An educators guide to…

Fairy Tales Gone BANANAS!

A unique, musical presentation of classic, multicultural folk tales for grades PK3-3rd and families.

By Shana Banana ®

www.ShanaBanana.com

About the show!

A Fairy Godmother who has a fit of sneezes? A not-so-evil dragon prince who wants to plant flowers? A vain and bullyish beetle? An alligator and a dog who want to trade noses? A boy who jumps out of a giant peach? Step into Fairy Tale Land with not-so-classic characters who take children from America to Europe to Japan and beyond. With original songs, Shana Banana and the audience discover that fairy tales involve conflicting characters, magic, overcoming fears and other interesting elements to triumph and learn in some way. Complete with imagination, cultural awareness, and appreciation of individual and intercultural (and interspecies) similarities, this show will keep children entertained, moving, dancing, acting and singing.

Song/Story List: Theatre Etiquette Song, Fairy Tales Gone Bananas, Library Song, Three Little Pigs Gone Bananas (England/America), The Alligator and the Dog (Seminole Indian), Black Beetle (American), Cinderella (French/German/Chinese), Momotaro the Peach Boy (Japan), Pirate Scooterdoo, Silly Goodbye Song

Show Length: 45-55 minutes

Audience Demographic: Preschool to Early Elementary and General Family Audiences.

Audience Size: Any (4-4,000)

About the Artist!

What happens when you get a Master's degree in Oceanography? You become a national children's entertainer, of course! After working and teaching (and playing lots of music) on a marine research vessel, Shana Smith decided to take a leap of faith and formalize her creative talents in singing and songwriting. Shana discovered and developed her incredible joy of writing songs for children first as a touring folk musician when children were in the audience, and then on the grounds of her mother's preschool. Over the years, she became nationally known as "Shana Banana" and earned a reputation as one of today's top children's entertainers, with a voice that still delves into blues, jazz, and folk as well.

Performing at major festivals and performing arts centers across the United States, Shana Banana has earned many prestigious awards along the way, including: two first-round Grammy nominations, Parents' Choice, iParenting, NAPPA, Creative Child, Kids' First Coalition for Quality Children's Media, and "Best Children's Song In the Country" by the Just Plain Folks organization for her most requested song: *I Want to be a Dinosaur*. She has performed at the White House, Chicago's Lincoln Park, the Houston Children's Museum, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Seattle's Whirligig, the Florida Folk Festival, Merlefest (in honor of Merle Watson), and many more. Her favorite "gig," however, is as mom to her two young children.

Shana Banana continues to develop a variety of live themed shows, CD's, DVD's, books, study guides, and workshops for teachers, parents, and of course, kids! She also continues her efforts with children's hospitals and school outreach programs to assist in her long-term mission of making a positive difference in the lives of children, motivating and cheering them as they grow. She is in the final stages of the production of a new television series, called "Banana Bread," has just completed a bedtime transitions CD called "Banana Bedtime," and is currently working on her fourth CD, an ocean-themed treasure called "Banana Beach Party USA." She is also the founding director of an innovative new Arts and Science integrated program, called "The Starfish Program," at Admiral Farragut Elementary School in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Activities before the Show:

- Define "Fairy Tale" : a fictional story that may feature folkloric characters (such as fairies, goblins, elves, trolls, witches, giants, and talking animals) and enchantments, often involving a far-fetched sequence of events. The term is also used to describe something blessed with unusual happiness, as in "fairy tale ending" (a happy ending) or "fairy tale romance," though not all fairy tales end happily. Fairy tales are a genre in literature. They have their roots in the oral tradition. Fairy tales with very similar plots, characters, and motifs are found spread across many different cultures. Fairy tales also tend to take on the color of their location, through the choice of motifs, the style in which they are told, and the depiction of character and local color.

- Review the Elements of Fairy Tales: Beginning, Setting, Characters, Magical Powers at Work, Problem, Solving the Problem, Ending.

- Read Classic Fairy Tales: Shana Banana will be telling "Cinderella," "Momotaro" (from Japan), Bettie Mae Jumper's "The Dog and the Alligator" (from the Seminole Tribe), "Three Little Pigs," and several original fairy tales. Feel free to review the fairy tales listed above.

- Think of ways students can change the classic fairy tales to make them "go bananas." List ideas on the board and re-create the classic stories with the new "bananas" version.

- Create a fairy tale by forming a circle and letting each student take their turn to add to the story. The teacher may start or choose a student to begin the story.

- Repeat "go bananas" exercise with the original fairy tale.

The Role of the Audience:

Copy this & pass out to students to read & discuss prior to the performance.

❖ The audience is an important part of the performance. You help the performers by imagining and participating with them.
❖ A live performance is not like watching TV at home or a movie in a movie theater. The performer is in the same room as you so they can see & hear the audience and interact with you! Laugh when you think something is funny. Answer if they ask you a question. Sing a long if you know the song! Clap at the end of the show!
❖ There are no commercials, no eating, no lying down or running around.
❖ When you enter the theater or performance area, enter quietly & listen for instructions.
❖ Should you talk to your friends and neighbors during the show? NO! You don't want to disturb other members of the audience & the performer needs you to watch & listen quietly.
❖ At the end of the show always remain seated and listen for instructions on how to leave the theater.

