



## The Jungle Book

Adapted by  
April-Dawn  
Gladu

Based on the  
book  
*The Jungle Book*  
By Rudyard  
Kipling



Presents the Darden  
Theater for Young  
Audiences Series

## The Jungle Book

### About the Show

Set in lavish, ancestral India, this brand new adaptation of *The Jungle Book* follows the story of Mowgli the man-cub as he encounters Baloo the bear, Bagheera the panther, Shere Khan the tiger and a host of other unique creatures.

**A comment from playwright April-Dawn Gladu:** As I write this play I am allowing myself to enjoy exploring the relationship of animals and humans. A secret part of me believes that there is a way to communicate with all creatures, if we only took the time to listen. Mowgli had that time and, because he didn't know it couldn't be done, he learned the language of the jungle. I am also exploring the universal experience of being a part of a family. I believe in Kipling's portrayal of the wolf family as a place of loyalty and love.

### About the Festival

Now in our 17<sup>th</sup> season, the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival is a non-profit, professional theater that presents productions of Shakespeare, classic and contemporary plays, as well as the Darden Theater for Young Audiences Series. The Festival also cultivates new scripts and playwrights through the annual Harriet Lake Festival of New Plays and fosters innovative educational programs to serve the community.

### Our Name

Our company began 17 years ago as an offshoot of UCF. Though we are currently a separate organization, located in Loch Haven Park, and employing professional actors, directors and designers (not students), we keep the UCF in our name in respect to our history.

### Scholarships

Through the generosity of a few Central Florida businesses and foundations, the Festival is able to visit a number of schools every year to present our unique workshops FOR FREE! To find out if you qualify for a scholarship please call the Education Director at 407-447-1700 x208.

This Study Guide is sponsored in part by Harcourt School Publishers



# Theater Etiquette Guidelines

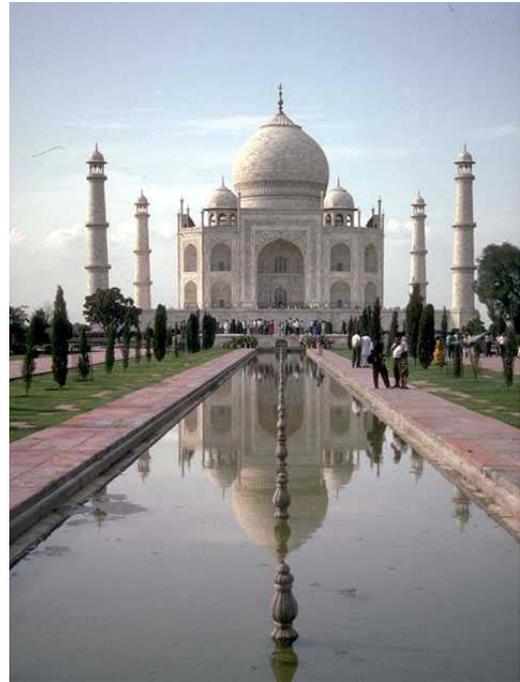
## Theater Etiquette Guidelines for *The Jungle Book*:

- ◆ Once inside the theater, please turn off all cell phones, beepers, video games, and alarms. These sounds could disrupt your neighbors and the actors onstage.
- ◆ Don't bring any refreshments into the theater, including gum and candy.
- ◆ Once the show has begun, please keep your focus onstage and don't talk to your neighbors. Unlike a recorded television show or film, the actors onstage can hear you. You don't want to disturb the jungle animals!
- ◆ The magic created in a theater depends on the audience and the performers working together, so it's important to pay attention to everything that's happening onstage. In live theater, each performance holds different possibilities and outcomes. If you went to see a play twice, you would notice certain things were different each time, even though you were seeing the same play!
- ◆ Let yourself be a part of the magic! Even though you shouldn't discuss the show with your neighbors during the performance, please feel free to have fun. You can laugh if you see something funny, or even cry if you see something sad. You can also clap or sing along with the music (if you know the words).
- ◆ At the end of the show, please show the actors your appreciation for performing for you by cheers and applause. Remember, the actors onstage can hear you, and they would love to have your support and encouragement.
- ◆ Pay attention to the show's "message" or themes, and ask yourself how they relate to your life.
- ◆ If you had a good time, share your theater experience with a parent or friend!

