SCHULICH CHILDREN’S PLAYS
WENDY & PETER PAN

WENDY & PETER PAN
ADAPTED BY ELLA HICKSON
FROM THE BOOK BY J.M. BARRIE
DIRECTED BY KEIRA LOUGHRAN
CHOREOGRAPHED BY ALLEN KAEJA

GRADE RECOMMENDATION
Grades 3 and up.

CONTENT ADVISORY
Deals with mental health, grief and bullying. Includes scenes and incidents, including the deaths of some characters, that may frighten very young children.

STUDENT MATINÉE DATES
April 24, 27, 30*; May 5, 7*, 11, 13, 19, 21*, 25, 27; June 3, 5, 9, 11, 16, 18*, 23, 30; September 2, 4, 16, 24*, 25, 29; October 1*, 6*, 8*, 14, 15, 16, 20, 22*, 23, 27, 28, 29*.
(* = Performance starts at 12:30 p.m.)

FUN FACT!
We see this story through Wendy’s eyes.

SYNOPSIS
Mr. and Mrs. Darling, their daughter Wendy and her three brothers, John, Michael and Tom, are a happy family until tragedy strikes when little Tom falls gravely ill and dies. A year later, the house is no longer cheerful as each member of the family grieves for Tom. Wendy, in particular, is devastated by the loss of her brother.

One snowy night, a mischievous boy named Peter and his unruly fairy companion Tink appear at the children’s bedroom window. Wendy, John and Michael join Peter and fly off to Neverland for the biggest adventure of their lives.

Tink is the first to arrive in Neverland and, out of spite, instructs Tootles, one of the Lost Boys who live there, to shoot down a “big white bird” with his bow and arrow. He does so, only to discover that it’s a girl. Luckily, Wendy has only been stunned by the arrow’s impact and is introduced to the Lost Boys, who promptly make her their mother.

Suddenly, Tink warns of the approaching Captain Hook and pirates. Wendy refuses to leave for safety. She believes Neverland holds the answer to the whereabouts of her “lost” brother Tom and intends to ask the Captain for information. But while Peter fights Hook and the pirates, a hooded figure snatches Wendy to safety.

At Peter’s lair, the Lost Boys demand that Wendy play the role of mother. She is not interested and sets off on her own in search of her lost brother Tom.

In the Never Forest, Wendy meets the female warrior Tiger Lily – the same hooded figure who earlier saved her life. The pirates once again attack. Tiger Lily fights them off but is wounded. Hook stabs Peter as Wendy and Tiger Lily are carried off to the pirate ship.

Aboard the Jolly Roger, Hook – trying to get Wendy to reveal the location of Peter’s lair – threatens to kill Tiger Lily. Wendy, Tiger Lily and a renegade cabin boy, Martin, jump into the water to escape Hook.

Back at Peter’s hideout, Tink tells Peter (who is taking medicine for his stab wound) that Wendy is alive and aboard the Jolly Roger. Peter is about to go in search of Wendy but is stopped by the jealous fairy. She throws so much fairy dust on him that he swoons and falls down. Upon hearing Hook approach, Tink sets down Peter’s medicine and hides in the cupboard. Hook sneaks in and puts poison in Peter’s medicine bottle. Later, when a woozy Peter reaches for the medicine, Tink bursts out of the cupboard, snatches the bottle, drinks it and collapses. As Tink’s light dies out, a grief-stricken Peter urges the audience to clap their hands to save the fairy.

Once Tink is saved, Peter goes off to the Jolly Roger. Only too late, Wendy and Tiger Lily enter the lair to warn Peter. Tink, Wendy and Tiger Lily resolve to put aside their differences and work as a team to fight Captain Hook and the pirates.

Meanwhile, overpowered by the pirates, the Lost Boys are captured and find themselves on the Jolly Roger. Peter arrives, and soon after the three young warrior women enter the fray and a battle ensues. Peter runs his sword through Hook, who falls back into the open jaws of the crocodile. The battle is over!
Peter then takes Wendy up to the stars and tells her that each star is a Lost Boy, and when each boy’s family finds happiness, the Lost Boy is released and sent to Neverland to play happily ever after. Among the stars, Wendy finds her courage and joy in learning to fly, and suddenly a shooting star goes by. As Wendy lands back in Neverland, she discovers Tom among the Lost Boys, happily playing.

Wendy, John and Michael return home to the Darling house. Mrs. Darling now works as a seamstress and has taken an interest in the rights of workers, suffragettes and education. Mr. Darling is only too pleased to support his wife and her ambitions. The happy family goes off to skate and eat cake, and Mrs. Darling and Wendy celebrate each other’s new-found strengths.

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES:
- Creativity
- Learning to Learn/Self-Awareness
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Critical Thinking

GRADES 3–8:
- The Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Media Arts and Multimedia Technology).
- Language/English (Oral Communication, Reading, Writing, Media Literacy).
- Health and Physical Education (Understanding Healthy Concepts, Making Healthy Choices, Making Connections for Healthy Living).

GRADES 9–12:
- The Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Integrated Arts, Media Arts, Visual Arts).
- Language/English (Oral Communication, Reading and Literature Studies, Writing, Media Studies).
- Health and Physical Education (Understanding Healthy Concepts, Making Healthy Choices, Making Connections for Healthy Living).

GRADES 11–12:
- Social Sciences and Humanities (Dynamics of Human Relationships, Equity, Diversity and Social Justice, Gender Studies, Human Development Throughout the Lifespan, Introduction to Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology, Raising Healthy Children, Working with School-Age Children and Adolescents).

GRADE 12:
- Canadian and World Studies (World History since the 15th Century).

THEMES
- The Power of Imagination: the value of storytelling; the hero and heroine’s journey; finding hope; love of magic and adventure.
- Identity: coming of age; developing self-confidence; finding courage; freedom to discover and be oneself; female empowerment; gender roles and stereotypes.
- Mental Health, Relationships and Well-Being: finding hope in sadness and grieving; strength in community; dealing with jealousy and bullying.
- Growing Up: self-discovery; standing up for yourself; grappling with guilt and failure; making choices.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY
For younger grades:
Have students choose their favourite character in the story and strike a pose.

For older grades:
Write a short paragraph about who you thought was the real hero/heroine in the story. What makes them a hero/heroine?
EDUCATION ENRICHMENT

Study Guide available at stratfordfestival.ca/studyguides

Prologues (interactive presentations on stage) are available at 11:00 a.m. on: May 5, 13, 19; June 3, 5, 9, 16; September 29; October 6, 14, 16, 20, 23, 27.

Workshops and post-show chats may be arranged by calling the Education Department at 519.271.4040, ext. 2354.

Festival Theatre, Costume and Props Warehouse, Archives and Set Changeover tours may be arranged by calling the Box Office at 1.800.567.1600.

THEATRE ETIQUETTE AND THE ROLE OF THE AUDIENCE

Live theatre is a magical experience shared and respected by all, both by audience members and performers. The actors feed off your energy and your response to their work on stage.

Here are a few things to help everyone maximize their enjoyment of the performance:

• If you leave the auditorium, you will be re-seated at an appropriate time during the performance.
• Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance.
• Please refrain from talking or eating during the performance.
• Please do respond to the performance through laughter, tears or captivated smiles.

Here's some more information on theatre etiquette.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Online: www.stratfordfestival.ca/schools
Email: groups@stratfordfestival.ca
Phone: 1.800.567.1600 or 519.273.1600
Mail:
Stratford Festival
Attn: Groups and Schools
P.O. Box 520
Stratford, ON N5A 6V2

Tools for Teachers sponsored by

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