TH.D.1.1.3 The student understands appropriate audience responses to dramatic presentations

THE THEATRE ETIQUETTE SONG

By Shana Banana
c.2004

Welcome… it's good to see you
And remember. I CAN see you!
I am not a movie or a DVD
I can see and hear you, like you can see and hear me…so please…

Don't talk out loud don't shout or cry
Don't fall asleep or let out a sigh
Don't fidget or talk on the phone
And please… don't pick your nose… your nose… your
NOOOOOOSE!

Because we're at the theatre, the thee-aa-teeer
We hope you enjoy the show!

The curtain's about to open up
We want you to have lots of fun
The light's will go down; don't make a sound
Let's be the best audience we can be... so please…

Don't chew gum or play GameBoy
Don't tear apart a small stuffed toy
Don't stand up and strike a pose
And please… don't pick your toes… your nose… your TOOOEEESS!

Because we're at the theatre, the theee-aa---teeer
We hope you enjoy the show!
Welcome… enjoy the shoooooow!
It's showtime!!!

TH.E.1.2.3 The student understands theater as a social function and theater etiquette as the responsibility of the audience.

Activities after the show:

❖ **Careful listening:** By paying close attention to the show, students may discover the answers to these questions.

1. Momotaro jumped out of a giant what? *Peach*
2. Let's all go where so we can read some books? *The library*
3. What Indian Tribe tells the legend of the Alligator and the Dog?
4. Why couldn't the fairy godmother cast her spell? *She had a fit of sneezes*
5. Why didn't the wolf eat the pigs? *He is vegetarian*
6. Why did he pretend to want to eat them? *So he would look tough*
7. What's the moral of the 3 Little Pigs Gone Bananas? *Be yourself*
8. What's the moral of Cinderella Gone Bananas? *You have magic within*
9. What is the Japanese word for "let's go!" *Ikimasu*

❖ **Memory game**: The words to "Black Beetle" and "Pirate Scooterdoo" are included. Can you remember the tunes of the songs?

❖ **Courtesy Letters**: Ask your students to write e-mail letters to Shana (Shana@ShanaBanana.com). What did they like about the show? What was their favorite song? Why?


❖ **Creativity:**

1. Create a fairy tale character on a banana. Use the handout below, or use a real banana, pipe cleaners, markers, googly eyes, etc! Name your character and create a fairy tale with it.

2. Coloring and Drawing Page: "Momotaro the Peach Boy"

3. Re-visit the pre-show activities described above. Write songs to accompany the "Fairy Tale Gone Bananas" that you created as a group, make costumes, and stage your own "Fairy Tales Gone Bananas" performance!

Creating a Fairy Tale Character

Use the banana below to create your character. Add eyes, ears, a nose, a mouth and anything else you want to make your character. Don't forget to give him or her a name! What is your character's story?
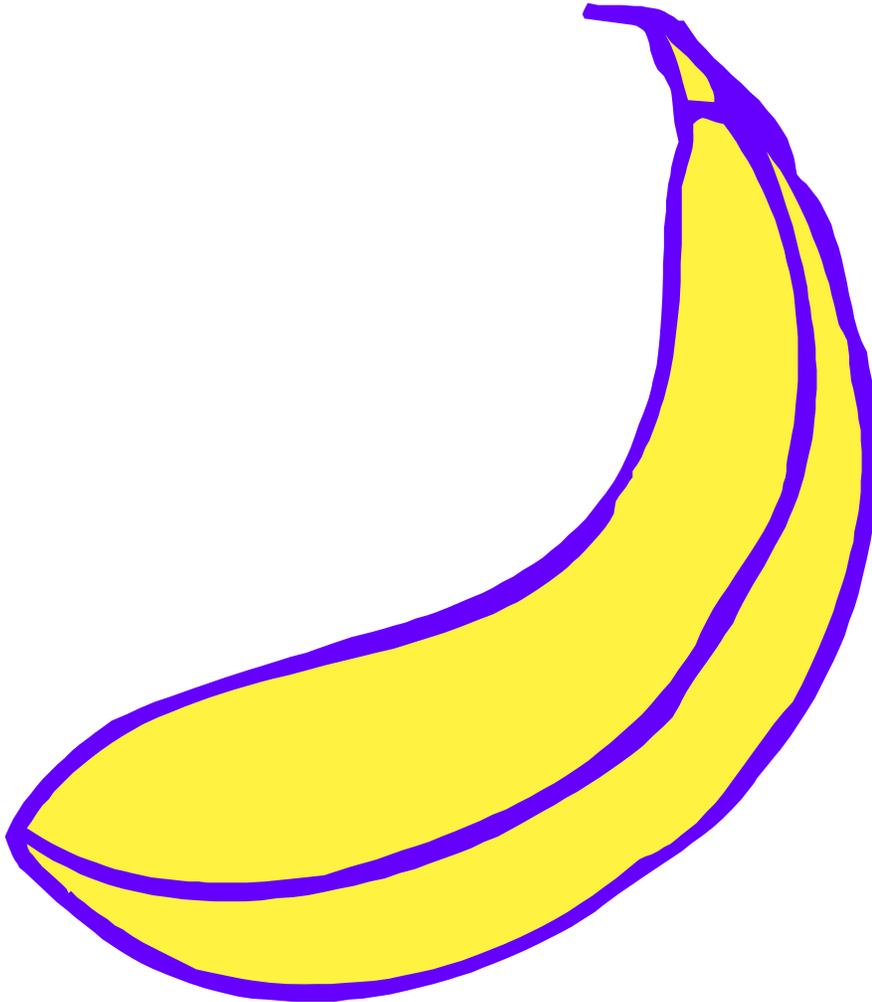
My character's name is: _____

