

ENRICHMENT GUIDE



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 **FIRST
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TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH THEATER

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DEAR FIRST STAGE FRIENDS,

And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows! The beloved TV classic *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* soars off the screen and returns to our stage this holiday season. From fleeing the Abominable Snow Monster to saving Christmas, join Rudolph and his friends, Hermey the Elf and Yukon Cornelius, as their adventures teach us that what makes you different can be what makes you special. Don't miss this wonderful holiday tradition that speaks to the little misfit in all of us.

Enjoy the show,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Coltyn Giltner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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SYNOPSIS

Our story begins in Christmastown, which is located at the North Pole. As the overture is heard, we read newspaper headlines describing the worst winter weather in history. Sam The Snowman appears and introduces himself. Sam tells the audience about his home, Christmastown, pointing to the Christmas Tree Forest and the castle where Santa and Mrs. Claus live. Inside the castle, Mrs. Claus is trying to encourage Santa to eat, but he is too busy wrapping gifts and sings *Holly Jolly Christmas*.

Sam The Snowman then recalls one Christmas when there was a terrible storm and how a very special reindeer saved the day! He begins to sing the story of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. Before the song ends, we see Donner, Mrs. Donner and their newborn named Rudolph. As they fawn over him, Rudolph's nose glows and makes a noise. While they want to ignore it, his nose is very bright. When Santa visits and sees Rudolph's nose, he warns Donner to do something about it if Rudolph is to join his sleigh some day. Santa sings *Jingle, Jingle, Jingle*. When Santa leaves, Donner hides Rudolph's nose and proceeds to teach Rudolph the ins and outs of how to be a reindeer.

Sam The Snowman then leads us back to Santa's house where we meet Santa's elves who are singing, *We Are Santa's Elves*. They are busy making toys, separating the ones that are misfits. Only one elf is distracted, Hermey. He is daydreaming about being a

dentist. He describes to his elf friends the wonders of dentistry. When Boss Elf chides him, Hermey sings *We're a Couple of Misfits*. Back at Donner's cave, Rudolph is describing his growing pains and trouble with his nose. Donner gives covers for his nose with mud. Rudolph doesn't want to wear it because it is uncomfortable.

Sam The Snowman describes how the seasons have passed and it is now April. All the fawns are with their families, meeting and greeting one another. They play reindeer games, led by Coach Comet. Rudolph joins in the flying game called Take Off. Coach Comet explains the rules. One anxious buck tries and falls. While Rudolph awaits his turn, he strikes up a conversation with a doe named, Clarice. Just as they are becoming friendly, it's Rudolph's turn to take off. Encouraged by thoughts of Clarice, Rudolph flies very high, impressing everyone, especially Santa! In celebration, the young bucks tussle with Rudolph. His nose cover falls off. Coach Comet is appalled and announces Rudolph may not join in any more reindeer games.

Embarrassed, Rudolph runs off as Clarice calls for him. When she catches up, he is sullen and asks if she is going to laugh at his different nose. Clarice doesn't. She says his nose is "handsome" and that any doe would be "lucky" to be with him. Rudolph worries about tomorrow and Clarice sings *There's Always Tomorrow* joined by woodland friends. As the song concludes, Coach Comet comes for his

SYNOPSIS CONT.

daughter and makes it clear that Clarice is to stay away from the red-nosed reindeer!

Sam The Snowman takes us back to Santa's Castle, where Boss Elf is preparing a lesson on elf-improvement. Santa listens in and exclaims the song needs work. As he leaves, Mrs. Claus encourages the elves, "What does Papa know? It's beautiful." As Boss Elf fusses, the elves explain it was their fault. They missed their main tenor, Hermey. Everyone discovers Hermey is sitting at a bench repairing the teeth of a doll. Boss Elf scolds him. Hermey says he just wanted to find a way to fit in. Feeling out of place, Hermey leaves Santa's castle.

