



Teacher Resource Guide: **Guess How Much I Love You?** & **I Love My Little Storybook**



The lessons and activities in this guide are driven by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects (2010) which help ensure that all students are college and career ready in literacy no later than the end of high school. The College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening and Language define general, cross-disciplinary literacy expectations that must be met for students to be prepared to enter college and workforce training programs ready to succeed.

21st century skills of creativity, critical thinking and collaboration are embedded in the process of bringing the page to the stage. Seeing live theater encourages students to read, develop critical and creative thinking and to be curious about the world around them.

This Teacher Resource Guide includes background information, questions, and activities that can stand alone or work as building blocks toward the creation of a complete unit of classroom work.



Community engagement and education programs at PlayhouseSquare are made possible by the generous support of foundations, corporations and donors.



Before the Show

- About the Performance
- About the Artist
- Coming to the Theater

Pre-Show Activities

- Guessing to Know You
- Guess How Many, How Big, How Long
- How Far?

Post-Show Activities

- Pull a Story Out of a Hat
- Story Starters
- Create a Journey Together

The following is a partial list of Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy, History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects that align with the performance, lessons and activities found in the Teacher Resource Guide:

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Writing

- Text Types and Purposes
- Production and Distribution of Writing

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening

- Comprehension and Collaboration
- Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Language

- Conventions of Standard English
- Knowledge of Language
- Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

Counting and Cardinality K.CC

Know number names and the count sequence.

Measurement and Data 2.MD

Measure and estimate lengths in standard units.



ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

Guess How Much I Love You? & I Love My Little Storybook

Little Nutbrown Hare loves Big Nutbrown Hare as far as he can reach and as high as he can hop. But Big Nutbrown Hare loves him as far as his long arms can reach and as high as his strong legs can hop. And so it continues... Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia adapts the award winning classic *Guess How Much I Love You?* from author Sam McBratney and illustrator Anita Jeram.

In *I Love My Little Storybook*, an eager little bunny lies on the grass and opens his book. Within moments, the story he's reading comes alive in fascinating detail. Illustrator Anita Jeram brings us this endearing celebration of the joy of reading.

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia presents *Guess How Much I Love You & I Love My Little Storybook*, adapted, directed and designed by Jim Morrow with music by Steven Naylor and narration by Beau Bridges.

About Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Mermaid Theatre was founded in 1972. Their unique adaptations of children's literature have delighted more than four million young people on four continents. Mermaid regularly crosses North America, and has represented Canada in Japan, Mexico, Australia, England, Northern Ireland, Holland, Scotland, Wales, Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam and Ireland. Mermaid has earned Export Excellence Awards from both Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada in recognition for contributions to the Province's culture and economy. The company merited an award for Best Performing Group from the Canadian Arts Presenting Association, and received the Crystal Tourism Ambassador Award from Nova Scotia's tourism industry leaders.





COMING TO THE THEATER!

PlayhouseSquare is an exciting venue to see live theater! As the country's largest performing arts center outside of New York, the not-for-profit performing arts center utilizes the arts to engage individuals and attract more than one million guests per year to 1,000+ annual events. PlayhouseSquare thus acts as a catalyst for economic growth and vitality within the region.

As audience members, you and your students play a vital role in the success of the performances. You are part of a community that creates the theater experience. For many students, this may be their first time viewing a live theater production. We encourage teachers to discuss some of the differences between watching a television show, attending a sporting event or viewing a movie at the cinema. Here are a few examples to start the discussion:

- ▶ Students are led into the theater and seated by an usher.
- ▶ Theaters are built to magnify sound. Even the slightest whisper can be heard throughout the theater. Remember that not only can those around you hear you, the performers can too.
- ▶ Appropriate responses such as laughing or applauding are appreciated. Pay attention to the artists on stage; they will let you know what is appropriate.
- ▶ There is no food, drink or gum permitted in the theater. Photography and videotaping of performances is not permitted.
- ▶ When the houselights dim, the performance is about to begin. Please turn your attention toward the stage.
- ▶ After the performance, you will be dismissed by bus number. Check around your seat to make sure you have all of your personal belongings.





PRE-SHOW **ACTIVITIES**

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening
Comprehension and Collaboration 1

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Language
Conventions of Standard English 1

Guessing to Know You

In this activity, your students can play a guessing game to get to know each other better. Pair your students and invite them to ask each other to guess things about themselves. For instance: Guess what my favorite TV show is? Guess how many brothers and sisters I have? Each student has three tries to guess, after which his or her partner reveals the answer.



Counting and Cardinality K.CC

Know number names and the count sequence.

Measurement and Data 2.MD

Measure and estimate lengths in standard units.

Guess How Many, How Big, How Long

Engage the class in a series of estimation games: How many pennies are in the jar? How many steps from the front of the classroom to the back? How long is each child's arm? After the students make their guesses, find out the actual answers. How accurate were their estimates?



How Far?

In the story, Little Nutbrown Hare and Big Nutbrown Hare express their love for each other in farther and farther distances. Ask your students to measure progressively farther distances: from one desk to another, from one side of the classroom to the other, from the classroom to the lunchroom, from one side of the playground to the other, from the school to each of your students' homes, from the school to the mall, and so on until you measure the distance from Earth to the moon. . .and back. For the longer distances, maps and the Internet may be helpful.





POST-SHOW ACTIVITIES

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Writing

Text Types and Purposes 3

Production and Distribution of Writing 4,5

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas 4

Pull a Story Out of a Hat

On small pieces of paper, write the names of the characters from *I Love My Little Storybook*: the friendly lion, the frog prince, the princess, the giant, the little bunny, the fairies or any other favorites. Place the names in a hat or basket, and ask each student to pull out a name. Then ask students to write a story about the character they pulled out of the hat. You may also ask children to write a story about their favorite character in the book or play. Students can then read or perform their stories in front of the class. The “audience” can guess who they are portraying.

