MAGIK THEATRE

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Dr. Seuss's How The GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! THE MUSICAL

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CLASSROOM ACTIVITY GUIDE

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ABOUT THE STORY

Before leaving Whoville for good, Old Max looks back on one unforgettable Christmas Eve with his old friend, the Grinch.

Every Who down in Whoville loves Christmas, except the Grinch, a grumpy green grouch who lives high on Mount Crumpit. Fed up with all the singing and feasting, he comes up with a wonderfully awful plan. He dresses up as Santa Claus, ties antlers on Max, and sneaks into town to steal every present, stocking, and crumb. Before he can get away, little Cindy Lou Who catches him in the act.

Will the Grinch succeed in stopping Christmas from coming? Join us in Whoville to find out!



MEET THE CAST



Nicolas Moncayo
Grinch



Alberto Ramirez Jr.
Old Max



Luis Robert Garza
Young Max



Lexie Martinez
Cindy Lou Who



Mary Morrow
Mama Who



Venny Mortimer
Papa Who



Clarissa Cortez
Grandma Who/Ensemble



Myles Harris
Grandpa Who/Ensemble



Gabrielle Gripton
Boo Who



Malcom Stokes
Danny Who



Finn Ralph
Betty-Lou Who



Hannah Rodriguez
Annie Who



Salomon Lopez
Ensemble/Grinch Swing



Ana Kusenberger
Ensemble/Female Swing



Cary Farrow IV
Ensemble/Male Swing

STORY SEQUENCE WORKSHEET

DIRECTIONS: Cut out the six story cards at the bottom of the page. Put the cards in the order they happened in the play. Then, glue each card to the correct boxes below.



1 FIRST	2 NEXT	3 THEN
4 AFTER THAT	5 NEXT	6 LAST

Cut along the dotted lines

The Grinch dresses up as Santa, ties antlers on Max, and slides down the chimney to steal the Whos' Christmas.	On top of Mount Crumpit, the Grinch hears the Whos singing without any presents. His heart grows three sizes!	Old Max visits his old home on the mountain. He remembers how the Whos loved Christmas, but the Grinch hated it.
The Grinch brings everything back to Who-ville, gives Cindy-Lou a red rocking horse, and carves the roast beast.	The Grinch sneaks into Who-ville in a disguise. He steals red fabric and a sewing machine and meets the Who family.	Cindy-Lou catches "Santy Claus" taking her tree. He says he is fixing a light, and she sings him a song.

GROW YOUR HEART THREE SIZES

DIRECTIONS: On Mount Crumpit, the Grinch's heart grew three sizes when he learned that Christmas is about caring for others. You can make your heart grow too! Write one kind act for each heart size below.

❤ **SMALL HEART: A kind thing I can do at home:**

❤❤ **MEDIUM HEART: A kind thing I can do at school::**

❤❤❤ **BIG HEART: A kind thing I can do in my community:**

★ Draw yourself doing a kind act:



WHOVILLE RHYME TIME

DIRECTIONS: Dr. Seuss loved to rhyme! Draw a line from each story word to the word that rhymes with it!

Grinch	Day
Who	Start
Tree	Pinch
Sleigh	Snacks
Max	See
Heart	Shoe

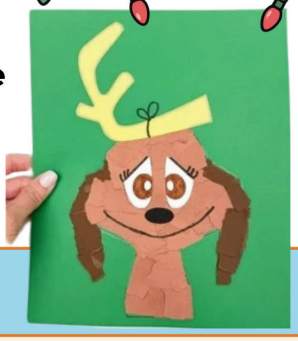




Now it's your turn to write a Whoville rhyme! Write at least four sentences. Make sentence 1 and 3 rhyme with each other, and sentence 2 and 4 rhyme with each other. When you finish, read your rhyme aloud to check that it sounds just right.

MAKE A MAX

Use the supplies listed below to create a torn art picture of the Grinch's trusted pal, Max!