Sam The Snowman leads us to the Christmas Tree Forest, where we find Hermey and Rudolph. The two misfits meet and become friends. All of a sudden, they hear a roar. It is the Abominable Snow Monster! Hermey and Rudolph run and hide.

Back at Christmastown, Donner and Mrs. Donner are worried about their son. Donner decides to look for Rudolph on his own. After he leaves, Mrs. Donner and Clarice also decide to look for him.

Suddenly Yukon Cornelius comes into the forest with his sleigh of mush dogs. As he prospects for gold, he finds Hermey and Rudolph behind a snow bank. After introductions, they hear the growl of the Abominable Snow Monster, called a Bumble by Yukon Cornelius. It's Rudolph's nose that is attracting the Bumble. The misfits decide to

join Yukon Cornelius as he makes his way to gather supplies and mine for silver and gold. Yukon Cornelius sings *Silver and Gold* as they float away on an iceberg. They get lost in fog as thick as peanut butter and land on the Island of Misfit Toys, where they meet Charlie-In-the-Box and other Misfit Toys. Rudolph asks if he and the others may live on the island, too. Charlie tells them they'd need permission from King Moonracer, the one who searches the earth for unwanted toys. He brings them to the island to live until they are wanted.

All go to King Moonracer's castle, who asks what they want. Rudolph speaks on their behalf. Moonracer tells them they cannot live on the island, because it is for misfits. Yukon declares, "You're a misfit among misfits." Moonracer asks if Rudolph and Hermey might help the misfit toys by telling Santa about them and finding a child to love them because, "A toy is never happy until it is loved by a child." Rudolph agrees to help. Moonracer welcomes them for an overnight stay.

PRE-SHOW QUESTIONS



1. *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* was first a Christmas song before it was turned into the animated television special that this musical is based on. How similar do you think the song, TV special, and musical are going to be? What might be different?
2. Rudolph's red, light-up nose makes him stand out from the other reindeer and helps him become a hero. It's what makes him special. Do you have a special skill or trait? What is it? How does it help you stand out from your friends and family?
3. This musical takes place in December, when a lot of different holidays-like Christmas and Hanukkah-happen around the world. What holiday traditions do you celebrate with your family or at school?

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

ACTIVITY

Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer the Musical takes place during the Christmas season. There are many different holidays and traditions that happen around the world during this time of year. Let's think about the different holiday traditions you celebrate! Are there certain traditions you do at home that you can bring to your classroom or from your classroom to your friend group? Using the materials listed and the directions, you can find your own way to introduce your traditions to more of your communities!

MATERIALS

- Venn Diagram (attached)
- Construction Paper of any color (printer paper works, too!)
- Markers/Crayons/Colored Pencils

