



imaginary theatre company

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presented by



MONSANTO FUND

CALERES

★ 5 ★



Book by Sarah Brandt

Music and Lyrics by Neal Richardson

Directed by Larry Schmidt

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Music and Lyrics by Neal Richardson

Directed by Larry Schmidt

Musical Director Neal Richardson

Scenic Designer Scott Loebel

Costume Designer Garth Dunbar

Stage Manager Mike Dowdy*

Director of Education Marsha Coplon

Associate Director of Education Sarah Brandt

Education Programs Manager Suki Peters

Study Guide Writer Laura Schlereth

THE COMPANY

Melissa Gerth* MILLIE

Alan Knoll* FRED

Catherine Regan* GOLDIE

Chris Tipp* BILLY

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



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Setting the Scene



It's a beautiful day in the forest, and a rabbit named Billy is leading his twin sister Millie and their good friend Fred, a bear, to a surprising discovery. He's found a human footprint in the forest, and they can hardly believe it. It's a frightening event, because they've heard lots of scary stories about humans. They're afraid of all the damage a human could do to their beautiful home.

They soon meet Goldie, a small human girl who may look sweet, but wreaks havoc in the forest with her carelessness. She throws litter on the ground, stomps on flowers and throws rocks at bird nests. They try to reason with her, but she doesn't see why she should listen to silly animals. She's obviously better than them, because she's a human. She thinks she should be "Queen of the Forest" so she can do whatever she wants.

Because she feels so entitled, Billy, Millie and Fred are not sure they can stop Goldie. Millie and Billy urge Fred to think of something they can do to prevent her from taking over. Fred's very smart: he loves books and science, so he's bound to outsmart her. After much research, Fred does come up with a plan. But is it good enough to save their home?



Who's Who?

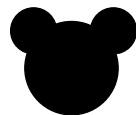


Billy: an energetic rabbit who is curious and easily excitable

Millie: Billy's twin sister who strives for a calm and harmonious existence

Fred: an intelligent bear who approaches every problem with scientific research

Goldie: a human girl with a sense of entitlement who still has a lot to learn





What's the Story?



It's a bright, sunny day in the forest, and a rabbit named Billy has made an amazing discovery. He can't wait to show his twin sister, Millie, and their bear friend, Fred, what he found. Billy leads his buddies to a clearing in the woods and shows them something they've never seen before. It's a footprint, but not of any identifiable creature. Fred, a scientist, quickly realizes the awful truth—there's a human in the forest!

The animals are immediately frightened. They've heard about the terrible things humans can do, and they're worried about their forest home. In fact, there's already evidence of destruction—there's litter in the forest for the first time!

The animals soon see a young human girl trampling through the forest. She throws her trash on the ground, then stomps on flowers she doesn't like. She's just about to smash a branch with a cocoon against a tree, when Billy interrupts and stops her.

The human tells them her name is Goldie, and she can't believe she's encountered talking animals. They ask her to start respecting the forest, but she doesn't see why she should have to. Humans don't have to listen to animals. Animals are just stinky little things that humans have as pets; they don't get to call the shots.

Frightened for their safety, Fred uses all his knowledge about humans to come up with a plan. Because it's obvious that Goldie thinks humans are the best at everything, the animals make a bet with her to participate in a challenge. If they win, she has to leave and never come back. If Goldie wins, she gets to be "Queen of the Forest."

Millie and Billy are a little concerned, but Fred's confident in his research. He's certain he knows all the human's weaknesses, and it'll be easy to beat her in the challenge. He reiterates all the bad things humans can do, and the importance of getting rid of Goldie. He convinces his friends that he has all the knowledge they need to beat her, so Billy and Millie agree to go along with the plan.

The day of the competition arrives, and Fred presents the first trial: a karate contest between Billy and Goldie. With his strong rabbit legs, Billy easily karate kicks two boards in half, but Goldie is unable to and hurts her toe when trying. She is shocked and upset because she thought she would be able to do it easily, since she believes humans are so much better than animals. Even though Billy's won, he sees how distraught Goldie is and teaches her how to appropriately kick the board so that she is able to at least crack it.

