

VISUAL STORY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF

OI FROG
& FRIENDS!



Based on the bestselling books by
KES GRAY & JIM FIELD

LYRIC THEATRE

Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W1D 7ES

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER, 11AM

INDEX

| | |
|--|--------|
| Information about the Lyric Theatre..... | Page 2 |
| Information about the show | Page 4 |
| Things to look out for..... | Page 5 |
| Characters in the show..... | Page 6 |
| The story | Page 8 |

This guide has been made to help you prepare for your trip to see the relaxed performance of **Oi Frog & Friends** with some information about what to expect.

We hope you enjoy the performance! If you have any more questions please contact Fiona Bradley on fiona@kennywax.com or call her on **0207 437 1736**.



INFORMATION ABOUT THE LYRIC THEATRE



Oi Frog and Friends is playing at the Lyric Theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue in London.

The Lyric Theatre will open 45 minutes before the start of the performance so for the relaxed performance it will open at 10.15am before the 11am show. You will be able to go into the theatre and buy drinks/snacks and merchandise. The "house" (which is what we call the auditorium where the show happens) will open at 10.30am.

As you go in you will see our nice security staff. They will ask to check your bags as you go in.



If you have bought a wheelchair accessible seat you need to go to the entrance by the buggy park. Follow the sign which says buggy park or ask the security staff.

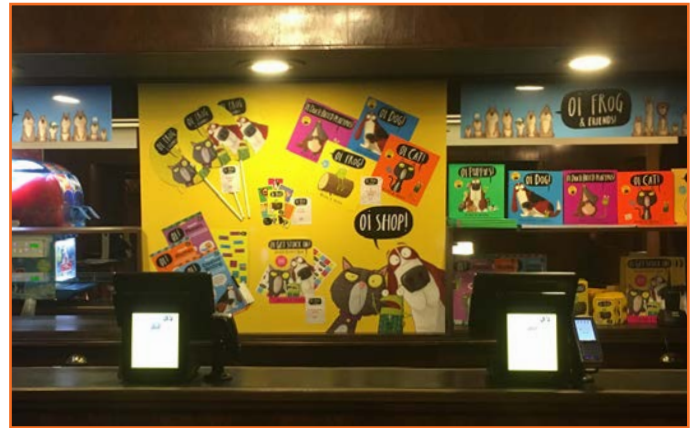


When you go into the theatre you will go past the box office where you will collect tickets you have booked or where you can buy tickets.



INFORMATION ABOUT THE LYRIC THEATRE

Then you go into the foyer. This is the area where you can buy refreshments and merchandise.



If you have any questions you can ask a member of staff like the ones at the box office, merchandise counter or refreshment stand but there will be lots of people around the building who will be dressed like this. They will be able to help you too.



INFORMATION ABOUT THE SHOW

LENGTH OF SHOW

Oi Frog & Friends is 55 minutes long with no interval.

SHOW CHANGES

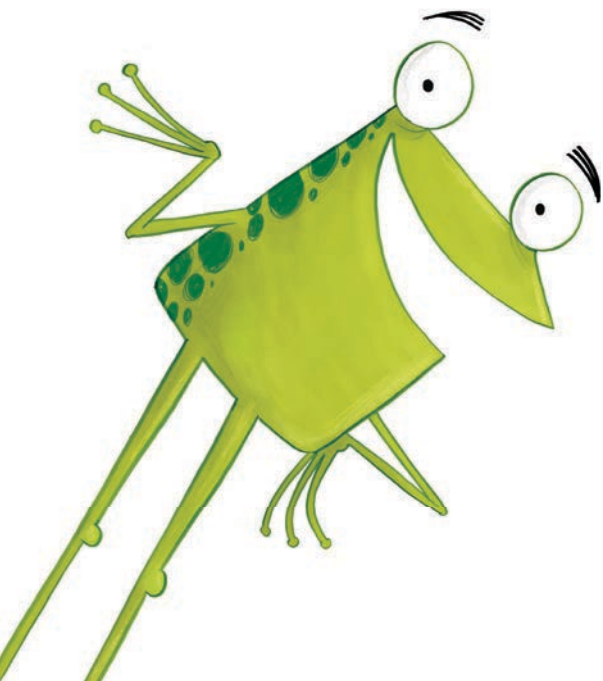
For the relaxed performance we have changed some of the lighting and sound, for example we are keeping the main lights on in the auditorium so it doesn't get dark. We will also turn the sound levels down so it doesn't get too loud so that it is a less stressful experience. We have also changed some of the bits of the show which might make it a stressful experience for some audience members, so our characters won't come out into the audience, for example.

