



DENVER CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS
Theatre Company

INSIDE OUT

A STUDY GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



LOOKINGGLASS Alice

LOOKINGGLASS ALICE

Summary

A girl named Alice falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures such as The White Rabbit, The Red Queen, The Mad Hatter and Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Along the way she attends a tea party, plays chess and is privy to some excellent nonsense words such as “uffish,” “galumphing,” and “mimsy.”

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INSIDE OUT

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Lookingglass Theatre Company's
Lookingglass Alice
Adapted and Directed by **David Catlin**
from the works of **Lewis Carroll**
Produced in association with
The Actors Gymnasium

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LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE COMPANY

Founded in 1988 by graduates of Northwestern University, Lookingglass Theatre Company is a nationwide leader in the creation and presentation of new, cutting-edge theatrical works and in sharing its ensemble-based theatrical techniques with Chicago-area students and teachers through Education and Community Programs. Guided by an artistic vision centered on the core values of collaboration, transformation, and invention, Lookingglass seeks to capture audiences' imaginations leaving them changed, charged and empowered.

Recipient of the 2011 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, Lookingglass has built a national reputation for artistic excellence and ensemble-based theatrical innovation. Notable world premieres include Mary Zimmerman's Tony Award-winning *Metamorphoses*, *The Arabian Nights*, and *The Odyssey*, David Schwimmer's adaptation of Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* and Studs Terkel's *Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel about the American Obsession*, and David Catlin's circus tribute to Lewis Carroll, *Lookingglass Alice*. Lookingglass' work has been produced in more than a dozen US cities.

When Alice walked through the looking glass, she walked into a world beyond

imagination. She walked into a world more involving and intoxicating than any movie or circus, more thrilling than a high-speed chase, more frightening than a child's nightmare, and more beautiful than a thunderstorm on a hot summer night. She awoke with a new sense of herself in the world and her own power within it.

Reflected in Lewis Carroll's achievement is the mission of the Lookingglass Theatre Company. Through theatre, which invites, even demands, interaction with its audience, Lookingglass Theatre Company's goal is to fire the imagination with love, to celebrate the human capacity to taste and smell, weep and laugh, create and destroy, and wake up where we first fell — changed, charged and empowered.

The Lookingglass Theatre Company combines a physical and improvisational rehearsal process centered on ensemble with training in theatre, dance, music, and the circus arts. They seek to redefine the limits of theatrical experience and to make theatre exhilarating, inspirational, and accessible to all.

Lookingglass Alice was first performed in 2005.

CHARLES DODGSON/LEWIS CARROLL

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson was born on January 27th, 1832, and from a young age was fond of writing puppet plays for the amusement of his ten siblings. Later in life, he wrote using the pen-name Lewis Carroll, under which he published *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*. Although he is still famous to this day for his whimsical storytelling abilities, Dodgson spent most of his life as a mathematics teacher at Oxford.

Dodgson grew up in a very religious household. His father was an Anglican

clergyman and preached in small towns throughout Dodgson's childhood. As a boy, Dodgson would ask his father to teach him about complex mathematics. When he was twelve years old, Dodgson went off to school at Richmond, one of the oldest grammar schools in England. He then went on to study at Rugby School, which he later wrote was an unpleasant experience, and then to Christ Church, Oxford. He was a very successful student of mathematics at Christ Church. Upon graduating he remained there to teach the subject for the rest of his life.

Dodgson devoted most of his time to his pursuit of mathematics, but he pursued more artistic pastimes too. During Dodgson's life, photography was a new technology. Dodgson was a talented and enthusiastic portrait photographer, highly regarded for the artistry and composition of his work. Many of his photographs were of young children, though he also liked to photograph famous people, like Prince Leopold and Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

Dodgson also continued to write in his free time. When he was on holidays during his years at Rugby School, he edited local publications and published some of his own poetry and satire. During the 1850s, Dodgson began submitting his work to magazines with a wider distribution. In May 1856, his poem "The Path of Roses" appeared in *The Train* magazine and was the first work published under the now famous name "Lewis Carroll." Dodgson created this name from the Latin forms of his given names "Charles" and "Lutwidge," which were "Carolus" and "Ludovicus." He transformed these into "Carroll" and "Lewis," and changed their order to produce Lewis Carroll. The name was selected by *The Train's* editor Edmund Yates after Dodgson provided him with a list of four possible pen-names. The other options Dodgson suggested were Edgar Cuthwellis, Edgar U. C. Westhill, and Louis Carroll.