Materials Needed:

Material	Notes / Prep Work
Max template	Print it and cut out the pieces before you start
Construction paper	• Brown for the body • Dark brown for the ears • Yellow for the antler. • Alternative: Use any color scrap paper you'd like!
Black marker	For the eyelashes and the bow on the antler. • Alternative: black crayon or colored pencil
Glue stick	To stick the torn paper, eyes, nose, and antler in place. • Alternative: tape
Scissors	To cut all the pieces out!

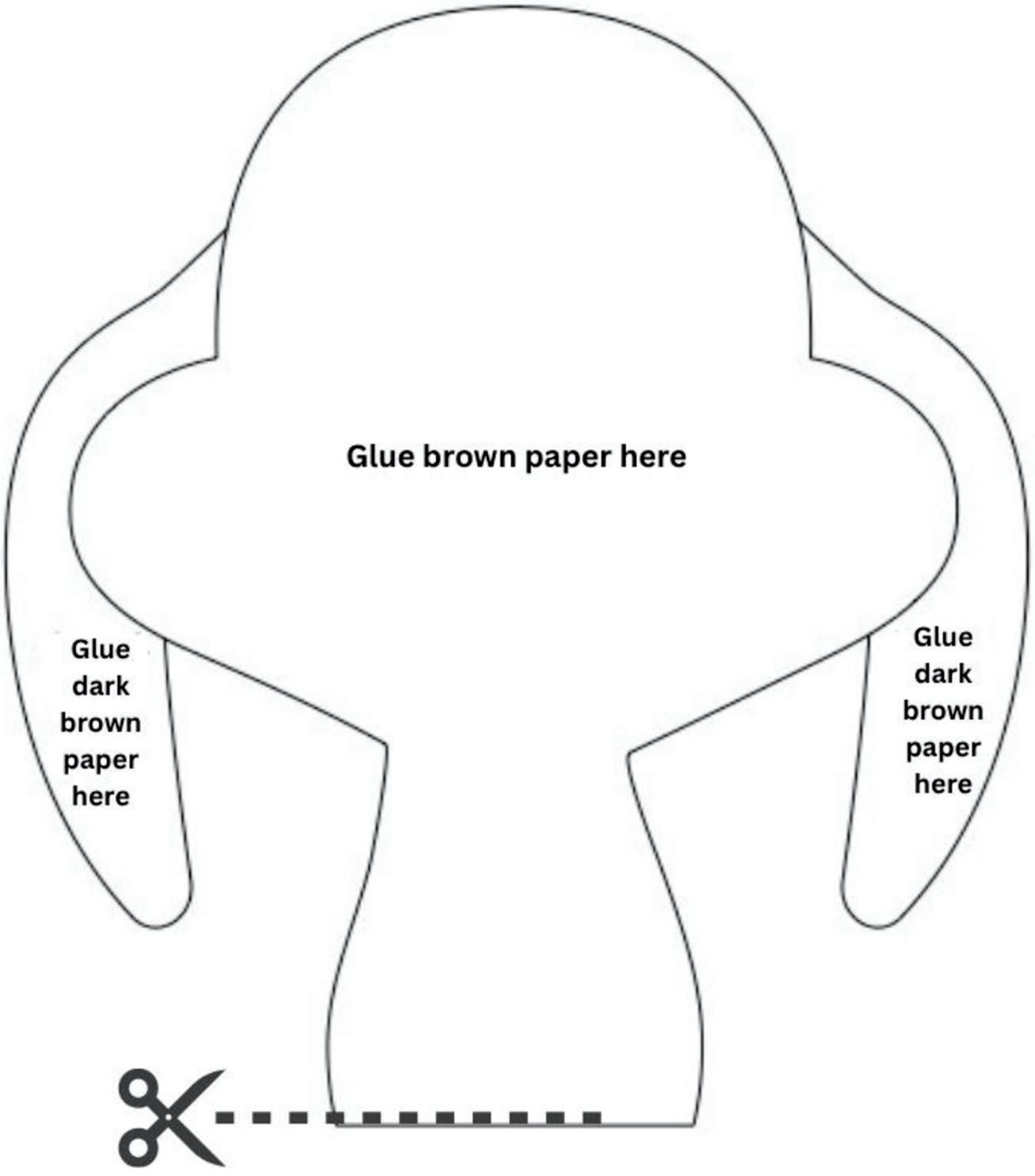


Instructions:

