



ELEPHANT



PIGGIE'S

"WE ARE IN A PLAY!"

TOURING THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES 2022-2023

Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a
Play!" Study Guide

Play Synopsis:

An elephant named *Gerald* and a pig named *Piggie* are best, best, "bestus" (a word *Gerald* and *Piggie* made up that means "very best") friends, but *Gerald* worries that something could go wrong that would end their friendship. *Piggie* is not worried at all. She's even happier and more excited than usual. That's because she and *Gerald* are invited to a party hosted by the *Squirrelles*, three singing squirrels who love to have a good time. And so begins a day when anything is possible.

There are 25 books written about *Elephant Piggie*. They're pretty popular! Let's meet the cast!

Characters- (After watching the show tell us who your favorite character/s were.

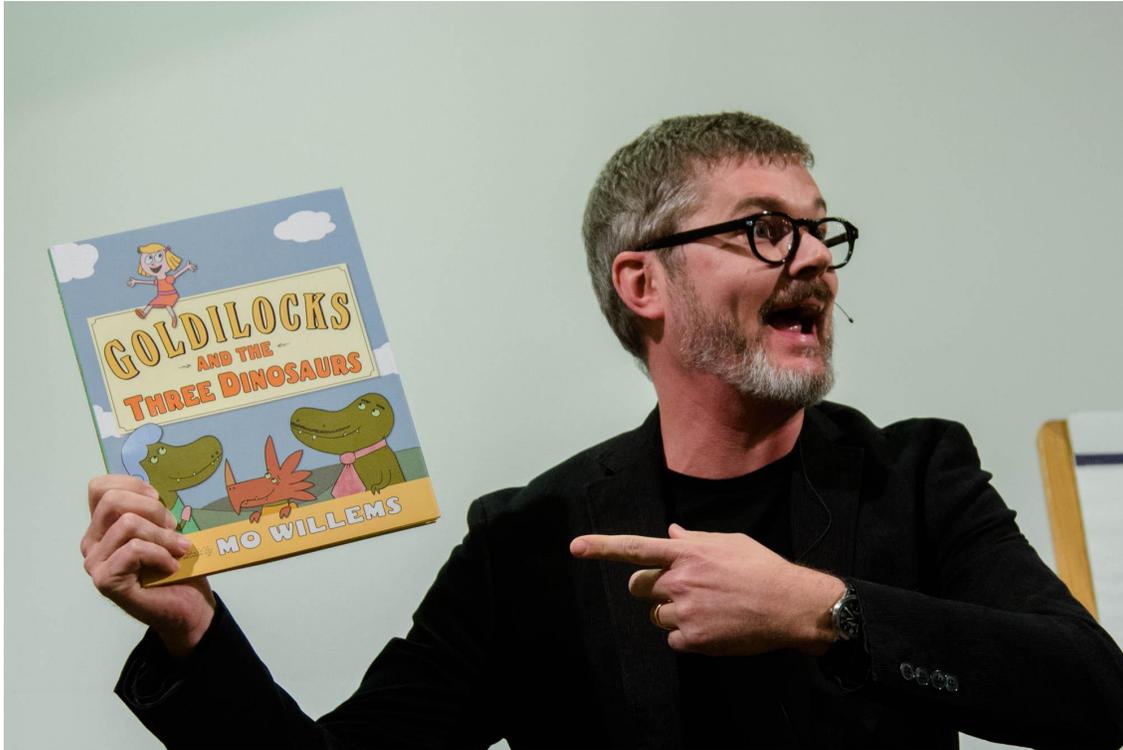
PIGGIE - A cheerful, full of energy, curious pink pig. She is also best friends with *Gerald*.

ELEPHANT GERALD - A slow moving, somewhat formally attired elephant; prone to melancholy. Best friends with *Piggie*.

THE SQUIRELLES - A trio of back-up singing squirrels; friends with *Gerald* and *Piggie*. Also **DOG**, **PENGUIN**, and **Stage Manager**.

*****Fun Fact:** (In our version of "Elephant and Piggie", one of the actors plays three different roles. Watch the show to see all of the characters they play.)

About the Author: Mo Willems



The creator of the book series is Mo Willems. Here's how he got started!

"Willems first became interested in cartoon art when he was just a child. When he was 3 or 4 he started to draw and create his own characters. Willems enjoyed writing stories about his characters to share with others. However, he was disappointed when adults would praise his work out of politeness. To fix this dilemma Willems started writing funny stories. He knew that even polite adults could not fake a laugh. So when the adults laughed he knew his story was good and if the adults still gave polite comments then he knew his story was bad."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mo_Willems

Elephant and Piggie Books!

Fun Fact- Do you know there are over 25 Elephant and Piggie Books?! They are so fun and easy to read but it's more fun to read them OUT LOUD!!

"Elephant and Piggie" books are written like comic strips, where each character's lines are placed in thought bubbles.

Follow this [link](#) to read Elephant and Piggie's "We're in a Book".

***Discussion Questions:

- How would you read Piggie's voice? Would your voice pitch be high or low? Why?
- How would you read Gerald's voice? Would your voice pitch be high or low? Why?

How would you read for the Squirrelles? There are 3 different Squirrelles. What three different voices would you create?

Fun Fact: Did you know that a Voice Over Actor is a person that makes a living creating characters with their voices. Voice Over Actors help to create cartoons, commercials, audio books, movie trailers, video games and more! To learn more, check out this [link!](#)

From Page to Stage!



In order to bring the book to life and create this musical (a play where actors sing, dance and act), there is a creative team who come together to make it all happen!

See if you can match the following creative person with their job:

A. Playwright - _____ the person who writes the music

B. Costume Designer - _____ the person who creates the props

C. Set Designer - _____ the people who help to tell the story

D. Sound Designer - _____ the person who writes the show

E. Props Designer - _____ the person who teaches the music

F. Composers - _____ the person who makes the costumes

G. Music Director - _____ the person who directs the show

H. Actors - _____ the person who creates the dance moves

I. Stage Director - _____ the person who writes the music

J. Choreographer _____ the people who play the instruments

K. Musicians _____ the person working the sound board

Post Show Discussion Questions:

- Now that you've seen the show, what was your favorite part? Why?
- What theatre elements stood out to you? (costumes, the set, the props)
- What was your favorite song? Why?
- Who were your favorite characters? Why?

Thanks for coming to see Florida Repertory's **TYA** performance of "Elephant and Piggie's - We're in a Play!"

We hope that you come to visit us in the Education Department. Our goal is to expose as many youth to the performing arts as possible.

Even if you don't plan on being a Broadway Star, there is so much more that you can benefit from being a part of the performing arts. Such as:

- Boosting your self-esteem
- Learning how to work in teams
- Being a creative problem solver - using your imagination
- Learning how to work with people different than you
- Learning empathy (how to feel what others are feeling)
- Being a more well rounded person
- Coming outside of your comfort zone
- Facing your fears with public speaking

If you want to learn more about our summer camp intensives, master classes, workshops, and upcoming productions visit our website:

<https://floridarepeducation.org/>