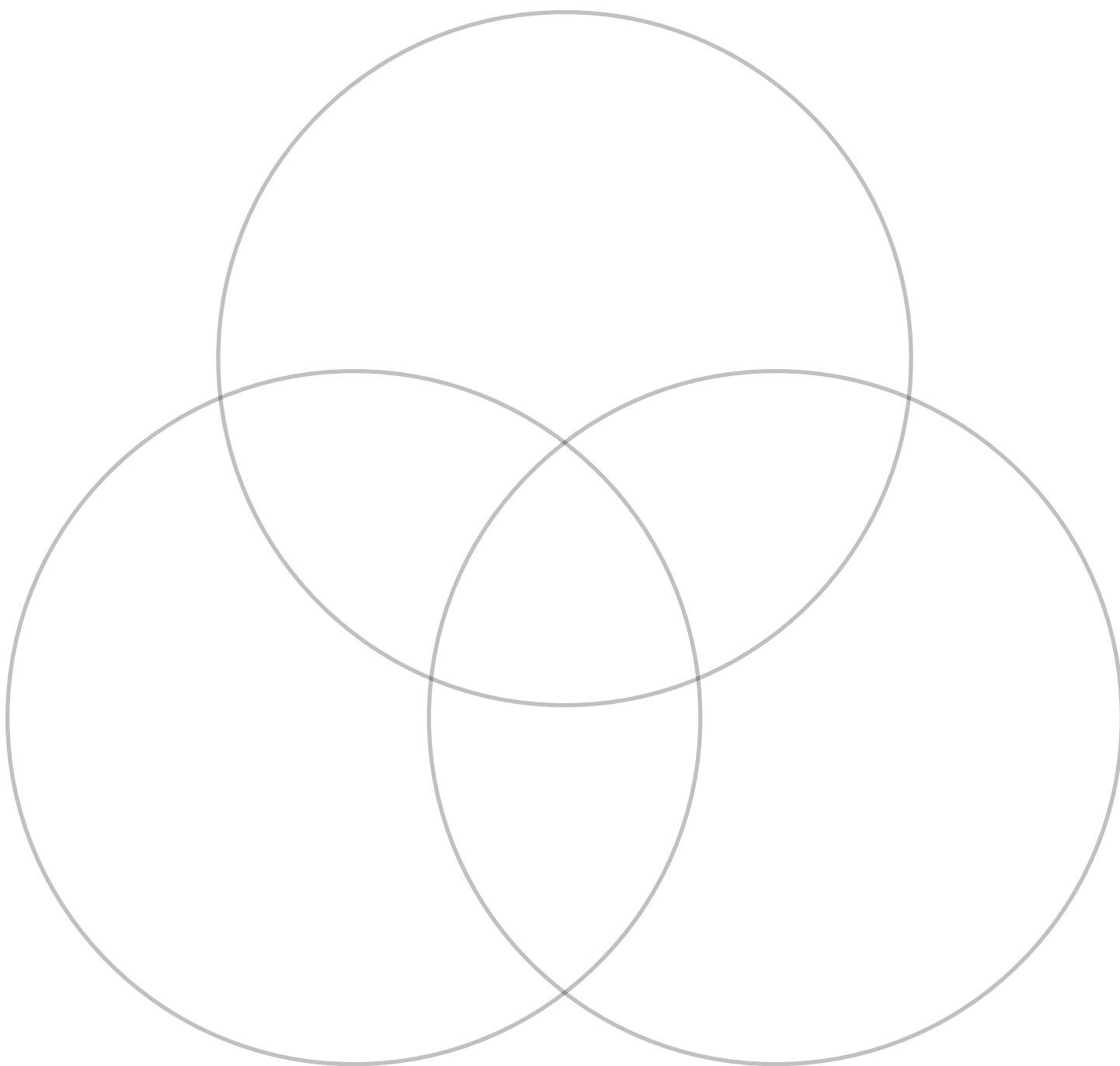
DIRECTIONS

1. Print out the copy of the venn diagram provided OR make your own on a poster using the one provided as an example for how it should look. Venn diagrams are used for figuring out what is similar and different between two or more things. Where the circles do overlap, you can put down what the things have in common. Where they do not overlap, you can write down what is special to each thing.
2. Start by filling in the largest sections. In these areas, write down details about the traditions you do with your family, school, and community that are NOT similar to the other traditions you do. Be as specific as possible. For example: does your family decorate your house in a certain way? What kind of decorations do you use? Is there a special meal you always have? Who do you spend this tradition with?
3. Then, consider what each tradition has in common and put this information in the sections where the circles overlap. For example: If you decorate your classroom and your home with twinkle lights, you can put that in the area where "Family" and "School" overlap. Or if you sing a certain holiday song with your family, school, and community (like at church or a community center), you can put that in the area where all three overlap.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

ACTIVITY

4. Once your venn diagram is filled out, consider what traditions you love the most that you wish could be shared between different groups. For example, perhaps your family makes cookies that you wish you could share with your classmates or there is an activity that your community does that you wish you could share with your family. What about this tradition do you really like and why do you want to share it with more people? Write these thoughts down on the lines provided.
5. A great way to share this tradition is to give a greeting card or a holiday card! Using your construction paper, fold it in half hamburger style to form a card. On the front cover, draw a picture of your favorite holiday tradition. On the inside of the card, write your own message wishing holiday cheer!
6. When your card is finished, give this card to someone you wish to share your tradition with – such as a family member, a close friend, or your teacher! Feel free to make as many cards as you'd like!