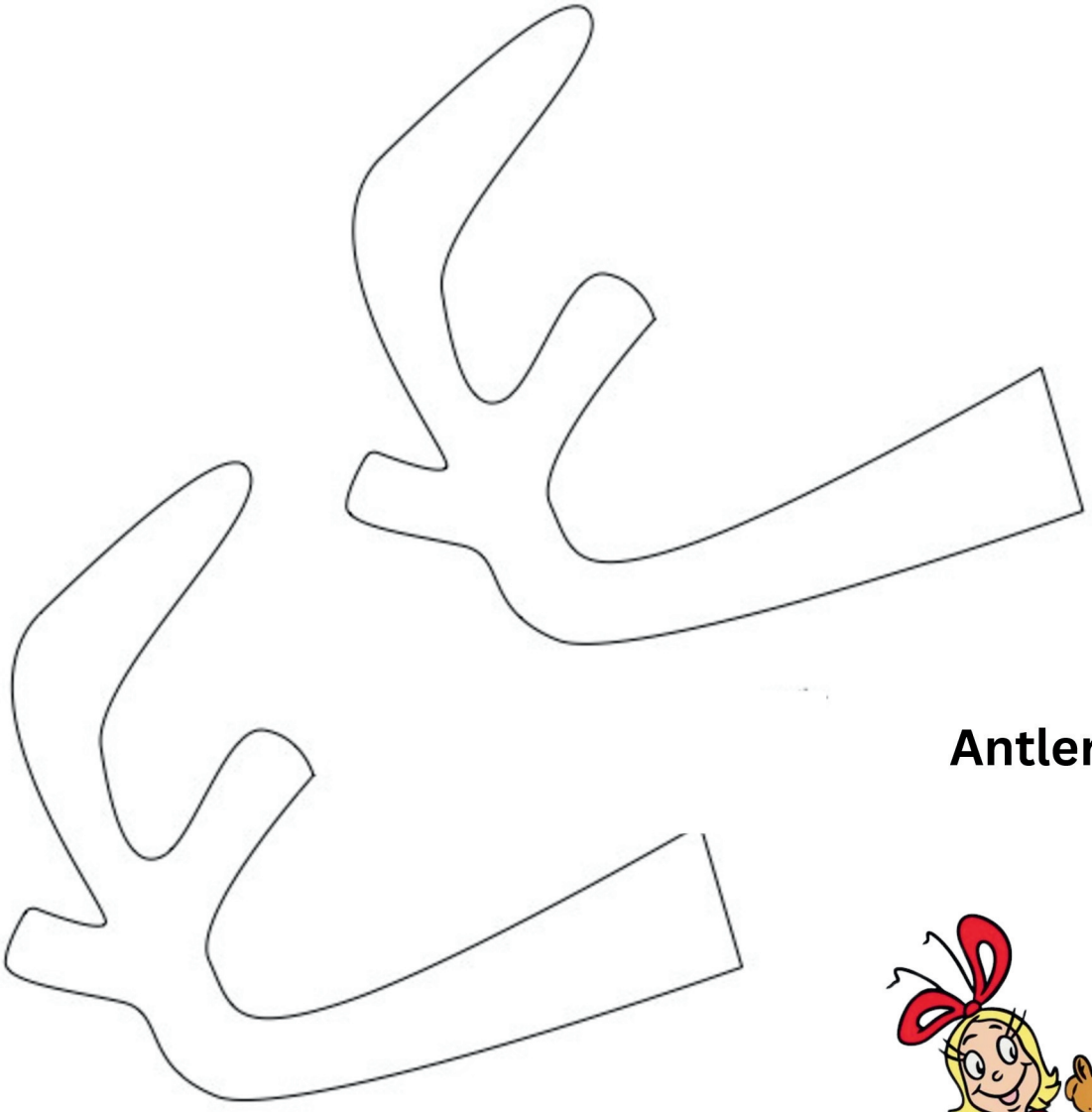
Step	Task	Directions
1	**Prep the template**	• Download and print the Max templates. Then color in the antlers, nose and eyes. Next, cut out the pieces.
2	**Tear the paper**	• Tear the brown and dark paper into small pieces, and set aside.
3	**Glue the body**	• Using the glue stick, spread glue on Max's body and ears.
4	**Add the Torn Paper**	• Next, place the brown paper on Max's body. FIll the whole body with pieces of paper! Then, repeat the same process with the dark brown paper, gluing it to the ears.
5	**Add the Eyes**	• Using the glue stick, glue the eyes to Max's head.
6	**Add the Nose**	• Using the glue stick, glue the nose below the eyes.
7	**Draw the Eyelashes and smile**	• Using the black marker, draw the eyelashes on top of the eyes. Then draw Max's smile.
8	**Attach the Antler**	• Using the glue stick, glue the antler on the top of Max's head.
9	**Draw the Bow**	• Finally, use the black marker to draw the bow on top of Max's antler.

