Study Guide

Based on the play by J.M. Barrie and the 1953 Disney film

Show Credits:
Music and Lyrics by George Bruns and Sammy Fain and Jack Lawrence and Winston Hibler and Ted Sears and Sammy Cahn and Michael Tumes and Xavier Atencio and Frank Churchill and Oliver Wallace and Ray Kelley
Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Lyrics by Eric Svejcar
Book and Additional Lyrics by David Zellnik

Performed by Schauer Rising Star Productions
**Plot Overview**

Wendy Darling loves to tell stories to her brothers, Michael and John. But when her father announces she must move out of the nursery, Peter Pan comes to visit the children and whisks them away to Never Land. Their adventure introduces them to the Lost Boys, Mermaids, Indians and even the infamous pirate, Captain Hook!

Based on the Disney film and J.M. Barrie’s enchanting play, Disney's Peter Pan, Jr. is a modern version of the timeless tale about a boy who wouldn’t grow up with no flying required! The score includes new arrangements of classic Disney songs, such as Following the Leader, You Can Fly, The Second Star to the Right, and Yo Ho, A Pirate’s Life for Me.

**Synopsis**

Tinker Bell and her fellow Fairies introduce the audience to our story. The Darling Children, Wendy, Michael and John, play make-believe in their nursery, imaging themselves in Never Land. Mr. Darling comes looking for his cufflinks but discovers that his adventurous children have drawn a treasure map on the back of his last clean shirt. He scolds Wendy for refusing to grow up and trips over Nana, the dog and nursemaid. Mr. Darling banishes Nana from the nursery, explaining that sooner or later, all children must grow up. Mrs. Darling puts the children to bed and Wendy asks her to leave the window open in case Peter Pan returns.

While the Darling children slumber, Peter Pan and Tinker Bell sneak into the nursery in search of Peter’s lost shadow. Wendy wakes up and excitedly tells Peter that she doesn’t want to grow up. He offers to take Wendy and her brothers back to Never Land. Peter teaches Wendy and her brothers to fly, and they set off into the night.

On a ship docked in Never Land, the Pirates of the island are up to no good. Captain Hook plots with his first mate, Smee, on how to seek revenge on Peter. They decide to capture Tiger Lily in hopes that they can force her to help. Their plotting is interrupted by the nefarious crocodile who ate Captain Hook’s hand after Peter cut it off. Suddenly, Captain Hook spots Peter Pan in the distance and orders his crew to fire. Peter sends the Darlings with Tinker Bell while he goes on to face Captain Hook himself.

A jealous Tinker Bell flies the Darlings toward the Lost Boys’ hideout, then flies ahead to tell the boys that Wendy is a bird that Peter wants them to hunt. Hop hits Wendy with his arrow and she falls to the ground. Peter discovers tinker Bell’s trick and banishes her for one week. Luckily Wendy recovers and flies off with Peter to retaliate against Captain Hook. Peter leaves John in charge, but the boys are quickly captured by the Indians and accused of kidnapping tiger lily. Chief Tiger Bamboo declares that if Tiger Lily is not returned, all lost Boys will be burned at the stake.
Wendy and Peter meet the Mermaids, who try to convince Wendy to swim with them. Peter and Wendy spot Captain Hook and Smee with the captured Tiger Lily and concoct a plan to save the Indian Princess. Peter distracts Hook, while Wendy sets Tiger Lily free.

Back at the Indian Camp, the Lost Boys and the Indians celebrate Tiger Lily’s safe return. Peter takes full credit for Tiger Lily’s rescue, which makes Wendy angry. Meanwhile, Captain Hook stumbles upon the banished Tinker Bell. Using her jealousy to his advantage, Hook convinces her to tell him where Peter and the Lost Boys live.

At the hideout, Wendy tells Peter that he should be less conceited, and the boys beg her to tell a story, calling her “Mother.” Wendy explains that she has only been playing and how wonderful a real mom can be. Her song helps John and Michael to remember their mother. The Lost Boys suddenly want a mother, too! John declares that they all must return to the nursery at once.

Meanwhile, Captain Hook and his crew have devised a plan to get revenge on Peter Pan. While he is out of the room, the pirates snatch Wendy, Michael, John, and the Lost Boys and leave Peter a beautifully wrapped present. The pirates take their captives to the ship and force them to choose to join the crew or meet their doom. The boys are certain that Peter will save the day, unaware that Hook has given him a dynamite pie! Realizing what she has done, Tinker Bell calls on her fairy friends for help, and they fly to Peter’s aid. Tinker Bell whisked the pie away right before it explodes. Peter forgives Tinker Bell and they fly off to save Wendy and the boys.