HOW I SHINE BRIGHT COLLAGE

ACTIVITY

What helps Rudolph achieve his dream of being on Santa's Sleigh Team is that he realizes that what makes him different is his most special quality. His nose helps him shine bright-literally! We also have traits and abilities that help us shine bright.

Using the directions below, you can create your own artwork to show off what makes you unique-how you shine bright.

MATERIALS

- Paper (scrap paper for brainstorming, and colorful paper for collage making)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Magazines and other materials for collage-making

DIRECTIONS

1. Start by gathering your materials for creating your collage. A collage is an artwork that is made by combining unrelated words, images, materials and arranging them into one unified arrangement that conveys a message or an emotion. Two famous collage artists are Della Wells and Matisse.
 - a. Your materials can be anything like scraps of colored paper; pieces of fabric, ribbon, or yarn; newspaper or magazine clippings. You can even use drawings that you've made or pictures you've taken!
2. Start with a blank piece of paper. On this paper, list all of the qualities about yourself that you like or are proud of. These could be something as simple as maybe you are great at drawing people or you tell hilarious jokes or as complex as you are a terrific listener or you are a strong leader. If you're struggling to create this list, ask friends, family members, or your teachers to describe some positive qualities you have.

HOW I SHINE BRIGHT COLLAGE

ACTIVITY

3. Take a look at the materials you gathered. What materials interest you? Is there a certain color you really like? Are there certain words in the newspaper or magazine clippings that inspire you or relate to the list you wrote? Could you draw pictures of the different qualities you possess? Cut out your materials into assorted shapes that show off the qualities you put on your list.
4. Once your materials are cut out, begin to glue them together in whatever arrangement you'd like that shows off who you are and what you love about yourself. What is important is that your collage shows off who you are—there is not right or wrong way of creating your collage.
5. When your collage is complete, gather your friends, family, or classmates and show off what you've created! Feel free to either have your audience try to guess what each part of your collage symbolizes or explain yourself what each part means.

ARCTIC ANTICS!

SCIENCE CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

“Waaaaaahooooo! Terrible weather we’ve been havin’! Har har har – snow an – ice!”

Rudolph and his friends live in the North Pole located in the Arctic where it is freezing! How do the animals keep warm without putting on boots and coats? Explore how insulation keeps in body heat in this fun hands on experiment!

MATERIALS

- Experiment Chart (attached)
- Spatula or Spoon
- 4 quart-sized zipper bags
- Ice and water
- 12-15 cotton balls
- 1 cup solid shortening
- 2 small sealable containers that can easily fit into the quart-sized bags.
(If your containers aren’t small enough, feel free to use bigger zipper bags)

DIRECTIONS

1. Start by filling one of the zipper bags with ice and water. For this experiment, this ice bag will act as our arctic ice.
2. Let’s start by testing to see how well humans are insulated against the cold. Place the bag of ice on your hand and keep it there for 10 seconds. In the chart provided, write down your observations: On a scale of 1-10, where 1 is not cold at all and 10 is freezing cold, how cold does your hand feel? What did your hand feel like during those 10 seconds?
3. Now, let’s test out how polar bear fur works as insulation by creating our own “Polar Bear Blanket”. Fill one of the zipper bags with the cotton balls. Next, place this blanket on your palm, and then the bag of ice on top of that. Hold the bag of ice there for another 10 seconds. After the 10 seconds, write down your observations in the chart: on a scale of 1-10, how cold does your hand feel? What did your hand feel like during those 10 seconds?