They move on to the next contest between Millie and Goldie to see who can hold a yoga pose the longest. Billy and Fred both expect Millie, an avid yogi, to easily beat Goldie. However, it turns out Goldie has been practicing yoga a long time herself and beats Millie. Fred is shocked that the human could do something the research didn't tell him.

Now that they're tied, they need one last contest between Fred and Goldie, where they are asked to answer scientific questions. Although he's nervous, Fred's research has prepared him well, and he beats Goldie. The animals celebrate their victory, but Goldie breaks down in tears. She says she likes the forest and is heartbroken she can't come

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back. She also tells them that she had a lot of fun participating in the challenge with them.

Millie, Billy and Fred realize they might have misjudged the human, just like she misjudged them. They didn't realize she didn't mean them any harm, just like Goldie

didn't realize what the animals were capable of. They tell Goldie she is welcome back anytime she wants if she respects the forest. Goldie happily agrees, and they all become friends.



Words to the Wise



Fred identifies the footprint as belonging to a **homo sapien**, or the scientific name for a human.

If you were fighting very hard for something you believed in, you might be on a **crusade**.

The animals want to **banish** Goldie from the forest, or force her to leave forever.

When you think about something very deeply and quietly in order to relax or focus, you may be **meditating**.

In Chinese medicine and philosophy, the **chi** is the energy of the universe that is believed to be present in all living things.

Fred needs to **formulate**, or very carefully create, a plan to get rid of Goldie.

In science class, you might need a **hypothesis**, a theory or explanation for something.

Namaste is a polite Hindu expression used when meeting or parting from someone and is often used in yoga.

The silky covering with which a caterpillar encloses itself while it becomes a butterfly is called a **cocoon**.

A distinctive quality that seems to surround a person is sometimes called an **aura**.

Look around outside and you might find an ancient **arrowhead**, or a sharp, pointed rock that was once attached to the tip of an arrow.

Billy and Millie live in a **burrow**, which is a hole or tunnel where a rabbit makes a home.

Quinoa is a rice-like grain used in cooking.

A **trial** can take place in a courtroom, but it can also be a test or challenge to determine one's performance.

Be a Friend of Nature

Goldie learns that the animals and plants we find in nature are just as important as you and me. Because nature gives so much to us, it's our responsibility to take care of it. Here are some things you can do help:

- Plant a flower or vegetable garden with your family and take turns watering it.
- Organize a clean-up party with your community where everyone walks around the neighborhood or local park and picks up litter.
- Set up recycling bins in your home or school. Have separate ones for aluminum, plastic, paper and glass.
- Think of any other ideas you have and share them with your friends!



Goldilocks and the Three Bears

You've likely heard the story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, but now that you've seen the play *Goldilocks*, read the story below and see if you notice similarities between the play and the story on which it's based.



Once upon a time, there was a family of three bears who lived in a cottage in the woods: Papa Bear, Mama Bear and Baby Bear. It was a beautiful day, so they decided to take a long walk outside. Soon after the three bears left, a young girl named Goldilocks came upon their cottage. She knocked on the door and waited, but no one answered. Because she was a very curious girl, she decided to walk right in.

In the kitchen, she found three bowls of porridge. Hungry from her walk in the woods, Goldilocks tasted the porridge in the first bowl. "This porridge is too hot!" she exclaimed. So, she tasted the porridge from the second bowl. "This porridge is too cold," she said, frowning. So, she tasted porridge from the last bowl. "Mmmm, this porridge is just right," she said happily and ate up the whole bowl.

Then Goldilocks decided she needed to rest. She walked into the living room and was happy to see three chairs. She tried sitting in the first chair but it was too hard. She sat in the

second chair, but it was too soft. Finally, she sat in the third chair. "This one's just right!" she said happily. Unfortunately, Goldilocks was too big for the chair, and it broke into pieces beneath her.

With a full tummy, Goldilocks became very sleepy, so she went upstairs to the bedroom. She tried to lie down in the first bed, but it was too tall. She tried lying down in the second bed, but it was too short. She laid down in the third bed, and said sleepily "This one's just right." It was so comfortable that Goldilocks fell right to sleep.

