

PROGRAM

ERIE CANAL ADVENTURES

ARTIST NAME

The Wondermakers



AVAILABLE FORMATS

- Performance
- Single Workshop
- Multi-Session
Residency Workshop

GRADE LEVELS

- Pre-K
- K – 2nd
- 3rd – 5th
- 6th – 8th
- 9th – 12th

MAX NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

In-Person: **200**
Virtual:

PROGRAM LENGTH 45 minutes

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

ERIE CANAL ADVENTURES is a 45 minute long interactive story theatre program for children ages 3 - 10 and their families. This very audience participatory show includes songs, a dance, and lots of Erie Canal vocabulary. Children will learn about “tall tales” and Joshua the Frog, and they will help The Wondermakers act out folk tales about canal life and personnel. Audience volunteers get to “barge up on stage” and perform with The Wondermakers playing a host of roles including canallers, wolves, travelers on the Erie Canal, a dog, a mule, and a rooster! This is fun “edutainment” for the whole family!

CURRICULUM STANDARDS

This program supports these NYS or Next Generation Learning Standards:

Standard One: Students will actively engage in the creation and performance of the program by giving suggestions and responding appropriately to the actors.

Standard One: Students will demonstrate appropriate audience behavior at a theatrical performance.

Standard Three: Students will use improvisation to communicate feelings and ideas.

**Contact Arts for Learning WNY for more information.
(716) 881-0917 | info@artsforlearningwny.org**

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EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- 1). Cooperating with others
 - 2). Using your imagination
 - 3). Following directions
 - 4). Learning about the Erie Canal - including vocabulary
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LOGISTICS/EQUIPMENT

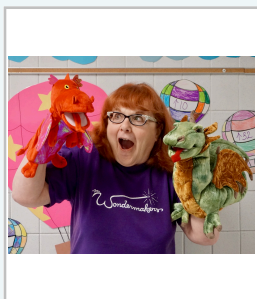
Table, 2 chairs, adequate lighting, backstage area and an adult to introduce the show.

VOCABULARY

Packet - a boat used to transport people on the Canal
Canal: A human-made waterway for boats and irrigation
Erie Canal – Refers to the main line of the 20th century Barge Canal or towpath-era Erie Canal that ran from Albany to Buffalo.
Clinton's Ditch: The nickname for the original Erie Canal, which opened in 1825
Towpath – A path alongside a canal used by horses or mules towing boats by means of a rope (“towrope”).
Hoggee: a mule driver
Cabin The enclosed space or house area on the canal
Canawler - people who worked on the canal

POST-PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & RESOURCES

Students can send in their pictures and letters--reviewing the show.
Students can read more folktales and write their own folktales.
Students can act out folktales in a story-theatre fashion--as they saw us do in the show.



ARTIST BIO

Gail Golden, the Director/Writer of Story Soup, started The Wondermakers in 1985. Over 3, 500 performances have been given to date in Western New York, Rochester, Cleveland, Orlando, Tampa, and Sarasota. Gail has a BFA in Theatre from Ithaca College and a Master's in Humanities from SUNY at Buffalo. Gail is also Director of Dramatic Solutions, a business theatre company, as well as an actress who has performed at Walt Disney World, Universal, and SeaWorld. Gail was also the original voice of Strawberry Shortcake!

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