GOODNIGHT MOON &
THE RUNAWAY BUNNY
Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 10am and Noon
Bowker Auditorium

Study Guides for Teachers are also available on our website at www.fineartscenter.com - select For School Audiences under Education, then select Resource Room.

Please fill out our online surveys at http://www.umass.edu/fac/centerwide/school/index.html Thank you!
Welcome
Information for Teachers and Parents

Our goal is to offer high quality performances for young people in a safe and comfortable setting. Please help us by following the below guidelines.

Please arrive early. You should arrive at the theatre 30 minutes prior to the noted start time. Allow for travel time, parking, being seated and bathroom visits. It is important that we begin our performances on time so that all schools can meet their lunch and/or dismissal times.

Be sure to check the location of the performance when making your bus reservations. Performances take place in the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall or Bowker Auditorium in Stockbridge Hall. Please see the map at the end of this guide for driving and drop-off instructions.

Upon arrival your group will be greeted by an usher either at your bus or in the lobby. We do not issue individual tickets for performances. Your usher will direct your group to their reserved seats.

Both theaters are accessible for Mobility Impaired members. An infrared listening system is available in both theaters. Access parking is available adjacent to the theaters. An Access permit should be clearly visible in the parked vehicle. To better meet your needs, please inform us of any special seating requirements one month prior to the performance by calling 413-545-2116.

For the comfort of all our seated patrons, we request that backpacks, lunches and other gear be left on the bus. Also, please remove all hats when seated in the theater.

Food, drinks other than water, smoking, candy and gum are all not allowed in the theater. The use of cell phones, portable music players, cameras or any other recording device, including non-flash photography and cell phone cameras, is strictly prohibited. PLEASE BE SURE TO TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES.

Any teasing, disruptive and rude behavior by students towards each other or to others seated close-by during a performance is not acceptable. Teachers and chaperones will be held responsible for any such incident reported to the Fine Arts Center staff. All complaints received will be forwarded to the schools involved. Repeated offences from the same school/s may result in cancellation of future reservations for shows.
Please read and review the following information with your students.

WE expect everyone to be a good audience member. Good audience members

- Are good listeners
- Keep their hands and feet to themselves
- Do not talk or whisper during the performance
- Do not eat gum, candy, food or drink in the theater
- Turn off all cell phones and do not use portable music players, cameras or any other recording devices
- Stay in their seats during the performance
- Do not disturb their neighbors or other schools in attendance

“Theatre is not theatre without an audience.”

Live theatre differs from watching television or movies. Remember that performers can see and hear you. As an audience member you are a vital contributor to the performance experience that you and those around you will have. How you behave and how you react to the show will affect the artists’ performances. That is why each performance is a unique experience, it will never be repeated exactly the same. Talking to your neighbor, sending text messages, and other similar behaviors are distracting to the rest of the audience and to the artists.

Please be respectful of the artists on stage performing for you by listening quietly. Of course, it is appropriate to react to what you are seeing – some things may make you laugh, gasp out loud, or you may be asked to respond by answering questions from the performers, singing along or clapping. Most of all, it is important to be present “in the moment” by being attentive and enjoy the performance. And of course – show your enthusiastic appreciation by applause at the end of the performance!

This study guide was generously provided by The State Theatre in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Created by Katie Pyott. Edited by Lian Farrer. © 2009 State Theatre
In *Goodnight Moon*, a young rabbit goes through a bedtime ritual of saying goodnight to every object in sight and in his imagination, from the pictures on the walls to the brush and comb to the moon and stars, to “the old lady whispering ‘hush’.” The text is written in the form of a rhyming poem.

**Ask your students:**
- Can you name any of the things the bunny says goodnight to in the story? How many can you think of?
- Do you like going to bed?
- What are some of the things you do to get ready for bed?
- Who do you say goodnight to before bedtime?

In *The Runaway Bunny*, a young bunny tells his mother he wants to run away. “If you run away, says his mother, I will run after you.” And so begins an imaginary game of chase. Whatever the little bunny declares he will change himself into—a fish, a rock, a bird, a boat, etc.—his mother replies that she, too, will change herself so that she can always keep her little bunny safe and protected.

**Ask your students:**
- Can you name any of the things the bunny says he will become? How many can you name?
- If you could change into anything you wanted, what would you become? Why?
- Why do you think the little bunny wanted to run away?
- Have you ever wanted to run away? Why?
When Margaret Wise Brown (1910-1952) began to write for young children, most picture books were written by illustrators, whose training and talents lay mainly in the visual arts. Brown was the first picture-book author to achieve recognition as a writer.

After graduating from Hollins College in 1932, Brown worked as a teacher and also studied art. It was while working at the Bank Street Experimental School in New York City that she started writing books for children. Her first book was *When the Wind Blew*, published in 1937 by Harper & Brothers. Brown went on to develop her *Here and Now* stories and *Noisy Book* series while employed as an editor at William R. Scott. In the early 1950s, she wrote several books for the Little Golden Books series, including *The Color Kittens*, *Mister Dog*, and *Sailor Dog*.