Story Starters

The previous activity can work well with story starters too. Instead of writing characters’ names on slips of paper, write a variety of opening lines based on illustrations in the book. For instance: “Once upon a time, a little bunny dove under the water to tell the fishes something very important.” Ask your students to use the opening line they pick out of the basket or hat to start a story.

Create a Journey Together

Write a class story about a magical place that you can reach only in the pages of your story. What would it be like? Would it be a forest, a magical city, or a place in outer space? Who would live there? What would they look like? What would happen to them? Once students have chosen a location, they can lead the teacher on a journey there (what would we need to bring, how would we travel there, etc.). The journey can then be performed in the space of the classroom as it is told (“Let’s all create the path up the mountain together. . .”).

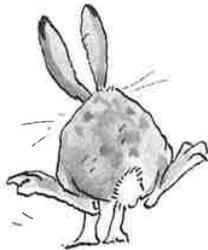
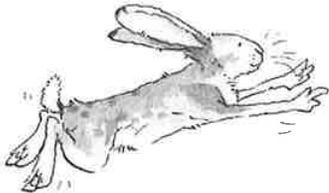




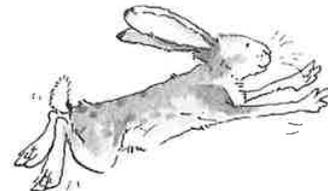
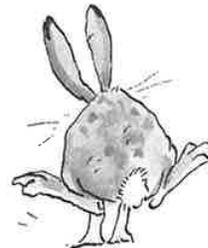
Matching Game

Draw a line from Little Nutbrown Hare in column 1 to the matching image in column 2.

column 1



column 2



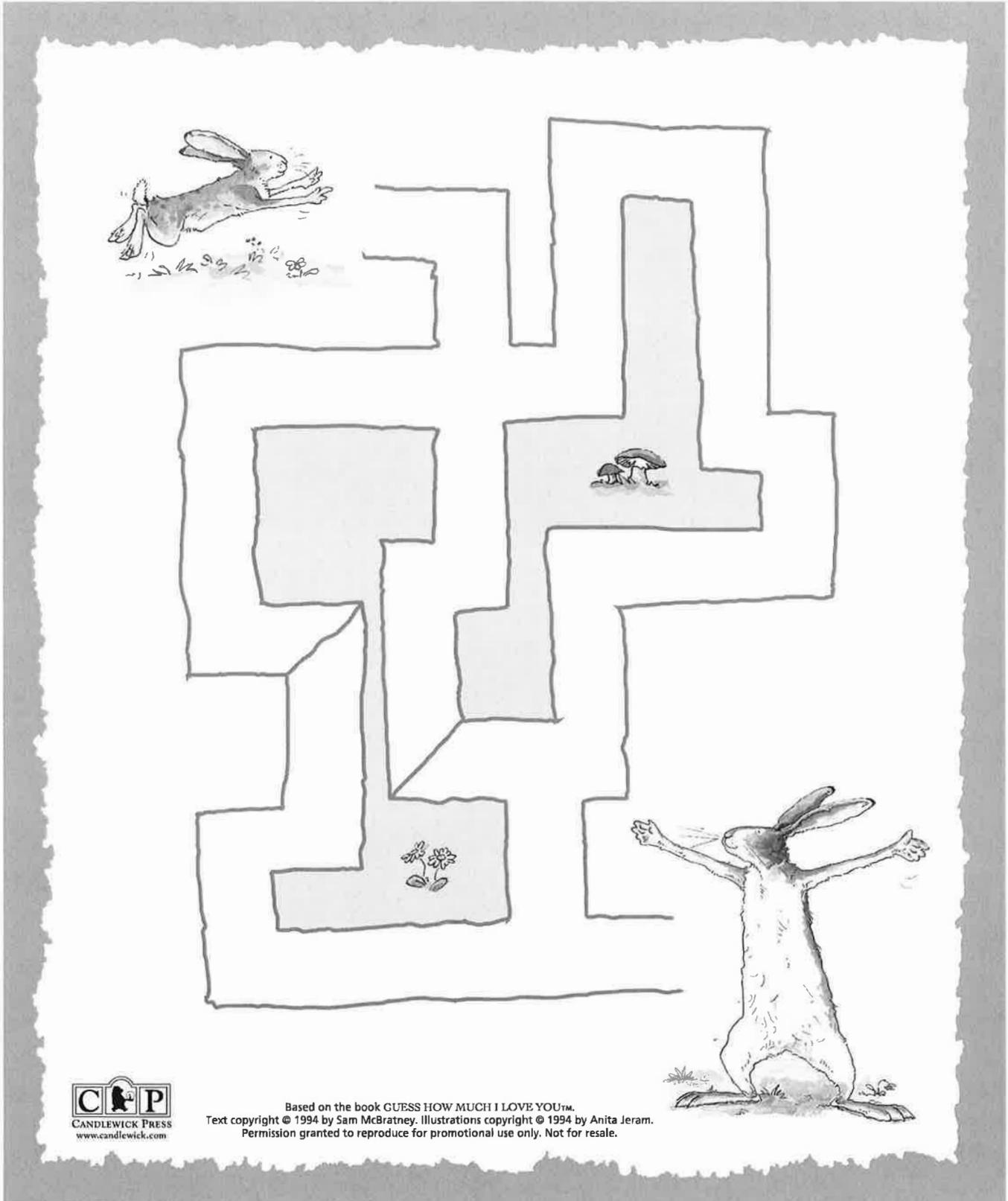
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Maze

Help Little Nutbrown Hare find Big Nutbrown Hare.



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