MAKE A MAX

Max's Body



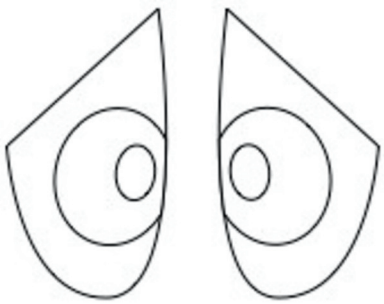
MAKE A MAX



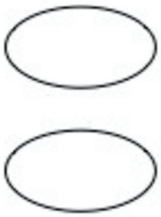
Antlers



Eyes



Nose



GRINCH HEADBAND

Use the supplies listed below to create a Grinch headband that you can wear all holiday season!



Materials Needed:

Material	Notes / Prep Work
Grinch headband template	Print it and cut out the pieces before you start
Construction paper	• Green for the face and headband strip • Dark green for the nose • White for the eyes • Red and white for the Santa hat • Alternative: Use any color paper you'd like!
Black marker	For tracing the smile and face lines.
Glue stick	To attach the eyebrows, eyes, nose, and Santa hat. • Alternative: tape
Tape or stapler	To close the headband so it fits • Tip: add more paper to make the headband bigger if needed!

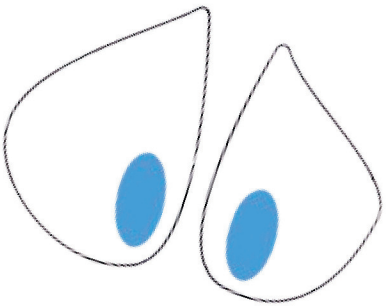
Instructions:

Step	Task	Directions
1	**Prep the template**	• Download and print the Grinch headband templates. Then color in the Grinch face, nose, eyebrows, and Santa hat. Next, cut out the pieces.
2	**Attach the eyes and eyebrows**	• Using the glue stick, glue the eyes and eyebrows to the Grinch's face.
3	**Attach the nose**	• Using the glue stick, glue the nose to the Grinch's face.
4	**Draw the smile**	• Use the black marker to draw the grinch's smile. • You can also draw any other lines you want to make, including eyelashes or smile wrinkles.
5	**Attach the Santa Hat**	• Using the glue stick, glue the Santa Hat to the Grinch's head.
6	**Cut out the band**	• Using the scissors, cut out 2 strips of green construction paper. Then tape the ends of the green construction paper to each other, so it forms one circle-shaped headband. • Make sure the headband fits on your head. (Try it on!)
7	**Attach the Grinch Face**	• Using the glue stick, glue the completed Grinch face to the green headband. Finally, wear your Grinch headband all season long!

