

# CHILDSPRAY

## RESOURCES



Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical  
Adapted by Robert Penola  
Based on the Animated TV Special  
Music and Lyrics by Johnny Marks

# THE TEAM

## The Cast

Frederick Alphonso  
*Donner, Misfit Toy, Elf*

Ryan Ardelt  
*Hermey, Reindeer*

Jon Gentry  
*Sam*

Katie McFadzen  
*Coach Comet, Yukon Cornelius, Elf*

Luz Navarro  
*Mrs. Claus, King Moonracer, Reindeer*

Issie Ocampo  
*Clarice, Misfit Toy, Elf*

Debra K. Stevens  
*Mrs. Donner, Boss Elf, Misfit Toy*

Tommy Strawser  
*Rudolph*

Brandon Brown  
*Fireball, Elf, Misfit Toy*

Beau Heckman  
*Santa Claus, Misfit Toy, Elf*

## The Creative Team

Director: Dwayne Hartford

Music Director: Dr. Randi Rudolph

Choreographer: Kat Bailes

Scenic Designer: Aaron Jackson

Costume Designer: Connie Furr

Lighting Designer: William C. Kirkham

Sound Designer: Connor Adams

Projection Designer: Jake Pinholster

Stage Manager: Phoenix Jacob



## WHAT THE PLAY IS ABOUT

The holiday classic soars off the screen in this musical adaptation of the beloved television special. Filled with holiday hits like "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Holly Jolly Christmas," Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer™ features all of your favorite characters including Santa and Mrs. Claus, Hermey the Elf, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster, Clarice, Yukon Cornelius and, of course, Rudolph. It's an adventure that teaches us that what makes you different can be what makes you special.

Because of his shiny nose, Rudolph doesn't feel like he belongs in Christmastown and sets off to find a place that accepts him. Along his journey, he encounters fellow misfits, only to realize that home is where he has belonged the whole time. When a storm threatens to keep Santa's sleigh from taking flight, what makes Rudolph different turns out to be what helps him save Christmas!

## TALK ABOUT IT BEFORE THE SHOW

- The play is based on a popular holiday television special that has been a tradition for families everywhere since it first came out in 1964. What are your favorite family holiday traditions?
- Rudolph's red nose makes him unique. What does unique mean? What makes you unique?
- There are 10 actors in the play and many of them play at least 3 characters! What do you think the actors will do to make their characters different from one another?
- The play takes place at the North Pole. What do you know about the North Pole? How do you think the designers will create the North Pole on a stage in a theatre?
- In the play, King Moonracer says "a toy is never happy unless it is loved by a child." What is a toy that you love? Why do you love it?

The Big Idea:  
Believe in Yourself

### THEMES CONNECTED TO THE STORY

Fitting In  
Friendship  
Courage  
Embracing Uniqueness  
Perseverance  
Following Your Dreams  
Teamwork



## TALK ABOUT IT AFTER THE SHOW

- Yukon is seeking fame and fortune. What does fame and fortune mean to you? What are ways we can have "fortune" without having lots of money?
- Hermey wants to be a dentist when he grows up. While it may be a long way off, what are three different careers that you are interested in?
- What are some examples of bullying that you saw in the play? If you had observed that kind of bullying, what would you have done?
- How did the things that Rudolph and Hermey were made fun of (Rudolph's nose and Hermey wanting to be a dentist) end up helping everyone in the story?
- Which characters were thought of as "misfits" in the play? Did they end up "fitting in" by the end of the play? If so, how?
- Rudolph literally shares his light and helps save Christmas. What can you do to shine bright and share your light?

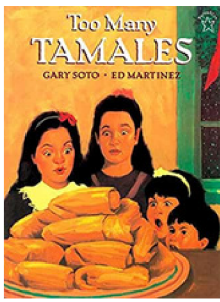
## WRITE ABOUT IT

Journal entry or free-writing prompt ideas:

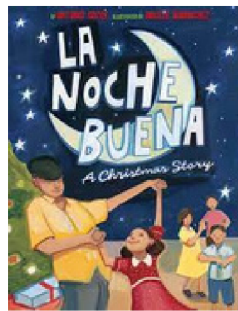
- ★ Rudolph runs away when he is made fun of for his red nose. Instead of running away, what are other choices he could have made to solve his problems? Write him a letter offering him your advice.
- ★ Write about a time when you felt like you didn't fit in or belong. How did you deal with it?

## READ ABOUT IT

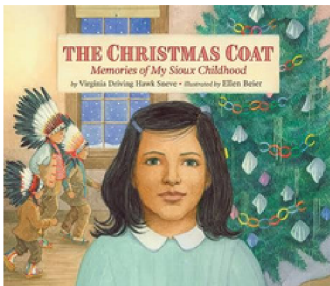
Check these books out!



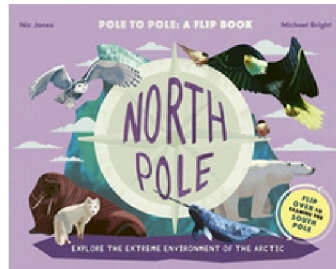
Too Many Tamales  
by Gary Soto  
Ages 4-8



La Buena Noche: A Christmas Story  
by Antonio Sacre  
Ages 4-8



The Christmas Coat:  
Memories of My Sioux Childhood  
by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve  
Ages 5-10



North Pole/South Pole  
by Michael Bright  
Ages 7-11



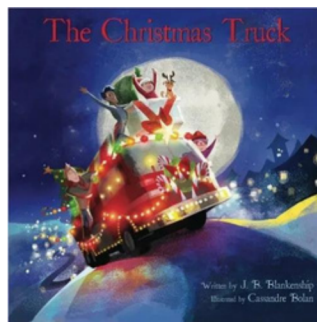
I Got the Christmas Spirit  
by Connie Schofield-Morrison  
Ages 3-8