Clement Hurd (1908-1988) was an American illustrator of children’s books. He is best known for his collaborations with author Margaret Wise Brown. He also illustrated a number of books written by his wife Edith (a friend of Brown’s), as well as *The World Is Round*, a children’s book written by Gertrude Stein.

The son of a New York mortgage banker, Hurd was educated at St. Paul’s School in Concord, New Hampshire, studied architecture at Yale University and painting with Fernand Léger in Paris. On seeing two of his paintings, Brown asked him if he would consider illustrating children’s books.

**Have You Read...?**

In addition to *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny*, Margaret Wise Brown and Clement Hurd also teamed up to create *My World* and *Bumble Bugs and Elephants*.

Other books by Margaret Wise Brown include:
- *My World of Color*
- *The Moon Shines Down*
- *Two Little Trains*
- *Sneakers, the Seaside Cat*
- *The Little Fir Tree*
- *The Important Book*

**Ask your students:**

- Have you heard of any of these books?
- How many have you read?
- Do you remember the stories?
- Do you remember any of the pictures?

**Take a Closer Look!**

Look carefully at the bookshelves pictured in *Goodnight Moon*. You’ll see that one of the little rabbit’s books is *The Runaway Bunny*. One of three framed pictures on the walls shows a scene from the same book.
The performance of *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny* employs a variety of styles of PUPPETS—including rod and tabletop puppets—to tell the two stories. Amazingly, all of the puppets and scenic elements are manipulated by just three puppeteers!

In *Goodnight Moon*, part of the visual magic comes from the use of BLACK LIGHT. Black light makes fluorescent colors glow in the dark, and makes anything black invisible to the eye. In *Goodnight Moon*, the puppets and scenery are painted with fluorescent paint, which makes them really stand out under the ultraviolet light. The puppeteers are onstage as they work with the puppets. They wear black clothing and black masks and perform in front of a black wall. This makes them almost invisible to the audience and allows them to execute all kinds of visual illusions with the puppets.

The show also employs pre-recorded NARRATION of Margaret Wise Brown’s text of the two stories, and original MUSIC composed by Steven Naylor especially for this production.

This production is by MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA. Founded in 1972, the company ranks among Canada’s most respected creators of theater for children. Mermaid has performed for more than three million people on four continents.

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**Make Your Own Puppets!**

**Sock Puppet**

[www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/puppets.html](http://www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/puppets.html)

**Rod Puppet**


**Bunny Hand Puppet:**

[www.bluebonnetvillage.com/puppet.htm](http://www.bluebonnetvillage.com/puppet.htm)
Bunny Basics

Rabbits are ground dwellers that live in environments ranging from desert to wetland. They have long ears that allow them to hear very well. In addition to their prominent ears, which can measure more than 4 inches long, rabbits have long, powerful hind legs and a short tail.

Did You Know?

• Rabbits are not rodents but belong to their own order called LAGOMORPHS.
• Rabbits are HERBIVORES, which means they eat plants, but do not eat meat.
• Rabbits’ teeth never stop growing. They keep them from growing too long by constantly chewing to wear them down. Rabbits will chew on almost anything but house rabbits especially like remote controls!
• House rabbits generally live 8-12 years.
• According to the Guiness Book of World Records, the oldest rabbit in the world lived to the age of 18.
• Larger rabbits generally have shorter lifespans than smaller rabbits.
• Outdoor rabbits have (on average) a much shorter lifespan because of the many risks and hazards associated with living outside.
• Rabbits should not be kept as a classroom pet.

Ask your students:

• Can you think of any other famous rabbits besides the ones in Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny?
• What do real rabbits eat? Do the rabbits in Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny eat or drink anything?
• A herbivore is an animal that eats only plants, such as fruits, vegetables, grass, and leaves. Carnivores eat meat. Omnivores eat EVERYTHING. Are rabbits herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores? What about people?

Students can play this online animal diet game to learn about the difference between the three types of eaters.

www.sheppardsoftware.com/content/animals/kids_corner/games/animaldietgame.htm
Cut out the pictures below. On the next page, have your students match the pictures to the correct spaces in order to create their own picture book for this nursery rhyme.
Rhyme Time

Hey diddle diddle, the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and the

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ , the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ jumped

over the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . The little

laughed to see such sport, and the

ran away with the _ _ _ _ _ _ _.
Color the Bunny
Going to see a play at a theater is not the same as watching TV. When you are sitting in the audience at Bowker Auditorium, the actors will be in the same room as you. They will be able to hear and see everything that goes on in the audience. Use the key to find out what your job is at the performance.

When I go to a performance, I am part of the audience. This is a very important job. I have to listen and carefully.