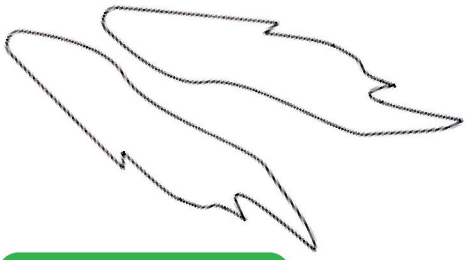
GRINCH HEADBAND



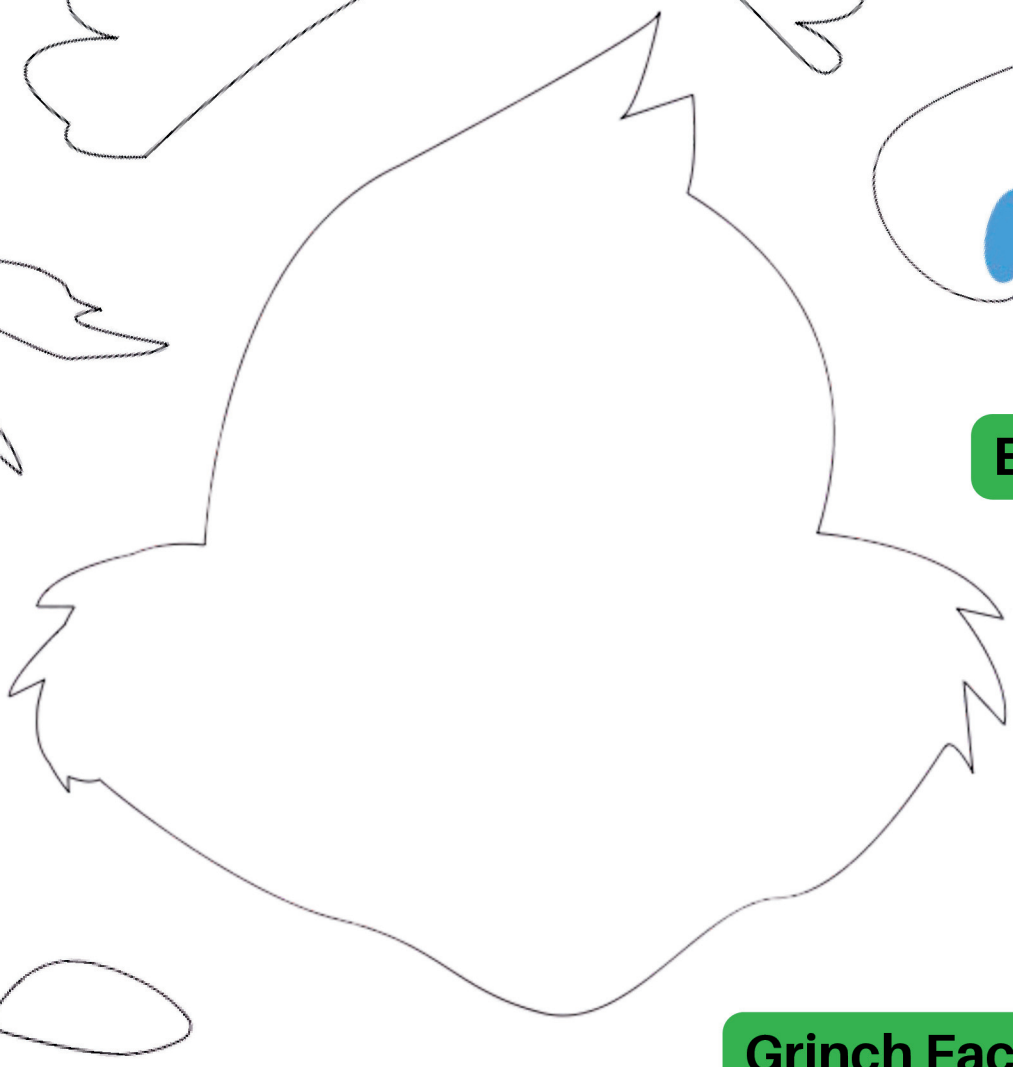
Santa Hat



Eyes



Eyebrows



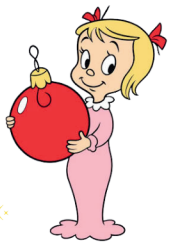
Grinch Face

Nose

GRINCH GAME



Sneak Past the Sleeping Who!



For more Grinch-y fun that will get you all grinning,
try this listening game where sneaking's the winning!
It's like Red Light, Green Light, but quieter, see?
So tiptoe, then FREEZE, and be still as can be!

Materials Needed
• An open space, such as a gym, playground, or a classroom with the desks pushed back
• 10–15 "presents" (these can be anything small, such as beanbags, small wrapped boxes, or crumpled paper balls..) • For even more creativity, the "presents" can be pretend, as small or as big as you wish!
• A blanket or mat for "Cindy-Lou's bed"
• Optional: Santa hat for the "Grinch"

Step	Task	Directions
1	**Assign the characters**	• Choose one student to be Cindy-Lou. She lies on the "bed" at one end of the room with her eyes closed. Everyone else becomes the Grinches!
2	**Set up the Room**	• Scatter the presents near the bed. Cindy-Lou will pretend to "sleep" while the Grinches go to the other side of the room.
3	**Start Sneaking!**	• While Cindy-Lou "sleeps," the Grinches tiptoe forward to grab one present at a time.
4	**Freeze!**	• Whenever Cindy-Lou calls "Who's there?" and sits up, every Grinch must freeze. Anyone caught moving goes back to the wall.
5	**Grab Presents!**	• A Grinch who gets a present back to their side, can keep playing, and return for another.
6	**Return the Presents**	• When all the presents are gone, play the story's ending: the Grinches bring every present back and set them around the bed. • Each Grinch can say s reason why they are returning the presents (ex: my heart grew three sizes, stealing is wrong, these belong to you, etc)