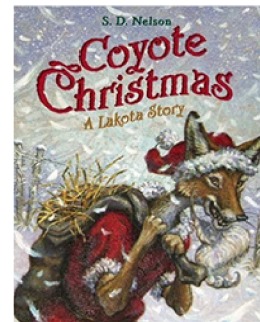
Welcome Comfort  
by Patricia Palacco  
Ages 4-10



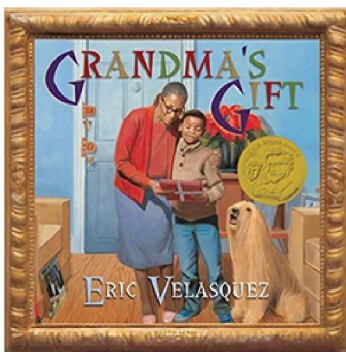
December's Gift  
by Ashley Smith-Santos and Stasia Bitton  
Ages 5-10



The Christmas Truck  
by J. B. Blakenship  
Ages 4-8



Christmas Coyote: A Lakota Story  
by S. D. Nelson  
Ages 6-10



Grandma's Gift  
by Eric Velasquez  
Ages 4-10



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever  
by Barbara Robinson  
Ages 8-12



The Christmas Pig  
by J.K. Rowling  
Ages 8 and up

## EXPLORE IT



Did you know that the story of Rudolph was written in 1939 way before it was made into a popular TV special or a theatrical musical ? Now that you've seen the play, take a look at the original story and illustrations of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* by Robert L. May by following this link::

<https://rb.gy/ilv2wo>

How is the original similar to the play? How is it different? What did you like about the play that wasn't in the original story? What was something in the original story that would have been fun to include in the play?

What does it mean to dream? Dreams don't just happen when we sleep. There are day dreams as well as life dreams. What are your dreams?

Here's a verse from *There's Always Tomorrow* from the play. Make up a second verse to the song making sure that they last word of the 2nd line rhymes with "true" and the last word of the 4th line rhymes with "may." Speak it as a poem or try singing it!

1. There's always tomorrow,
2. For dreams to come true,
3. Believe in your dreams
4. Come what may.

1. There's always tomorrow...
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



\*from *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical* to be used for educational purposes only.

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT...

Using books, the internet, or a person as a source, find out at least 5 facts about the following:

- The musical takes place at the North Pole. What do you know about the North Pole?
- There's a lot of snow and ice at the North Pole. What do you know about snow and ice?
- In the story of Rudolph, Santa's reindeer fly. What do you know about real reindeer?
- Santa's elves make toys. What do you know about how toys are made?
- Hermey wants to be a dentist. What do you know about becoming a dentist?

## CREATE IT!

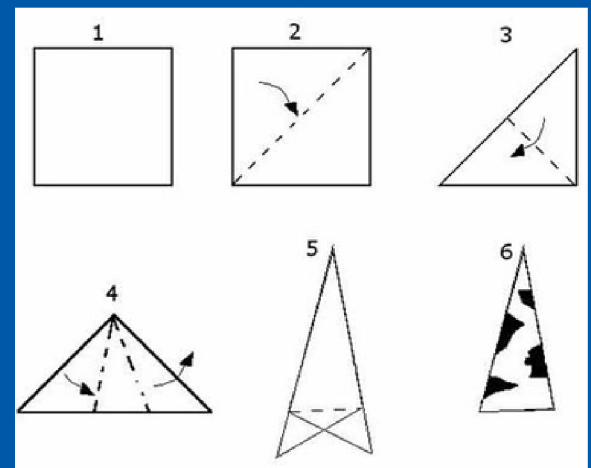
### MAKE A SNOWFLAKE

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

A square piece of paper and scissors

#### USE THE PICTURES TO GUIDE YOU:

1. Start with your square piece of paper.
2. Fold your square in half diagonally
3. Fold your triangle in half – again diagonally.
4. Fold paper in thirds. Fold one side to the front, the other to the back.
5. Trim the extra piece of paper off the end of your small triangle.
6. Around the outside of your triangle, cut some designs like circles, squares, triangles, or squiggles.



\*From kinderart.com

Unfold your paper and see your snowflake creation!

### Just for Fun:

When Rudolph's nose is covered, he sounds like he has a cold. He says "cude" instead of "cute." Try plugging your nose and saying the following sentence:

"Gadooks, the bumble strikes again! Whoopee!"

## KEEP ON LEARNING

All about teeth

<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/teeth-facts/>

Santa and the North Pole

<https://www.northpole.com>

More on the North Pole

[https://kids.kiddle.co/North\\_Pole](https://kids.kiddle.co/North_Pole)

About reindeer

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/general-animals/reindeer-facts/>

About Snow

<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/snow-facts-for-kids/>



Explore these websites for more learning connected to the show!

## EXTEND THE EXPERIENCE!

Bring a professional Teaching Artist to your classroom, in-person or virtually, to lead an arts-based, standards-driven lesson connected to the play.

Email us at:

[CPEducation@childsplayaz.org](mailto:CPEducation@childsplayaz.org)

## #SHAREWITHUS

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**#ChildsplayAZ**

**#Rudolph22**

## ABOUT CHILDSPLAY

Childsplay is a nonprofit professional theatre company of adult actors who perform for young audiences and families.

Our Mission is to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content, or both, that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love, and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, those hallmarks of childhood that are the keys to the future.

For more information:

[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)