If I talk or move around, the actors and the audience will have a hard time paying attention to the performance.

When the performance is over, it’s okay for me to clap.
Resources

Goodnight Moon / The Runaway Bunny


Learn more about Margaret Wise Brown at her website. See photos of her and view original manuscripts.

[www.margaretwisebrown.com](http://www.margaretwisebrown.com)

*The Runaway Bunny* was turned into a concert piece for violin, orchestra and narrator by composer Glen Roven. Visit the website to learn more and hear the music.

[www.runawaybunnymusic.com](http://www.runawaybunnymusic.com)

Puppets

Visit Mermaid Theatre's website for more information on the show.

[www.mermaidtheatre.ns.ca](http://www.mermaidtheatre.ns.ca)

For more information about black light, check out

[www.howstuffworks.com/question59.htm](http://www.howstuffworks.com/question59.htm)

If you're interested in learning how to use puppets with your students, here are some useful resources:


Rabbits

Learn about keeping rabbits as pets at the NJ House Rabbit Society website.

[www.njhrs.com](http://www.njhrs.com)

First-School offers rabbit crafts and activities for young students.

[www.first-school.ws/ THEME/animals/wild/rabbit.htm](http://www.first-school.ws/ THEME/animals/wild/rabbit.htm)

Other books about bunnies:


Evacuation Procedures
Bowker Auditorium

Note: Interior house conditions may necessitate alternate exit routes.

Sections A - K and the Pit exit toward stage.

Sections L - U exit toward lobby.

West side exit stairwell left.

East side exit stairwell right.
PARKING AND DIRECTIONS FOR THE FINE ARTS CENTER'S
BOWKER AUDITORIUM
In Stockbridge Hall

School Bus Parking: Students should be dropped-off at the circle near Stockbridge Hall, which is accessed via the road to the Campus Center Parking Garage off of Commonwealth Avenue. University Security will direct buses to an appropriate parking lot during the performance (typically by the football stadium). PLEASE BE SURE YOUR BUS DRIVER KNOWS THAT ALL PERFORMANCES LAST APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR AND THEY SHOULD RETURN A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED END TIME. If drivers are not with the buses, they may miss the radio call from security asking them to return for pick-up, resulting in unnecessary delays returning to your school.

Individual cars: We recommend parking in the Campus Center Parking Garage, which is directly next to Stockbridge Hall/Bowker Auditorium. All other available parking during weekdays is at meters. There are few meters available that are close to Bowker Auditorium. Available lots and pricing (current as of 1/1/07) are listed below:

Parking in the Garage is available to our patrons at a discounted rate of $1. To receive this rate you MUST give the Garage attendant a parking pass. To receive your pass, please call our office to let us know that you will be arriving by car. Parking passes are sent with the invoices. (413) 545-2116

Parking meters are enforced Monday – Friday, 7AM – 5PM. Meter rates are $1.00 per hour.

Parking Garage – next to Bowker - accessed across from the Mullins Center off Commonwealth Avenue
Lot 25 – next to Mullins Center with 3 & 5-hour meters

From the North: (Vermont, Greenfield) I-91 south to Route 116. Follow signs on 116 "To the University of Massachusetts.” Exit ramp leads to Massachusetts Avenue. Turn left (east) on to Massachusetts Avenue toward the campus. At first light turn left on to Commonwealth Avenue. At next light turn right and follow signs for the Parking Garage.

From the South: (Springfield, Holyoke) I-91 north to Route 9. Turn right (east) on Route 9 over the Coolidge Bridge and through Hadley. Turn left (north) on Route 116 (across from Staples) heading toward campus. Turn right (east) at first exit at “University of Massachusetts,” then bear right onto Massachusetts Avenue toward campus. At first light turn left on to Commonwealth Avenue. At next light turn right and follow signs for the Parking Garage.

From the West: (Northampton, Pittsfield) Route 9 east through Northampton and over Coolidge Bridge. Follow remaining directions under “From the South”.

From the East: (Belchertown, Ludlow) North on Routes 21, 181 or 202 to Route 9 into Amherst. Right on to North Pleasant Street (main downtown intersection), north through center of town. Turn left at Triangle Street (Bertucci’s Restaurant on your right), rejoining North Pleasant Street. Stay on North Pleasant until it enters campus. Go straight through light – street has now become Massachusetts Avenue. At bottom of hill turn right on to
For Concert Hall, Rand Theater and Bowker Auditorium – Patrons traveling by car are encouraged to park in the parking garage. Discounted parking is available in the garage for $1. A parking permit is required for discounted parking in the garage. Please call the Arts & Educational Programs Office if you require permits at (413) 545-2116. All other parking on campus is at available meters at the rate of $1 per hour. Parking is enforced Monday – Friday, 7AM – 5 PM.

Buses will drop-off students as indicated on map. Buses will be given parking instructions by Campus Security.