressed and some questions the cast may ask at the end of the show.

Themes in Schoolhouse Rock Live!

- Problem-solving tactics
- Learning through the power of music and theater
- Self Confidence
- Overcoming fears
- Celebrating Learning

As you watch the show try to remember what stands out to you. You may have a question about how we did something or why we did something. We will give you the opportunity to ask some of those questions.

At Magik Theatre we seek to not only provide amazing theatrical experiences but also to educate about the artistic medium of theatre to our audiences. We look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

Some questions you may hear are...

- At the beginning of the show, we saw Tom was nervous about his first day of teaching. Have you ever been nervous on the first day of school? (Raise your hand) What is something that helped you when you were nervous on the first day of school?

- In the show, you learned about lots of different subjects in the songs. What subject or song was your favorite?

- Everyone learns in different ways, Raise your hand if you learn best through... Music! Reading! Working with your hands! Making patterns with shapes and colors!
Enjoy additional books connected to ideas and themes of Schoolhouse Rock Live!

Otto’s Tales: Let’s Visit the Statue of Liberty
By PragerU

Women of Valor
By PragerU

Happy in your Skin
By Erlin Kakkanad

I Can Do Hard Things: Mindful Affirmations for Kids
By Gabi Garcia

My Body, Mi Cuerpo (Bilingual Learning for Children, English & Spanish)
By Minerva Ortega

I Belong in Music
By Arneckua Jackson

Wild Symphony
By Dan Brown

The First Notes: The Story of Do Re Mi
By Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton
WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED!

Magik Theatre’s mission is to use the power of theatre to create Magikal storytelling for children that Activates imagination, Grows young minds, and Inspires creativity and a love of learning that is the Key to a more literate future for our community.

QUESTIONS?

How to book a field trip or tour
info@magiktheatre.org
(210) 227-2751

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9 am - 5 pm

magiktheatre.org

Support us through the State Employee and Charitable Campaign and the Local Employee Charitable Campaign by United Way of Bexar County.

8058 Magik Theatre (local)
413031 Magik Theatre (state)

TEKS REFERENCES:
https://tea.texas.gov/academics/curriculum-standards/teks/texas-essential-knowledge-and-skills

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