7	**Play Again!**	• Rotate who plays Cindy-Lou.

REINDEER FOR REAL

In our story, the Grinch ties a pair of antlers on Max so he can pretend to be a reindeer. But what are real reindeer like?
Read on to find out where reindeer live, what they look like, what they really eat (hint: it's not roast beast!), and the important jobs they do.



Where do reindeer live?



Reindeer live in the far north, near the top of the world. Their homes are cold, snowy places called the Arctic tundra and the northern forests.

Wild reindeer live in parts of Norway, Finland, Russia, Alaska, Canada, and Greenland. Many travel together in big groups called herds. Some herds walk hundreds of miles every year to find food. They are built for the cold, so they love snowy, chilly weather!



What do reindeer look like?



Reindeer are a kind of deer. A grown-up reindeer stands about 3 to 4 feet tall at the shoulder and can weigh as much as 400 pounds. They have thick brown, gray, or white fur, and their hairs are hollow to trap warm air.

Reindeer eyes change color!!

In summer their eyes look golden. In the dark Arctic winter, they turn deep blue, which helps reindeer see when there is very little light!



WHO KNEW?

What do reindeer eat?



Reindeer don't eat roast beast or Who-pudding! In winter, they dig through the snow with their hooves to find lichen, a soft, crunchy plant-like food sometimes called "reindeer moss."

In summer they munch on grass, leaves, and even mushrooms.



Reindeer with jobs!

Reindeer really can pull sleds! For thousands of years, people in the far north, such as the Sámi people of Norway, Sweden, and Finland, have raised reindeer. The reindeer pull sleds, carry heavy loads, and give warm fur and milk.