# Background Information

## Exploring India

The story of *The Jungle Book* takes place in India. Yet where is India located? India is in south Asia, between Pakistan, Nepal, and China. The land is made up of many different regions, from the mountainous land of the Himalayas along its northern borders to tropical rainforests, deserts, and beaches in the south. In June, wind and warm water currents create the south-west monsoon, and this brings heavy rain to the west coast. In between October and December, wind and warm water currents in the east create the north-east monsoon, and this brings heavy rain to the east coast. Although monsoons create images of horrible mudslides and devastation, these yearly occurrences are much less serious than they sound, and are actually profitable tourist seasons for the country of India.



*Completed in 1653 C.E., The Taj Mahal was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as the final resting place for his Queen, Mumtaz.*

In India, the largest religion practiced is **Hinduism**. Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world, following Christianity and Islam, and it is claimed that Hinduism is the world's oldest organized religion. Hinduism has many forms, but it is best described as a henotheistic religion. This means that followers of Hinduism believe in one supreme deity, but they also distinguish other gods and goddesses as being representative of that one supreme deity. Hindus also believe that the soul is transferred after death, so there is a cycle of birth, life, death, and rebirth. Hindus seek to improve their karma (or a total of good and bad deeds within a lifetime), so that they can achieve a higher "level" in their next life.

Historically, India is the largest, oldest continuous civilization in the world. Now, India is the seventh largest country in the world, spanning 3.3 million square kilometer. Also, India has the second highest population in the world, with nearly 1 billion citizens. Although English is the main language used for trade and politics, there are fourteen official languages. Sanskrit, a language developed in India, has had influences on all European languages, even computer software. India is truly diverse, from its land to its customs, and there is much to discover about this fascinating country.

# Before the Performance (Grades Pre-K-Kindergarten)

## Diwali: Festival of Lights

The word Diwali means “row of lights.” Lakshmi (LA-kshmee) the goddess of good fortune and wealth, has come to symbolize Diwali for many Hindus. They believe that Lakshmi blesses homes and businesses on Diwali. People light lamps so Lakshmi can find their homes. Lakshmi is depicted as a beautiful woman of golden complexion, with four hands, sitting or standing on a full-bloomed lotus and holding a lotus bud, which stands for beauty and purity. Color this picture of Lakshmi and her lotus flowers, and remember to make her complexion golden. Lakshmi represents good fortune to many people. What represents good fortune to you? Next to your colored picture of Lakshmi, draw your own ideas of good fortune and explain your drawing to the class.