Peter arrives just in time to fight Hook in one last battle. Peter wins and banishes Hook from Never Land. Wendy and the Lost Boys rejoice, and with a little help from Tinker Bell, fly the pirate ship back to the Darlings’ nursery.

Wendy, Michael, and John find Mr. Darling waiting for them in the nursery. They tell him of their adventures and while skeptical at first, he begins to remember his own childhood adventures with a boy who could fly. With the family happily reunited, Peter Pan and Tinker Bell head back to Never Land – second star to the right, and straight on till morning.

Pre-show Discussions

1. Have a class discussion about fairy tales and other stories that have make-believe elements.
   - What kinds of things can happen in a story that are not possible in the real world?
   - Introduce the story of Peter Pan in light of this discussion. Talk about the fantastic elements of the story including the mermaids, fairies, and the fact that people can learn how to fly!

2. One of the themes of the story Peter Pan is “growing up” -- Peter doesn’t want to grow up, while Wendy can’t wait to grow up and take care of the other children.
   - How do your students feel about growing up?
   - What are the advantages of being an adult?
What are the disadvantages?  
Compare these to the “pros” and “cons” of being a child.  
Do you think that grownups ever wish that they were still children?

**Activities**

Peter Pan Word Search

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| N | T | O | I | E | K | B | C | I | L | S | K | S | N | N | A | A | I | M | O | Z | C | Y | L | M | K | O | Y | A | O |
| Y | N | E | V | E | R | L | A | N | D | L | N | T | P | O | E | M | L | W | E | T | L | W | X | J | R | I | S | I | L |
| X | J | T | K | Q | O | E | I | X | S | O | A | O | R | J |
| B | A | N | J | O | H | N | P | L | D | C | T | L | A | B |
| M | I | C | H | A | E | L | D | O | Y | K | P | O | T | E |
| T | B | E | L | I | D | O | C | O | R | C | A | B | E | F |
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| Y | D | H | W | P | R | L | N | O | I | G | T | X | G | U |

CAPTAIN HOOK   CROCODILE   INDIAN   JOHN   LONDON   LOST BOYS   MICHAEL   PIRATE   PETER PAN   NANA   PIRATE   PIRATE   JOHN
NEVERLAND   TINKER BELL   WENDY   SKULL ROCK
TIGER LILY

**Pirates!**

Captain Hook is one of the most famous pirates in fiction. Can you think of other pirates that you’ve read about or seen in plays, on television, or in movies? (One example is Long John Silver from Robert Louis Stevenson’s Treasure Island). Research fictional and/or real life pirates with your class and have them create a pirate of their own (they could do this individually or as a class). What is their pirate’s name? What do they wear, where do they live, what do they do?
Create your own Never Land

In one version of the story, J.M. Barrie described Never Land as a place that children go to in their sleep, which would look different for each child. What do you think your Never Land would look like? Would there be mermaids and pirates? Would you live under the ground, like Peter and the Lost Boys? Write an essay describing your own private Never Land, or draw a picture of it. (Variation: As a class, design a mural depicting the Never Land in Peter Pan or your own version).

Personal Fairies

Imagine that you have your own personal fairy. What kinds of everyday things could your fairy help you out with? (Cleaning your room, perhaps?) Would your fairy play games or sing songs? What would your fairy look like? Describe your personal fairy (with words and/or pictures) and give them a name.
Post-show Discussions

1. Have a discussion about what happened at the end of the story.
   - How would the story be different if Peter had decided to stay with the Darlings?
   - What if Wendy had decided to return to Never Land?
   - What do you think happens next, after Peter leaves the Darling house?

   Older Students: J.M. Barrie wrote an epilogue to the Peter Pan story in which Peter visits the Darling house after Wendy has become a grownup.
   - Do you think that Wendy could return to Never Land when she is no longer a child?
     Why or why not?

2. In the play, Captain Hook is the villain.
   - What makes someone a villain or a hero?
   - What kinds of things did Captain Hook do that illustrated that he was the “bad guy”?
   - What kinds of things did Peter do to outsmart Captain Hook?
   - Did Peter always fight fair?
   - Do you think there is any good in Captain Hook?
   - Do you have any sympathy for him?

3. Older Students: Compare the fantasy world of J.M. Barrie to those of other classic fantasy writers, such as Lewis Carroll (Alice in Wonderland), A.A. Milne (Winnie the Pooh), and even Charles Dickens (who utilized fantastical elements in A Christmas Carol).
   - How do their fantasy worlds compare to those of modern day novels, such as the currently popular Harry Potter stories?

   Disney's Peter Pan, Jr. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
   All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
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