While Goldilocks was sleeping, the three bears came home and went into the kitchen. "Someone ate all my porridge!" exclaimed Baby Bear. They went in the living room. "Someone broke my chair!" exclaimed Baby Bear. They went upstairs to the bedroom. "There's a girl in my bed!" exclaimed Baby Bear.

Just then, Goldilocks woke up and saw the three bears. She yelped, hopped out of the bed and ran straight out of the cottage, never to return.

- ▶ What are some lessons Goldilocks learned from this experience?
- ▶ Would you ever go into someone else's house uninvited, eat their food and relax in their furniture?
- ▶ How is this Goldilocks in the story similar to Goldie in the play?

The Original Goldie

Considered a fairy tale, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* has talking animals as well as a moral theme. And like most fairy tales, we can't be sure how the story originated. Although the creation of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* is unclear, the story has a unique history.

- In 1837, it was published by a writer named Robert Southey in a collection of essays titled, *The Doctor*. Although Southey wasn't the tale's original author (scholars have discovered earlier versions of the story), it had never been so widely published until *The Doctor*.
- Instead of a young girl named Goldilocks, Southey's version featured an old woman as the intruder. And instead of a Papa, Mama and Baby Bear, the three bears were all male and lived as bachelors.
- There's a theory that the original story was about three bears who lived in a castle, and instead of a human girl, it was a female fox named Scrapefoot who was the intruder. Because "vixen" is a name used for a female fox, some believe that as the story was passed down through oral tradition, the word "vixen" became its synonym—a mischievous woman.
- In 1849, writer Joseph Cundall, who thought there were already too many old women as villains in children's stories, changed the intruder to a young girl named "Silver Hair" when he published his version in *Treasury of Pleasure Books* for Young Children.
- The character's name continued to evolve over the next two decades. In 1858's *Aunt Mavor's Nursery Tales*, her name was "Silver Locks." She next became "Golden Hair" in 1868's *Aunt Friendly's Nursery Book*.
- Finally, in 1904's *Old Nursery Stories and Rhymes*, she became Goldilocks, one of the most famous names in fairy tales today.

How would you change Goldie's story? Write the changes you'd make on the lines below.

Fun with Science

Fred faced off with Goldie in a competition based on his knowledge of several scientific topics. Did you know the answer to any of the questions that were asked? If not, no worries! Here's some background information so that you can learn more about different areas of science.

Planets in the Solar System

Goldie was able to name the planet closest to the Sun as Mercury. Did you know the order of the rest of the planets in being closest to the sun? It goes in this sequence:

1. Mercury
2. Venus
3. Earth
4. Mars
5. Jupiter
6. Saturn
7. Uranus
8. Neptune

A nice, easy way to remember the order is with a mnemonic, a memory aid in the form of a rhyme, phrase or other mental shortcut to make information easier to memorize. For example, many people remember the order of the planets with the following sentence:

My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Nachos.

Look at the first letter of each word in the sentence and how it relates to the order of the planets:

Mercury	My
Venus	Very
Earth	Educated
Mars	Mother
Jupiter	Just
Saturn	Served
Uranus	Us
Neptune	Nachos

Pretty cool right?

What are other mnemonics that you've used? Here are some other examples:

- Every spring, we set clocks one hour forward for Daylight Saving Time, and in the fall we set them back one hour. To help remember which is which, people think *Spring Forward and Fall Back*.
- To remember the names of all the Great Lakes, people think of the word **HOMES**, for lakes Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior.
- Many times, people confuse the difference in spelling between *dessert*, a sweet treat, and *desert*, a dry sandy area of land. However, if you think that you almost always would like an extra helping of dessert, then you can remember that dessert is the one with the extra 's'.

Try to create your own sentence mnemonic for the planets—feel free to get as goofy as you want!

Mercury	M _____
Venus	V _____
Earth	E _____
Mars	M _____
Jupiter	J _____
Saturn	S _____
Uranus	U _____
Neptune	N _____

Did You Know?