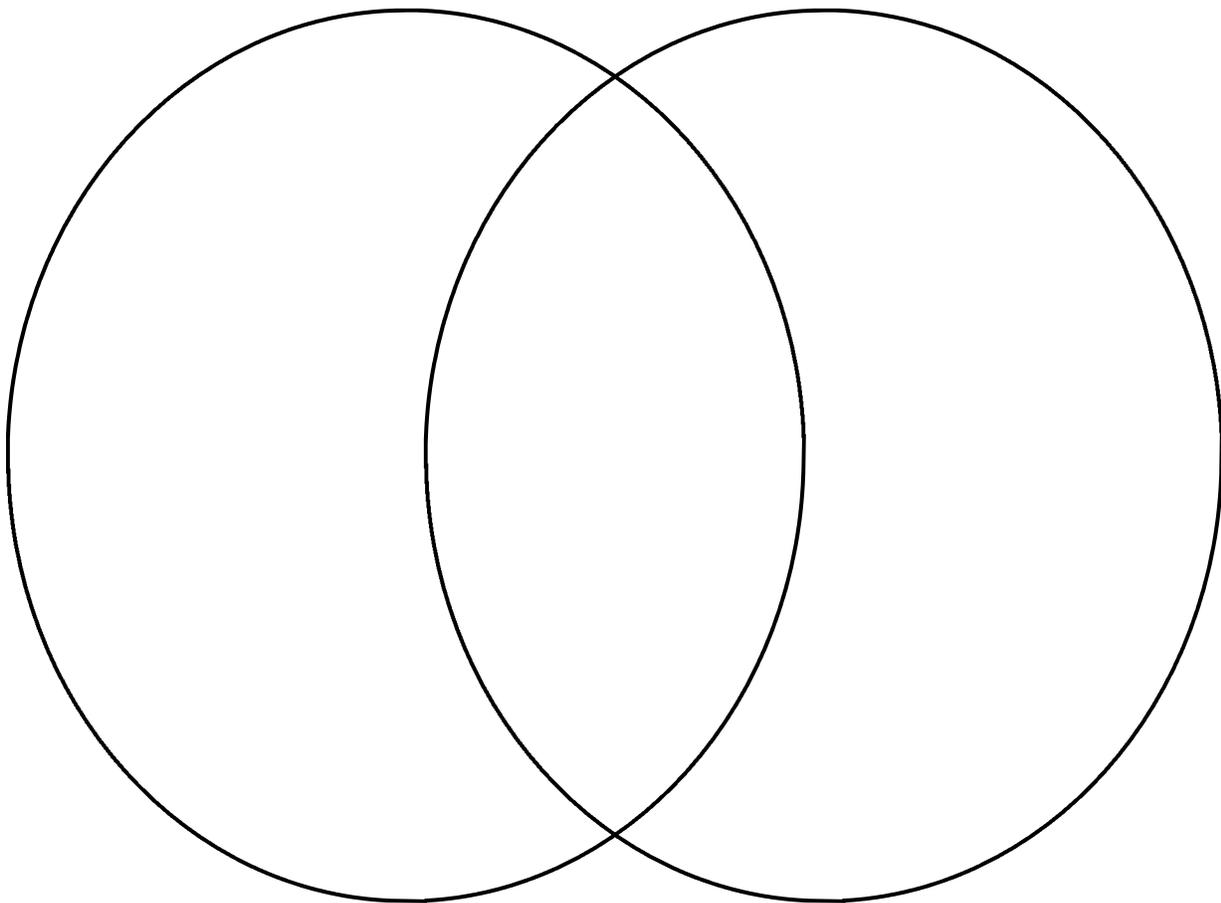
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## Before the Performance (Grades 1-2)

### The Festival of Diwali: Light and Family

In *The Jungle Book*, the play opens and closes with Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights. Diwali typically occurs in late October or early November. This festival principally honors Lakshmi (Lakshme), who is the goddess of good fortune and wealth. Diwali is a time to celebrate family, give gifts and cards, and make sweets. Many families decorate their homes with flowers, since Lakshmi is said to love flowers. The lighting of diyas or divas (lamps and earthen candles) carries much significance. The light represents a time to rejoice, as light brings people out of darkness and symbolizes hope. The Festival of Lights also celebrates the homecoming of Rama, an ancient Indian Prince, who returned from a 14 year exile after defeating the evil King Ravana in battle. Also, as Diwali honors the presence of Lakshmi, lamps and candles are lit to symbolically guide Lakshmi to people's homes, so they will be visited with good fortune and wealth in the coming year. What more can you learn about Diwali? With the help of a grownup, look up more Diwali information on the internet, or in your local library. Then compare Diwali with your favorite holiday. Use this Venn Diagram to list the similarities and differences between Diwali and your favorite holiday.

### VENN DIAGRAM



**Diwali-Festival of Lights**

**Your Favorite Holiday**

LA.C.1.1, LA.D.1.1, SS.B.1.1, SS.B.2.1

# Before the Performance (Grades 3-5)

## Diwali: The Origins

The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival's production of *The Jungle Book* begins and ends during Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights. Following is the story of Rama, the mythical king who is credited with the origin of Diwali. Read the story out loud as a class. After you've finished, nominate six actors to play the characters in the story. As the story is read aloud again, the actors will perform the actions of the characters. The battles (such as the one between RAMA and RAVANA) should be suggested by striking frozen "fighting poses."

## The Characters

THE KING

RAMA – the king's favorite son

LAKSHMAN– a strong and loyal brother to RAMA

SITA– a royal princess

HANUMAN – a god who appeared in the form of a monkey. He is respected for his courage, power and faithful, selfless service.