In the year 1855, a man named Henry Liddell became a dean at Christ Church. Dodgson struck up a friendship with the whole Liddell family, and for years afterward was a close friend to the Liddell children. Alice Liddell was the namesake and the inspiration for Dodgson's famous books. In the summer of 1862, Dodgson told a story to Alice and her sisters, Ina and Edith. The story was about a girl named Alice and her fantastical adventures in an unusual world. Alice loved the story. She asked Dodgson to write it down for her, and the resulting manuscript, titled *Alice's Adventures Underground*, was an early form of his most famous work, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

The famous drawings that accompanied the text were done by the well-known illustrator John Tenniel. Dodgson was an extremely careful overseer of the artwork. He would correct tiny details of each piece until it looked exactly like he imagined it in his own head. Tenniel and Dodgson were so unhappy with the printing quality of the first edition of *Alice* that they demanded it be recalled and done over again so that Tenniel's illustrations could be faithfully reproduced. When the book finally was published in December of 1865, it was immediately successful. Children and adults alike were entranced by the magical and simple storytelling of "Lewis Carroll," and by Tenniel's magnificent drawings. The first edition sold out very quickly, and since then *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* has never gone out of print.

In 1869, Dodgson finished the first chapter of the sequel to *Alice's Adventures*. The book was finished in 1871 with illustrations done once again by Sir John Tenniel. *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There* immediately received great reviews and sold extremely well. The two Alice books together were a winning combination, making Lewis Carroll a name nearly universally recognized in English-language children's literature. Dodgson enjoyed that his *Alice* books were so popular with children, but he did not like being famous. In a letter to a friend written in 1891, he wrote: "All that sort of publicity leads to strangers hearing of my real name in connection with the books, and to my being pointed out to, and stared at by strangers, and treated as a "lion". And I hate all that so intensely that sometimes I almost wish I had never written any books at all."

He often tried to hide the fact that Charles Dodgson and Lewis Carroll were the same man, and would deny any connection if asked about it in public. The fact that today the name Lewis Carroll is famous and Charles Dodgson is not shows that he succeeded in some measure at keeping his real name from being associated with his fantasy writings.

AN HISTORICAL TIMELINE

- 1820:** Antarctica is seen for the first time.
- 1825:** The Erie Canal is opened.
- 1831-1836:** Charles Darwin's voyage on the HMS Beagle.
- 1832:** Charles Lutwidge Dodgson is born.
- 1837:** *Oliver Twist* is published.
- 1845-49:** Irish Potato Famine.
- 1848:** *The Communist Manifesto* published.
- 1850:** Alfred, Lord Tennyson becomes Poet Laureate.
- 1851:** *Moby Dick* is published.
- 1856:** Dodgson creates the pen name Lewis Carroll.
- 1859:** *On the Origin of Species* is published.
- 1861-1865:** American Civil War.
- 1862:** *Les Misérables* is published.
- 1865:** American President Abraham Lincoln is assassinated.
- 1865:** *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is published.
- 1867:** United States purchases Alaska from Russia.
- 1867:** Alfred Nobel invents dynamite.
- 1870:** First commercially sold typewriter developed.
- 1871:** *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There* is published.
- 1872:** Yellowstone, the first National Park, is created.
- 1873:** Blue jeans are invented.
- 1876:** "The Hunting of the Snark" is published.
- 1879:** Thomas Edison invents the light bulb.
- 1883:** *Treasure Island* is published.
- 1884:** *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is published.
- 1886:** The first commercial automobile is produced.
- 1886:** Coca-Cola is invented.
- 1889:** The Eiffel Tower is completed.
- 1898:** Charles Lutwidge Dodgson dies.
- 1900:** *The Wizard of Oz* is published.

ADAPTATIONS OF AND WORKS INSPIRED BY *ALICE IN WONDERLAND*

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland has been translated into at least 62 different languages, and *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There* has been translated into at least 22. Additionally, the books have inspired

hundreds of adaptations and retellings and been the source of characters and names for many different media. Below is a list of some adaptations and some works that contain ideas from or references to Carroll's books.

