

# CREATE A FAIRY TALE PERFORMANCE

## PLANNING

Your cast size should be at least three people (there is no limit). One actor serves as the Narrator, someone who interacts with the audience and narrates the story, if necessary. The rest of the cast are the fairy tale performers. There is a time limit set. It could be 60 seconds to begin, or 2 minutes or longer.

The Narrator asks for fairy tale suggestions from the cast. Or the actors come up, in advance, with their own choice.

### Below are some suggestions!

- Snow White
- Rapunzel
- The Little Mermaid
- Hansel and Gretel
- Sleeping Beauty
- Little Red Riding Hood

Then, once the story is chosen, the cast decides who will play which part and how it will be acted out. Plan out how you are going to act out the events in the story. Make up as much dialogue as you would like. You can write a little script or even improvise!



## THE PERFORMANCE BEGINS

Once the planning is done and the rehearsal has taken place – decide on a time limit and begin. To keep the storyline fresh in the mind of the performers, the Narrator should quickly recap the key events of the story. Here's an example:

*Narrator: "Okay, great, our actors will perform "The Three Little Pigs." This is the one where three brother pigs each go about building their new homes, one with straw, the other with sticks, and the third with brick. A big bad wolf goes to knock down the first two houses but can't destroy the third. Now, let's see this famous fairy tale performed for us in 60 seconds! Action!"*

Then the actors begin to act out the story. Even though they are trying to complete the entire tale in a very short amount of time, they should still create funny, interesting characters. They should also establish setting and conflict. Whenever the actors, slow things down, the Narrator can prompt them by narrating a new event, or simply by reading from a stopwatch. Nothing moves a scene along like calling out, "Twenty seconds left!"

## VARIATIONS

Although the fast-paced nature of this game is very entertaining, there's no harm in trying a "slower" five-minute version. That way, actors can take their time and develop more character interactions and hilarious moments.

Also, if the well of popular fairy tales runs dry, feel free to try out some of these Aesop fables:

- Tortoise and the Hare
- The Mouse and the Lion
- The Fox and the Crow
- The Boy who Cried Wolf

Or, if the actors enjoy a certain television then try performing a scene or from that show or movie in a minute. Animated films and television shows are fun to try too!