This is my character's story:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

BLACK BEETLE

by Shana Banana Smith and Debby Townsend
c.2000

This is a story about a little black beetle that lived in a tree with his mom. But Black Beetle was a very sad beetle, because there was a big bully beetle named Boris who used to tease him all the time. You see, Boris had colors and polka dots and stripes all over, but Black Beetle was a plain beetle without colors or polka dots or stripes. Black Beetle's mom wanted to make him feel better, so she sang him a very special song:

"Black Beetle, Black Beetle
Whatcha doing feeling so blue
Black Beetle, Black Beetle
I wouldn't be sad if I were you
Because it doesn't matter if you're black or brown
Or if you have colors all around
What matters is that you're beautiful just the way that you are."

Black Beetle said: "I appreciate that mom, but YOU don't have Boris the bully beetle teasing YOU all the time because you're just a plain old beetle and don't have colors or polka-dots or stripes! Thanks anyway. About that time, Black Beetle's best friend Brenda came over and said: "C'mon, Black Beetle, let's go out and play!" Black Beetle said: "I don't feel like going out there, because Boris is going to tease me." Brenda looked at Black Beetle's mom, and then they both started singing that very same special song.

(Sing the special song)

Black Beetle thought about it, and finally decided to go out and play. He had a great time too, since Brenda and his other buddies were there, until...can you guess who showed up? BORIS! He started teasing Black Beetle, saying, "Look at that ugly old Black Beetle. He doesn't have beautiful colors and stripes and polka-dots like me. Everybody look at me! But don't pay any attention to that ugly old Black Beetle." All of a sudden, a big crow came swooping down! He saw all of Boris's bright colors and picked him right up and carried him away! You know, that crow didn't even see Black Beetle because of the very thing that Boris was teasing him about. He was CAMOUFLAGED. That's when all of the other beetles realized that you should never tease anybody because of what they look like, right? Right!

(Sing the special song)

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PIRATE SCOOTERDOO

by Shana Banana Smith
c. 2000

There once was a pirate brave & strong who sailed the high seas
His name was Pirate Scooterdoo and he really loved to read
He sailed to the east, he sailed to the west
He sailed to the north, he sailed to the south
For out there where the boat did sway, he could read his books
the whole long day.

Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR

Now Scooterdoo wasn't ordinary, and he wasn't mean and fierce
For on the sea his favorite thing was reading lots of books
He sailed to the east, he sailed to the west
He sailed to the north, he sailed to the south
For out there where the boat did sway, he could read his books
the whole long day.

Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR

One day there came a great monsoon which swept him out to
sea
He landed on the steps of a great library
He looked to the east, he looked to the west
He looked to the north, he looked to the south
For out there where the books did lay, he could read his books
the whole long day.

Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
Yo-ho, yo-ho Pirate Scooterdoo RRRRR
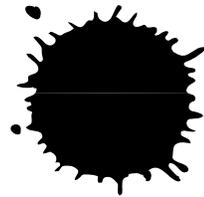
COLORING AND DRAWING PAGE

Color the Giant Peach.
Draw a picture of Momotaro jumping out of the top of the peach.
Draw a picture of the surprised old woman underneath the peach.

IDENTIFYING FAIRY TALE ELEMENTS

Look at each picture. Circle the pictures that show something you might find in a fairy tale. Put an "X" through the pictures that would NOT belong in a fairy tale.

Sunshine State Standard Applications:

- ❖ (LA.E.1.2) Understands the development of plot and how conflicts are resolved in a story.
- ❖ (LA.E.1.1) Identifies the story elements of setting, plot, character, problem, and solution/resolution.
- ❖ (LA.D.2.1) Understands that word choice can shape ideas, feelings, and actions.
- ❖ (MU.D.1.1) Understands how music can communicate ideas suggesting events, feelings, moods, or images.
- ❖ (MU.E.2.1) Knows appropriate audience behavior in a given music setting (e.g., religious service, symphony, concert, and folk or pop concert).
- ❖ (TH.E.1.2) Understands theatre as a social function and theatre etiquette as the responsibility of the audience

Study Guide created for Shana Banana Enterprises, Inc. by Shana Smith and Strictly Entertainment, Inc.