ARCTIC ANTICS!

SCIENCE CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

4. Now, let's try out the walrus blubber. Fill one of the zipper bags with the cup of solid shortening. Then, turn the last zipper bag inside out and place it *INSIDE* the shortening. Be careful not to get any shortening inside of this bag! Then, zip the inside out bag and the shortening bag together to create a mitt. This "Walrus Mitt" imitates the walrus' blubber that helps it stay warm.
5. Place the "Walrus Mitt" onto your hand, and then place the ice bag onto your palm. Hold the ice bag there for 10 seconds. Write down your observations onto the chart: on a scale of 1-10, how cold does your hand feel? What did your hand feel like during those 10 seconds?
6. Answer the following questions: Which insulation method kept you the warmest? Why? This is a great, safe way to test out how insulation works, but 10 seconds is nowhere near similar to the icy conditions in the arctic. Let's test these conditions out over a longer period of time.
7. Fill 3 sealable containers with icy water.
8. One container will remain out in the open. Label that one the "Human Insulation". One container will be placed into the "Polar Bear Blanket"--this one will be the polar bear fur. The final container will be placed into the "Walrus Mitt"--this one will be the walrus blubber.
9. Set a timer for one hour. After an hour, pull each container out of their insulation, open them, and dip a finger into each jar to check their temperatures. In the chart, write your observations: how cold is the water in each container on a scale from 1-10? Why do you think the water's temperature changed to what they are in each jar?
10. Share your results with your friends, family, and teacher and challenge them to try this experiment out to compare results!

EXPERIMENT CHART

	Coldness Rating on Hand <i>(scale of 1-10)</i>	Ice on Hand Observations	Coldness Rating in Jar <i>(scale of 1-10)</i>	Ice Water Jar Observations
No Insulation				
Polar Bear Fur				
Walrus Blubber				

POST-SHOW QUESTIONS



1. Hermey the Elf is fascinated by teeth and wants to be a dentist when he grows up. What do you want to be when you grow up? Why?
2. What is the meaning of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*? Why is this message important?
3. Rudolph has always had the goal of being a part of Santa's team of reindeers and he works throughout the story to achieve his goals. What is a goal that you have? What can you do to get closer to achieving your goal?

WHO SAID IT?

1. Who ever heard of a skinny Santa? Eat!
2. How can you overlook that? His beak blinks like a blinkin' beacon!
3. I just don't like to make toys.
4. I'm cude. I'm cude!.
5. I think it's a handsome nose. Much better than that silly false one you were wearing.
6. What? You don't like to make toys?
7. Gadzooks! The Bumble strikes again! Whoopeeeee!
8. I'm the official Sentry of the Island of the Misfit Toys!
9. A toy is never truly happy until it is loved by a child.
10. You! I thought you were gone for good. Hey, look who's back - ol' neon nose!
11. Never knew a Bumble yet who'd turn down a pork dinner for deer meat...do your stuff.
12. Well, they are all very sad at the loss of their friend - but they realize that the best thing to do is to get back to Christmastown.
13. Come here...open your mouth - oh dear. I'd better set up an appointment, week from Tuesday. Four-thirty - sharp.
14. Well, this is it. The storm won't subside by tonight. We'll have to cancel Christmas.
15. Looks like we're forgotten again.
16. It sure is! It's SANTA!! And look, Rudolph is leading the way!

ANSWER KEY: 1. MRS. CLAUDS 2. DONNER 3. HERMEY 4. RUDOLPH 5. CLARICE 6. BOSS ELF
7. YUKON CORNELIUS 8. CHARLIE-IN-THE-BOX 9. MOONRACER 10. FIREBALL 11. YUKON CORNELIUS
12. SAM THE SNOWMAN 13. HERMEY 14. SANTA 15. ELEPHANT 16. CHARLIE-IN-THE-BOX

RECOMMENDED READING