RAVANA – the rich, powerful and evil king of Lanka. He is sometimes painted with **ten heads** to signify his great knowledge. (Today, Lanka is called Shri Lanka. It is an island off the southern tip of India)

## The Story

Long ago THE KING who ruled in northern India had three wives. He also had four sons: RAMA, LAKSHMAN (LA-kshman), Bharat (BHAA-rat) and Shatrugan (SHA-trughan).

RAMA was brave and handsome and good with a bow and arrow. The people of the kingdom loved him. RAMA always tried to do good deeds. When he grew up he married SITA (SEE-taa) and became a good husband.

THE KING wanted RAMA to be the next king but one of his wives objected. She wanted her son, Bharat, to be the next king. She also asked THE KING to send RAMA away or exile him.

Earlier, THE KING had promised to give his wife two wishes. Even though he was heartsick, he had to honor his word. He exiled RAMA from the kingdom for 14 years. RAMA quietly obeyed his father. He left with SITA and his brother LAKSHMAN. They wandered in the thick jungles for many years, living off berries, nuts and small animals that RAMA and LAKSHMAN hunted. Often they fought with wild animals or evil demons, but RAMA always won.

One day RAVANA, the ten-headed king of the island Lanka kidnapped SITA and took her to his palace. RAMA was heartbroken. He and LAKSHMAN searched everywhere for SITA. Then HANUMAN, a god in the form of a monkey, agreed to help him. HANUMAN flew across the ocean and found SITA sitting in RAVANA'S garden. He dropped RAMA'S ring into SITA'S lap and told her that help was on the way.

All of the animals of the jungle helped RAMA and LAKSHMAN build a bridge across the ocean to Lanka. RAMA traveled across, defeated RAVANA in a battle, and rescued SITA.

The fourteen years of exile were over. RAMA, SITA and LAKSHMAN returned home under a new moon. RAMA was crowned King and the joyous people lit lamps to celebrate and welcome him home. And that is why today Indian people celebrate Diwali as the festival of lights.

# After the Performance (Grades Pre-K-Kindergarten)

## Watching Wildlife

In *The Jungle Book*, the story is set in India. There are many animals that are indigenous, or native to India. One of these animals, represented by the character of Shere Khan, is the Royal Bengal Tiger. The Royal Bengal Tiger is an endangered animal, and many wildlife sanctuaries have been set up to protect this species. The Royal Bengal Tiger lives in the wild throughout India, and is known as the “King of the Jungle.” Royal Bengal Tigers have eyesight that is 6 times better than humans, and they grow to be 6 to 9 feet in length. Hopefully, the efforts taken in India to preserve and protect these beautiful animals will make certain that Royal Bengal Tigers will be around for many years to come.

## Identifying Shere Khan

Shere Khan is trying to hide from the other animals of the jungles, and it’s your job to find him. Look at the following pictures, and see if you can identify Shere Khan. He has one feature that is different from the rest. After you’ve found Shere Khan, count the tigers. How many tigers do you see?



For more information on wildlife in India, please visit:  
<http://www.india-wildlife-tours.com/wild-animals-in-india/>

# After the Performance (Grades 1-2)

## Acting Like Animals

In the Festival's production of *The Jungle Book*, many of the actors played the roles of jungle animals in the show. How did they do that? In any theater production, an actor has three key resources at their disposal: their bodies, their voices, and their imagination. In order to create characters, an actor must be aware of what body language and movement can convey. Similarly, their vocal energy and inflections can express a lot about their character. Of the utmost importance, however, is an actor's imagination. The more free that an actor is to imagine what life might be like as another person or animal, the more rich the character they create can become. Practice these following games with your friends, and have fun **expressing** yourself! In these games, the world is your stage.

### “Yes, Let’s”

- As a class, or a group of ten or more, find an area with plenty of room to move around in and be noisy! An outside field area might be best.
- Choose a leader for this exercise. The leader makes a suggestion that everyone in the group can follow, by asking “Let’s.....” For example, the leader may say, “Let’s walk in quicksand.”
- At the leader’s suggestion, everyone else accepts the activity by shouting, “Yes, let’s...” Following the previous example, the group would shout, “Yes, let’s walk in quicksand.”
- After the suggestion has been accepted, everyone in the group, including the leader, follows the activity. For example, everyone would pretend that they were walking in quicksand, making the physical gestures and grunts and groans appropriate to the situation.
- The game continues with the leader shouting out three suggestions (other examples might be: let’s be tortoises, let’s do-si-do, etc.), and then the game changes leaders. The most important rules of the game are to have fun and be creative!