WHAT IS THE SHOW ABOUT?

The show **Oi Frog & Friends** is based on the books **Oi Frog!**, **Oi Dog!**, **Oi Cat!** and **Oi Duck-Billed Platypus!** By Kes Gray and Jim Field.

These books are all about different animals sitting on things which rhyme with their name. So frogs must sit on logs and cats must sit on mats, but then Frog says he doesn't want to sit on a log and silliness ensues.

In our stage version we have included characters from the different books and added songs to tell the story.



THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Oi Frog & Friends uses lots of puppets to create the different animals. You will see these throughout the play.

- The actors will come into the audience at the beginning to ask for people's names and what rhymes with their names. They will be dressed in black gowns and a hat called a mortar board which makes it look like they are students. You don't need to give your name but if you do think of something which rhymes with it let the actors know and it might get mentioned in the show!
- For this performance we will keep the main lights on in the auditorium but there will be different lighting changes during the show and especially during songs.
- There is a lot of music in the show and we want people to sing along. Other people in the audience can get quite loud at these bits so you can join in or not. It is up to you!
- There is part of the play where Cat and Frog go up a tall tower. Frog falls at one point but it is very safe as the actors have practiced lots before.
- Cat at one point talks about being "Stunt Cat" in a tv show where they did lots of dangerous things. We do these with puppets and would never do them in real life as they are very dangerous.
- Dog will come into the audience and ask one of the audience (a grown up) to help and take them outside the theatre. If the person doesn't want to do it they don't have to but they will come back again later in the play.
- There is smoke in our play which helps create atmosphere. This should stay on stage but a little bit might come into the audience.



CHARACTERS IN THE SHOW

We have 4 actors in the show who have a main character but also play lots of different parts as there are so many animals.



DARREN SEED - DOG

This is Daren. He is an actor. Darren plays Dog in the show. You can see Darren with his Dog puppet below which he uses to show he is playing the dog character. When he doesn't have the dog puppet it means he is playing a different character.



JOHN WINCHESTER - FROG

This is John. He is an actor. John plays Frog in the show. You can see John with the Frog puppet below which he uses to show he is playing the Frog character. When he doesn't have the Frog puppet it means he is playing a different character.



LUCY TUCK - CAT

This is Lucy. Lucy plays Cat in the show. You can tell when Lucy is playing Cat because she has the cat headdress on. Lucy plays lots of other characters too.

CHARACTERS IN THE SHOW

We have 4 actors in the show who have a main character but also play lots of different parts as there are so many animals.



SIMON YADOO - CHEETAH

This is Simon. Simon is an actor. Simon plays Cheetah in the show but lots of other characters too. He will wear different costumes and have different voices which will help you know when he is playing different characters.



REBECCA AYRES - UNDERSTUDY/ASM

This is Rebecca. Rebecca is the Understudy so she can sometime perform as Cat or Cheetah if someone else can't. She is also the ASM which is the Assistant Stage Manager. This means she helps set props at the side of the stage for actors, moves things during performances (you might catch a glimpse of her at some points in the show) and helps the actors do their jobs.



THE STORY

SPOILER ALERT

Below is a summary of the story which means we tell you what will happen. This might be helpful to know before you come to the theatre, but if you want the story to be a surprise then we suggest you don't read these pages. Please don't share these with other people as they might want the surprise too. There are things about the show which we have changed from the books to make it longer and work in a theatre so you can learn about these bits too in the summary.



Before the show starts, the actors will come out into the auditorium and talk to the audience. They will ask your name and things that rhyme with your name which you could sit on. This is fun but you don't have to take part if you don't want to. The actor will write it down and then put it in a box for later in the show.

The show starts with a song called "Sittingbottom School for Animals" which introduces the different animal characters and what they sit on. You meet Cat who seems very bossy and tells everyone where to sit according to the big rule book.

Frog comes on stage and is a new pupil at Sittingbottom School and asks "Where should I sit?" Cat says Frog has to sit on a log because it rhymes with the word frog. Frog is unhappy about this as it is uncomfortable. Frog says it doesn't want to sit on a log and then there is a "News Flash" and Bob Burrows (who is a meerkat) appears and does a news story saying that Frog doesn't want to sit on a log. Frog says it wants to sit on a sofa and then it dreams that it could sit on a sofa but Cat says Frog has to sit on a log, so Frog does.