Reindeer also have jobs in nature. As they travel and eat, they spread seeds and help new plants grow. Their droppings put nutrients back into the soil, which helps the tundra stay healthy.



Fun Fact!

Fun fact: both boys and girls grow antlers. Boys lose theirs in early winter, but girls keep theirs until spring. So the reindeer pulling a sleigh in a Christmas picture are probably girls!

FROM PAGE TO STAGE

A Q+A or brief discussion will take place 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.



Some questions you can ask are...

- How did the Christmas tree fit up the chimney?
- Is it hard to pretend to be a grumpy Grinch?
- What is your favorite costume piece?

Have you ever wondered how a book becomes a play? Compare the book *How The Grinch Stole Christmas,* to the stage play and discover what stayed the same and what changed!

#	Question	Answer
1	Why did some things happen in the play, that weren't in the book?	When a book becomes a play, some things might change! Timothy Mason and Mel Marvin adapted Dr. Seuss's book into a musical so real people can act out the story on stage.
2	What are some things that were added to the play that weren't in the book?	Examples: Old Max telling the story, the Grinch's disguised trip to Who-ville, Cindy-Lou wanting to make the Grinch a gift, and new songs like "One of a Kind."
4	Since real people are acting as the Grinch, Max, and the Whos, what do the director, actors, and designers have to do to make it believable?	In the book, Dr. Seuss's drawings show us a furry green Grinch, his dog, and the tiny Whos. On stage, we have to show this differently. The actor playing Max barks, and chases his tail to pretend to be a dog. The costume designer creates the Grinch's fur, his Santa suit, and Max's antlers, and puppets show the far-away Whos and the little mouse.
5	Bonus Activity: In the play, Max the dog tells the story. Turn a book from your classroom into a play told by a different character. What would change?	Think about what that character would see and feel, and how you would bring the book's illustrations to life on stage.

TEKS CONNECTIONS

Our activities use the same skills you're already teaching, including making predictions, citing text evidence, using context clues, and planning written drafts. We hope these activities help your students enjoy the story and grow as readers, writers, artists, and students.

Skill Strand	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
ELAR — English Language Arts and Reading						
Plot & story structure	7C	8C	8C	8C	8C	8C
Retelling	6D	7D	7D	7D	7D	7D
Inference & text evidence	5F, 6C	6F, 7C	6F, 7C	6F, 7C	6F, 7C	6F, 7C
Written response	6B	7B	7B	7B	7B	7B
Listening & discussion	1A, 1D	1A, 1D	1A, 1D	1A, 1D	1A	1A
Connections & informational text	5E, 8D	6E, 9D	6E, 9D	6E, 9D	6E, 9D	6E, 9D
Writing process & composition	10B, 10E	11B, 12A	11B, 12A	11B, 12A	11B, 12A	11B, 12A
Drama as literature	8C	9C	9C	9C	—	—
Theatre						
Dramatic play & dramatization	2D, 3D	2C, 3D	2B, 3D	2B, 3D	2E, 3D	2E, 3D
Response & theatre artists	5A, 5B	5A, 5B	5A, 5B	3E, 5B	4C, 5A	4C, 5A
Art						
Materials & construction	2C	2C	2C	2C	2C	2C
Personal expression	2A	2A	2A	2B	2B	2B

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Magik Theatre's mission is to create theatrical experiences that ignite imagination, spark curiosity, inspire empathy, and foster a lifetime love of learning in young people.

QUESTIONS?

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

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

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9 am - 5 pm

magiktheatre.org

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San Antonio, TX 78205

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MAGIK THEATRE

Dr. Seuss's How The GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! THE MUSICAL

SPONSORED BY WHATABURGER

At Magik Theatre we are proud to create unforgettable, joyful experiences on stage while helping audiences of all ages discover the wonder of live performance.

We can't wait to welcome you and share the Magik together!

NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 24, 2026