



They Called Her Vivaldi

Theatre Lovett, Ireland

The play tells the story of a girl named Cecilia Maria, called Vivaldi by many for her musical gifts, and her father Edward M. Haberdasher who makes her a hat which she calls Capello. This hat offers comfort to Cecilia Maria from the loud noises of the outside world, and also helps her to see and compose the songs that come from the customers who enter her father's shop. Through the eyes and ears of this gifted young girl, the audience goes on an adventure to discover the gifts and talents hidden within the town of Triste.



Pre and post show discussion and activities

Here are a few suggestions to use before and after attending this performance.

The arts are a great topic for group discussion. This is when children are encouraged to express their opinions and preferences. It is an excellent opportunity for children to join in discussion without fear of being right or wrong

The Discussion:

Going to the theatre.

- Start with asking the children's previous experience in seeing a **live** show vs seeing a film. What might they see, hear, feel when they go see a live show. (Start an **Arts Toolbox** list on the board based on their responses. Add to your **Arts Toolbox** after seeing the show.)
- This is a good time to discuss Theatre Etiquette (see Etiquette Sheet)
- If possible show the class, the image of the production. What do they think they might see, hear or feel when they go see this show?
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Pre show Activity

(Teachers note: This performance is spoken in rhyme and the main character is convinced that her special abilities come from her Capello (hat) very much like a special good luck charm.)

- With out giving this fact away to your class, have them gather in pairs in a challenge to create a small scene, just decide a who, a what and a where. (**who** are they in this scene where are they (again keep it simple) and **what** are they doing (a simple activity like putting stamps on envelopes, making a cake, working on a puzzle, having a meal ..) When they have made these decisions add that when they speak they must speak in rhyme. Don't tell them why they are doing this. but remember this for the post show discussion. (the entire show is in rhyme)

Post Show Activity

- After the performance discuss what they saw and heard. What was familiar? What was confusing or surprising? What did they see that was interesting? What was their favourite part? What part didn't they understand or enjoy?
- Discuss the difference in believing in yourself vs believing in a 'Good Luck Charm like her Capello.