STUDY GUIDE



Have You Filled a Bucket Today: The Musical

by Scott Wichmann and Jason Marks

Audience: Students in grades K-5

Additional Resources:

Bucket Fillers, Inc.

www.bucketfillers101.com
Since 2006, Bucket Fillers, Inc. has been busy creating bucketfilling schools, families, workplaces, and communities. They do this through their books, presentations, products, and free downloadable resources, all designed to help spread the message of bucket filling.

Cyberbullying Research Center

cyberbullying.org/

The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying.

Have You Filled a Bucket Today?: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids by Carol McCloud (Author), David Messing (Illustrator)

Public Broadcast Service (PBS) Learning Media

http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/ PBS LearningMedia provides PreK-12 educators with access to free digital content and professional development opportunities designed to improve teacher effectiveness and student achievement.

U.S. Department of Education

www2.ed.gov/teachers/how/ character/edpicks.jhtml Character Education Resources



This brand new, fun-filled musical from Virginia Repertory Theatre is based on the concepts in Carol McCloud's award-winning children's books, Have You Filled a Bucket Today? and Growing Up with a Bucket Full of Happiness. The books and play use the concept of a "bucket" to show students how to express kindness, appreciation and love to be "bucket-fillers."

The play focuses on the benefits of positive, thoughtful behavior. Have you Filled a Bucket Today: The Musical relays the joys of friendship and compassion for both the receiver and the giver. Help teach students to be bucket-fillers rather than bucket-dippers with this musical performance designed to promote healthy relationships, self-esteem, and bring character education to front-and-center stage at your school.

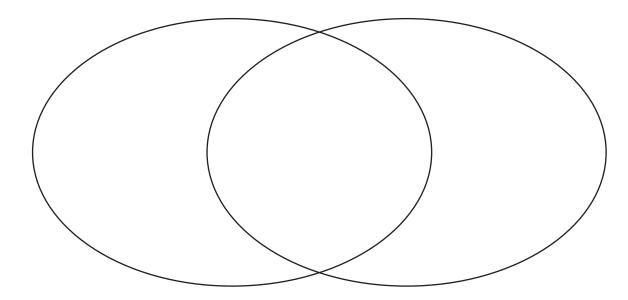
Filling Each Other's Buckets

In this cooperative learning activity, students will create books for each other that help fill buckets! Making the books is a great way to practice being a bucket-filler. Follow the steps below:

- 1, Divide the class into two groups of about 10 students.
- 2. Distribute half-sheets of paper (copier paper is fine). Each child will need 10 sheets (or one for each student in their group).
- 3. Discuss the concept of bucket-filling. Brainstorm some specific words of kindness that students and teachers sometimes share (e.g., "Charlise is great at math, and she is always willing to help out her classmates when they get stuck on a problem.")
- 4. Ask each student to write their own name at the top of each sheet of paper on their desk. The goal is to pass the sheets around, round-robin style, and for each child to write (and/or illustrate) a kind word or phrase about the child whose name is at the top of that sheet.
- 5. At the end, pass each sheet back to the child whose name is on the top, and have students illustrate a cover for their bucket-filling book, and staple it together.

Comparing Literature to Theater

Read Have You Filled a Bucket Today?: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids, and use the Venn diagram below to compare the book with the play. What are the similarities and differences you notice?



Writing About Bucket-Filling

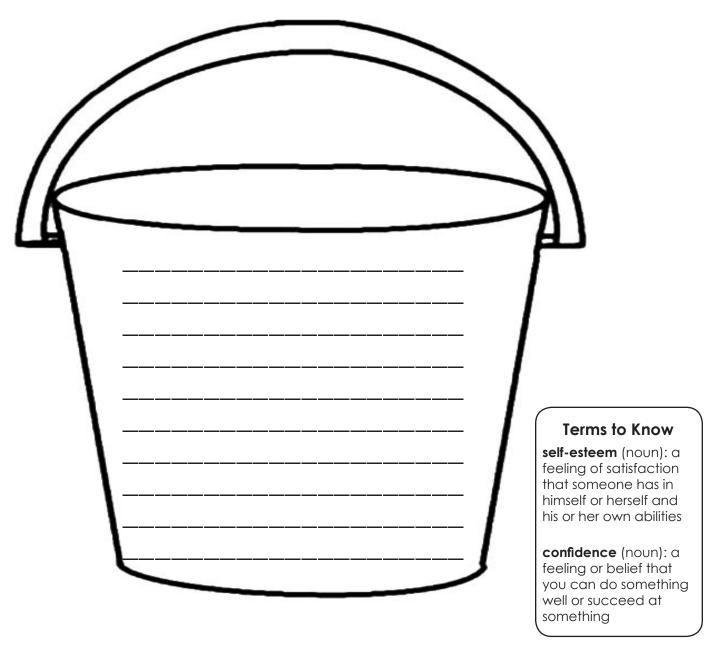
Choose one of the following:

Fiction

Write a story about a character who changes from being a bucket-dipper to a bucket-filler. Think about the traits this character would possess, and how those traits change throughout the story. Be sure your story has a beginning, a middle, and an end.

Nonfiction

Research a person who is famous for being kind or giving to others. This person can be from history or it can be someone alive today. Write a short summary of the person's life. Include the traits that make this person a bucket-filler.







Behind the Curtains

Virginia Repertory Theatre

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Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents...

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by Scott Wichmann and Jason Marks

Virginia Repertory Theatre Nathaniel Shaw, Artistic Director Phil Whiteway, Managing Director

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Theater Etiquette



Clap, but know when to do so.

You should clap after a play, act, or song, or right before intermission. If you loved the show, you can give a "standing ovation" at the end. That's when you stand up while applauding.

It's quiet time (sort of).

If the play makes you laugh or cry, that is fine, but you can chat with your friends afterwards. Show the actors respect and quiet they need to focus on their roles. Being quiet allows the rest of the audience to concentrate on the play.

Many people with different skills and talents work together to make a production such as Have You Filled a Bucket Today: The Musical come to life. Can you match these theater jobs with their descriptions?

set designer

a person who plays a role or character in stage plays, motion pictures, television broadcasts, etc.

playwright

a person who creates the look of each character by designing clothes and accessories the actors will wear in performance.

stage manager

this person's job is to pull together all the pieces and parts of a play – the script, actors, set, costumes, lighting and sound, and music to create a production.

actor

this job focuses on using light to create effects that match the mood of various scenes in a performance.

costume designer

this person is a writer of scripts for plays. The script tells a story through the actions and words of the characters.

lighting designer

this person creates the physical surroundings of a play, including any scenery, furniture, or props used throughout the play.

director

this person helps the director and helps organize the actors, designers, stage crew, and technicians throughout the production of a play.