Frog doesn't understand why it needs to sit on something that rhymes with its name and that it doesn't know what a rhyme is. Frog then sings a song about finding rhymes. Dog comes in and becomes friends with Frog and they both sing about rhymes.



THE STORY

Frog opens up Cat's rule books and finds out what it means to make a rhyme. Cat comes in and sees Frog with the rule book and shouts at it because it is breaking the rules. Cat then goes through a list of animals and what they sit on. Frog asks what dogs sit on and Cat tells dog to sit. Dog goes and sits on Frog (Dogs sit on Frogs). Bob Burrows the meerkat comes back on and does a news report about Dog sitting on Frog. Frog gets interviewed and seems to be able to rhyme. Dog sitting on Frog means that Frog now has "Rhyme Fever" and can rhyme anything.



Cat tells Frog to sit on its log and Frog says no because it is changing the rules. Frog says that frogs don't have to sit on logs and that cats don't sit on mats but they sit on gnats (small flies that bite). Some gnats appear and start biting Cat's bottom. The tiles which make up the floor are taken up by one of the actors and show pictures of different animals and what they sit on. Frog says each rhyme as they appear. One of the animals suggested is a Gnu. The Gnu appears and sings a song about sitting on a canoe.



At the end of the song, Frog starts writing down new rhymes and not paying attention to Cat who says it is breaking the rules.

Cat is getting annoyed at the gnats biting its bottom and tries to swat them away with a fly swatter. Dog talks to it about the other things it could sit on if it was another animal. Frog takes the swatter so the gnats keep biting Cat's bottom. They characters go into an advert for Spotty Botty Cream which makes Cat's bottom feel better.

Cat, Dog and Frog go to the school canteen and Cheetah is serving lunch. Lunch is always

Sittingbottom Slop which is grey food which looks horrible. Frog finds out that the dinner lady is a Cheetah and decides that Cheetah's sit on Fajitas! Cheetah takes off its jacket and has a brightly coloured costume and sings a song called Fajita Fiesta. Cheetah and Frog will get the audience to join in the song. During the song, a rhyme tower appears. This is a tall tower which has pictures of all the different animals sitting on things which rhyme with their name. Frog goes up the tower with the rule book and begins writing new rhymes.

THE STORY

Cat and Dog think Frog is out of control with Rhyme Fever so decide to take back the rule book, but Cat is too scared to go up the tower. Cat explains that it used to be really brave and have its own tv show called Stunt Cat where Cat would do death-defying stunts. There is a flashback to where Cat does its own stunts but cat's have 9 lives so every time it loses one the number goes down until it is only left with one life and Cat doesn't want to risk anything else.



We see Frog again with Bob Burrows because Frog is now rhyming everything. We then see the animals that Frog is rhyming - armadillos sitting on their pillows, a whale sitting on nails, a skunk sitting on an elephant's trunk and then an elephant sitting on smelly pants.



Frog won't come down from the tower and keeps rhyming everything. Cat and Dog hatch a plan to make Frog stop and Cat says Dog needs to go to Australia to find an animal Frog won't be able to rhyme with. Dog goes into the audience and asks one of them to come and help. They go outside the auditorium.

Cat starts shouting at Frog to come down from the tower and Frog sings the song Hippety Hoppity Rhyme Time. Cat is fed up with Frog so despite being afraid Cat is very brave and decides to climb the tower. Cat gets to the top and tries to pull the rhyme book out of Frog's hands. Frog begins to fall and Cat jumps down and releases a parachute and catches Frog, so they land safely on the floor.

Dog comes back with the audience member. They are now wearing a hat which looks like a duck-billed platypus and a sign around their neck saying "Dolly". Cat challenges Frog to rhyme something with duck-billed platypus and Frog can't do it. This means Frog can stop rhyming. They find out that the duck-billed platypus's name is Dolly and Frog says it can sit on a broom. Frog says it didn't have to rhyme that, but it wanted to. They realise that there are more possibilities for animals who they can't rhyme with the animal name, but they can rhyme with their first names.

Dog, Frog and Cat rhyme together and are now friends.

All the characters sing the First Names Please song where they rhyme the names of people in the audience.

The End.