FILM:

- 1903:** The first film version of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.
- 1915:** Full length silent movie, directed by W. W. Young.
- 1951:** Disney's animated movie *Alice in Wonderland*.
- 1977:** *Jabberwocky*, a film created by Terry Gilliam of Monty Python.
- 1985:** *Dreamchild*, directed by Gavin Millar, tells a story about Alice Liddell with Wonderland scenes featuring puppets from Jim Henson's Creature Workshop.
- 2010:** Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland* features a teenaged Alice and many of the classic characters.
-

TELEVISION:

- 1966:** "Alice in Wonderland, or What's a Nice Kid Like You Doing in a Place Like This?", an animated TV special made by the creators of "The Flintstones."
- 1966:** Star Trek episode "Shore Leave" uses characters from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.
- 1983-1984:** "Fushigi no Kuni no Arisu" an anime series based on Carroll's books.
- 1991-1995:** Disney Channel's "Adventures in Wonderland" loosely follows the books' events.
- 2009:** Syfy miniseries "Alice" is set in Wonderland many years after the events of the books.
-

VIDEO GAMES:

- 1996:** "Super Mario 64" contains a level in which the player must chase a rabbit who talks about being late, a reference to the White Rabbit from *Alice's Adventures*.
- 2002:** "Kingdom Hearts" features locations and characters from Disney's *Alice in Wonderland*.
- 2009:** "There's Something in the Sea," part of the "Bioshock" franchise developed by 2K Games, contains a character named Lutwidge who constantly quotes Lewis Carroll's books, and changes his name to Liddell.
-

OTHER:

- 1982** Elizabeth Swados' musical *Alice at the Palace* was produced at New York's Public Theater, starring Meryl Streep as Alice.
- 2002:** Tom Waits's album "Alice" is a collection of Carroll-inspired songs.
- 2004:** Frank Beddor's "Looking Glass Wars" series of novels imagines that Wonderland is real, but misinterpreted by Dodgson, and that Alice is Wonderland's lost princess.
- 2011:** "Tsukematsukeru" by J-Pop star Kyary Pamyu Pamyu has a Wonderland-themed music video.
- DC's Batman comics** include a number of villains inspired by the Alice books, including the mind-controlling Mad Hatter, nearly identical cousins Tweedledum and Tweedledee, and a group called the "Wonderland Gang" with members named March Harriet, Walrus, the Carpenter, the Lion, and the Unicorn.

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY

Alice is based on Charles Dodgson's young friend Alice Liddell, the daughter of Dean Henry Liddell of Christ Church, Oxford. Alice is the heroine of Lewis Carroll's most famous books.

The White Rabbit is a character from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, famous for his concern about being late. In *Lookingglass Alice*, just like in the original novel, the White Rabbit leads Alice to her fantastic adventures.

The Cheshire Cat has a tendency to disappear entirely except for his grin. In *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, the Cheshire Cat belongs to the Duchess (a character who does not appear in *Lookingglass Alice*).

The Red Queen in *Lookingglass Alice* is a character who incorporated both the Queen of Hearts from *Alice's Adventures* and the Red Queen from *Through the Looking-Glass*. The croquet game and "Off with his head!" are borrowed from the Queen of Hearts, while the references to chess and speed of movement come from the Red Queen. Alice declares in the opening of *Lookingglass Alice* that her cat should be the Red Queen while she and the cat pretend to be queens.

The White Queen, from *Through the Looking-Glass*, lives her life with time in reverse. As everyone around her grows older, the White Queen becomes younger and younger. In the opening scene of *Lookingglass Alice*, Alice decides that she will be the White Queen in a game of make-believe with her cat.

The Caterpillar is a character Alice encounters in *Wonderland*. He asks Alice confusing questions, and his lines are full of question words and repetition.

The White Knight is one of the chess pieces in the employ of the White Queen. He recites a piece of the poem "Jabberwocky" to Alice. Jabberwocky is one of the best-known pieces of nonsense poetry in the English language, and is among the most widely recognized parts of *Through the Looking-Glass*. Later,

he recites the beginning of "The Walrus and the Carpenter," another poem from *Through the Looking-Glass*.

The Red King is another chess piece character from *Through the Looking-Glass*. He is sleeping when he appears.

The White Knight suggests to Alice that she is only a part of the Red King's dream, and that if he were to wake up, she would stop existing.

Tweedledee and Tweedledum have their origin in an English nursery rhyme. In the rhyme, the two are planning to fight over a broken rattle before they are frightened away by the appearance of a giant crow. They appear in *Through the Lookingglass*, where they reenact their nursery rhyme and tell Alice the poem "The Walrus and the Carpenter."