From 1930-2006, Pluto was considered a ninth planet until scientists felt it didn't meet certain criteria and changed its status to a "dwarf planet" instead.

Originally the most popular mnemonic to remember the nine planets was My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas.



Mercury



Venus



Earth



Mars



Jupiter



Saturn



Uranus



Neptune



Solar System Fun Facts

- Our solar system was formed about 4.6 billion years ago and is part of the spiral galaxy known as the Milky Way.
- In addition to planets, the Solar System also consists of moons, comets, asteroids, minor planets, dust and gas.
- All the planets orbit the Sun because it contains around 98% of all the material in the Solar System, and the larger an object is, the more gravity it has, drawing objects toward it. Because our planets are fast-moving objects, their natural direction is to fly away from the Sun. These two opposing forces cause planets to orbit around the Sun.
- One year on Earth is one full orbit around the Sun, but other planets, based on their proximity to the Sun, each orbit at their own different pace. For example, Mercury circles the Sun in just 88 days.
- The four planets closest to the sun—Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars—are called the terrestrial planets because they have solid, rocky surfaces. Jupiter and Saturn are known as gas giants, while Uranus and Neptune are called ice giants.

Pick a Planet

What planet do you think is the most interesting? Do some research on your favorite planet and write some fun facts on the lines below, then share your findings with your class.

My Planet _____

Fun Facts _____

Fun with Science

The Animal Kingdom

Goldie said spiders have six legs because she mistakenly thought they were insects, but Fred clarifies that they're actually arachnids. Did you know that? The difference between spiders and insects is how they are classified in the animal kingdom, which is divided into different **phylums** and then into **classes**.

While spiders and insects both fall into the same Arthropoda phylum—which includes all invertebrate animals that have an external skeleton, a segmented body, and jointed limbs—they fall into different classes. Insects fall into Insecta class, which includes arthropods with a three-part body, three pairs of jointed legs, and one pair of antennae, among many other characteristics. Examples of insects include bees, ants and butterflies. Spiders fall into the Arachnid class, which includes arthropods who have eight legs, among many other characteristics. In addition to spiders, other examples of arachnids include scorpions, ticks and mites.

If you thought spiders were insects too, you're not alone. It's a common mistake to make. That's why it's interesting to learn about animals and how they differ. For example, did you know that dolphins are mammals and not fish? Or that chimpanzees are considered apes and not monkeys? Biology is a complex and interesting science, and there's a lot to learn. If you're interested in knowing even more about how animals are classified, take a page from Fred's book and research, research, research!

Carnivores, Herbivores, Omnivores

Fred knew right away that an animal that eats both animals and plants is an omnivore, but did you know about carnivores and herbivores? Here's a helpful chart that shows the similarities and differences between each.

	Carnivores	Herbivores	Omnivores
Eats:	Meat, other animals	Plants	Both meat and plants
Examples:	Lions, coyotes, sharks	Rabbits, giraffes, deer	Bears, humans, pigs
Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong, pointy claws or talons• Sharp teeth• Large mouth opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flat nails• Broad, flat, dull teeth• Small mouth opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flat or sharp nails• Mixture of flat or sharp teeth• Large mouth opening

Add it Up

To help Goldie learn more about the forest, her new friends show her all sorts of different animals and plants that make the forest their home. Add up the animals and plants to see how many of each they saw.

ANIMALS

2 cardinals
+ 1 bluejay

5 bumblebees
+ 2 spiders

3 squirrels
+ 3 frogs

1 skunk
+ 9 ants

4 turtles
+ 7 tadpoles

PLANTS

4 oak trees
+ 2 rose bushes

3 ferns
+ 6 daffodils

1 dogwood tree
+ 5 bluebells

2 maple trees
+ 9 lavender plants

2 sunflowers
+ 2 redbud trees

BONUS: Did they see more animals or plants?

Friendly Forest

One of the biggest lessons Goldie learns is how to be more respectful and appreciative of the forest. What are your favorite things about forests? Color this forest and draw any additional plants, animals or friends you'd like to see there.