### Animal Acts

- Research one of your favorite jungle animals by reading books or watching nature programs so that you understand how your animal looks and moves.
- After everyone in the class has researched an animal, come together in a large circle. The teacher will choose a student to start this exercise.
- The first student chosen will go into the middle of the circle. Using the knowledge that they acquired, and their imagination, they will move and speak as if they were their favorite animal. The rest of the students will try to guess what kind of animal the student is.
- The movement continues around the circle until each student has had a chance to perform
- Make your choices as extreme as you like, while still conveying your animal’s characteristics!

## After the Performance (Grades 3-5)

### Raising the Flag

In most countries, a national flag is a source of pride. The designs and colors of flags signify unique ideas and values of each country. In India, the flag is tri-colored, with the colors of saffron (or a deep orange), white and dark green. In the center of the flag, on the white coloring, lies a dark blue wheel with 24 spokes. The wheel demonstrates that movement is life and stillness is death. The color of saffron symbolizes courage and sacrifice, the color of white stands for purity and truth, and the color of dark green represents faith and fertility. Adopted on

July 22, 1947, this flag stands for freedom. As Mahatma Gandhi said, “It will be necessary for us Indians—Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Jews, Parsis and all others to whom India is their home—to recognize a common flag to live and die for.”



### Design It!

Imagine that you have been given the commission to design a flag for your classroom. With a large sheet of paper, colored pencils, crayons, markers, or paint, construct an original design for your flag. Consider the following elements very carefully:

- Symbolism—what virtues do you think are important about the students in your classroom? How would you represent them in a design?
- Color—what do different colors represent to you? How can you make these colors work to symbolize how you feel about your class?

After completing the project, take turns explaining your design to the rest of the class. After each student has explained their project, vote to decide whose flag should represent your classroom. Display the flag for everyone to see!

**For more information on the Indian flag, please visit:**  
[http://www.indianchild.com/flag\\_of\\_india.htm](http://www.indianchild.com/flag_of_india.htm)

## Constructing a Critique

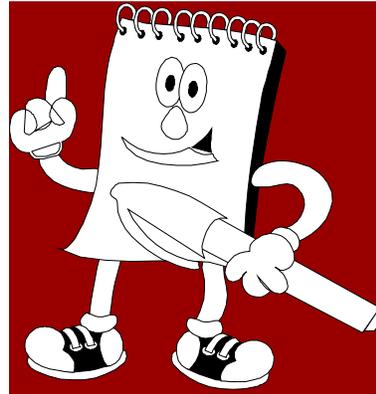
After seeing a play, we are often filled with emotional reactions based on what we've experienced. What thoughts and feelings did you have after viewing **The Jungle Book**? Write or draw (for younger students) a critique of the show, and present your thoughts to the rest of the class.

### What is a critique?

A critique is an essay or article that expresses an individual's opinion of an artist's work, such as a painting, play or book.

### What is a critic?

A critic is the individual expressing their opinion, or the author of the critique. Critics are relied upon to be honest and fair about their thoughts, feelings, likes and dislikes.



### What did you think?

What is your honest opinion of **The Jungle Book**? What elements of the show did you like or dislike and why? Don't forget to consider all of the elements of the show (ex: lighting, costuming, music, acting, etc.) Would you recommend this production to someone else? Why or why not?

The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival would like to thank the following sponsors:



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### Further Reading

If you liked **The Jungle Book**, look for these other books in the library, your local bookstore or online bookseller\*:

*Tarzan of the Apes*  
 By Edgar Rice Burroughs

*Memily*  
 by Stephen Cosgrove

*Robinson Crusoe*  
 By Daniel Defoe

*Evangeline Mudd and the Golden-Haired Apes of the Ikkinasti Jungle*  
 by David Elliot

*The Wind in the Willows*  
 by Kenneth Grahame

*India the Culture*  
 by Bobbie Kalman

*Diwali: Hindu Festival of Lights*  
 By Dianne M. MacMillan

*Treasure Island*  
 by Robert Louis Stevenson

\*don't forget to ask for permission before using the internet