The Hatter, the March Hare, and the Dormouse are the participants in Wonderland's never-ending tea party. The Hatter and the March Hare are both described as being mad. This is possibly a reference to the phrase "Mad as a Hatter," which was in use before Carroll wrote his books. (In 18th and 19th century England, mercury was used to make felt – which was used to make hats. Many hatters suffered from mercury poisoning, the effects of which included disorientation and distorted vision, leading to them being labeled "mad.") The Dormouse is always either asleep or in the process of falling back asleep.

Humpty Dumpty appears in *Through the Looking-Glass*, and, like Tweedledee and Tweedledum, is originally from an English nursery rhyme. Interestingly, the rhyme contains no reference to Humpty Dumpty being an egg. It is thought that the rhyme was originally a riddle, with the fact that he is an egg being the answer. In *Lookingglass Alice*, Humpty Dumpty engages in witty wordplay with Alice, and helps her understand some of the nonsense in "Jabberwocky."

CHESS IN ALICE

A great deal of the plot of *Lookingglass Alice* revolves around a giant game of chess. Chess is a board game that has been played since the 6th century and is still very popular today. The object of chess is to capture your opponent's game pieces and to threaten their king. A game of chess is won when one player threatens the other player's king and the player being threatened has no way of answering the threat. This is called "checkmate." Traditionally, the two sides of a chess game are black and white, but it isn't uncommon for other colors to be used, like Alice's set of white and red.

In *Lookingglass Alice*, a number of the characters are chess pieces: the Red King, the White Knight, and the Red and White Queens. Alice herself takes on the role of a white pawn. There are two other pieces, bishops and rooks, which don't appear in *Lookingglass Alice*. Every piece in the game of chess has different rules for how it can move on the board.

King: Each player has one king. The king can move one square at a time in any direction. Attacking the other player's king is how to win a game of chess.

Queen: Each player has one queen. Queens are the most powerful chess piece, and can move any number of squares at a time in any direction. In *Lookingglass Alice*, the Red Queen runs very fast as an illustration of this movement ability.

Knight: Each player has two knights. Knights move in an L-shape: two squares vertically and one horizontally, or two squares horizontally and one vertically. Also, knights can "jump" over other pieces on the board.

Bishop: Each player has two bishops, which can move any number of squares diagonally.

Rook: Each player has two rooks, which can move any number of squares horizontally or vertically.

Pawn: Each player has eight pawns. A pawn moves forward one square at a time, and can capture pieces that are one square in front of them diagonally. On its first move of the game, a pawn can move forward two spaces instead of one. Alice, as a pawn, wants to reach the eighth row of the board because of the chess rule called promotion. When a pawn reaches the final square, it can be replaced with another piece: a queen, bishop, rook, or knight. A pawn that reaches the final square is almost always promoted to a queen instead of any other piece, and that is what Alice wants to do.

Modern chess sets are almost all modeled after the hugely influential and successful "Staunton Set" design, which was created in 1849, over twenty years before Lewis Carroll published *Through the Looking-Glass*. However, the original illustrations by John Tenniel don't depict the chess piece characters as the simple, sturdy Staunton pieces which we see today. Instead, the bishop's double-peaked hat (or "mitre"), the king's crown and the distinctive rings making up the bodies of the king and the queens more closely resemble chess pieces from an earlier "St. George" style chess set.

NONSENSE WRITING

In addition to being renowned as a writer of children's fantasy stories, Lewis Carroll is also highly regarded for his nonsense writing. His most famous nonsense piece is "Jabberwocky," a poem from *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*. In 1876, Carroll published a much longer nonsense poem called "The Hunting of the Snark (An Agony in 8 Fits)." In it, he re-used a number of the nonsense words which he created in "Jabberwocky." The words uffish, galumphing, outgrabe, frumious, and mimsy all make an appearance in "The Hunting of the Snark." So do the Jubjub bird and the Bandersnatch, dangerous creatures that are referenced in the second stanza of "Jabberwocky."

"The Hunting of the Snark" tells the story of a crew of men setting out to catch a Snark. It is never established what exactly a Snark is, or why it is so valuable that it is worth a sea voyage and difficult hunt to get their hands on one. The poem is full of confusion, contradictions, and absurd things treated as though they were totally normal. The result is a wholly nonsensical poem. Much like "Jabberwocky," it has a plot which the reader can follow fairly

clearly with little idea of what is actually being written about. Curious readers have suggested that "The Hunting of the Snark" is a metaphor for a number of things, from tuberculosis to seeking happiness. Henry Holiday, the original illustrator of the piece, wrote that "Much fruitless speculation has been spent over supposed hidden meanings in Lewis Carroll's "Hunting of the Snark." The inclination to search for these was strictly natural, though the search was destined to fail."

Lewis Carroll himself wrote in a letter to a friend, "As to the meaning of the Snark? I'm very much afraid I didn't mean anything but nonsense!" This is why nonsense poetry is so fun to read. There is an inherent playfulness to the work because it focuses on the delightful organization and use of words instead of on the delivery of some message.

It's easy to find nonsense in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and in *Through the Looking-Glass*. The White Knight, the Hatter, Humpty Dumpty, and the Caterpillar all use some degree of nonsense in their conversation with Alice.

PORTMANTEAU WORDS VS. COMPOUND WORDS

“But the danger was past—
they had landed at last,
With their boxes,
portmanteaus, and bags”

- “The Hunting of the Snark. Fit the Second:”
The Bellman’s Speech

Lewis Carroll created the name and definition of “portmanteau” words. A portmanteau is a word created by blending two original words, to create an entirely new word. Portmanteau is different from a compound word, in which two words are joined fully to create a new word.

For example, if you started with the words “star” and “fish”, the compound word would be “starfish” and the portmanteau word could be “stish”. Lewis Carroll used portmanteau in *Alice in Wonderland*, in 1865.

Humpty Dumpty explains the unusual words found in the poem “Jabberwocky”: “slithy” means “lithe and slimy” “mimsy” is “flimsy and miserable”

Several years later, in 1876, Lewis Carroll wrote an introduction to “Hunting of the Snark” in which he defined this process (creating a new word from smashing together two different words):

Carroll wrote, “Humpty Dumpty’s theory, of two meanings packed into one word like a portmanteau [a piece of luggage with two compartments], seems to me the right explanation for all. For instance, take the two words “fuming” and “furious”. Make up your mind that you will say both words, but leave it unsettled which you will say first ... if you have the rarest of gifts, a perfectly balanced mind, you will say “frumious”.

Can you identify the origin words for the following portmanteaus, and what these new words might mean?

Gerrymander

Brunch

Bardolatry

Texarkana

Liger

Religulous

Turducken

Even celebrity name-meshing (like “Bennifer”, “Brangelina” and “Desilu Productions”) can trace their origins to Lewis Carroll and portmanteau!

(answers: Gerry & salamander, for the way Eldridge Gerry redistricted the state of Massachusetts in 1812; brunch and lunch, first used in 1896; Bard and idolatry, describing those who obsessively love Shakespeare, aka “the Bard”; Texas and Arkansas—describing the land at the border; lion and tiger, describing a hybrid of a male lion and female tiger; religion and ridiculous, and the title of a 2012 movie; turkey-duck-chicken, a dish in which a chicken is stuffed inside a duck, which is stuffed inside a turkey).

STUDY QUESTIONS

Pre-Performance Questions

- 1) People make goals and try many ways to achieve those goals. What goals have you made that you were successful in achieving? What goals were you unsuccessful in achieving? What steps did you take to try to achieve these goals?
- 2) The story of *Alice in Wonderland* has been adapted numerous times since it was first written. Which versions have you seen before and what are your expectations about seeing this performance?

Post-Performance Questions

- 1) How did the technical designs for the set, lights, projections, sounds, costumes enhance the telling of the story?
- 2) Was there a moment from the performance that surprised you? Why did it surprise you? What did the performers do or say to enhance that moment?
- 3) In what ways does Alice's understanding of her place in the world change from her experience through the looking glass?
- 4) Why does Alice want to be Queen? What are the obstacles that she must overcome to achieve her objective?
- 5) How is Charles Dodgson portrayed? Who is he and how does he fit into the story of the play?
- 6) Which character excited you most? How did the actor's movement inform the portrayal?
- 7) The White Knight introduces a few other works by Lewis Carroll. Why do you think they were included in the play?
- 8) The game Alice uses for her journey is chess. Explain which game you might use to show her journey today? Would it be a contemporary board game or a video game? Based on this game, who would be some of the characters Alice would meet and how would they affect the story?
- 9) The play ends with the line "Life, what is it but a dream?" Why do you think this is the last line? What does it mean to you?

ACTIVITIES

Nonsense Words and Poetry

- 1) Refer to the nonsense word section of *Inside Out* on page 9.
- 2) In a small group or individually, compile a list of about ten nonsense or portmanteau words. Create a few of your own nonsense and portmanteau words or choose a few of the words that are suggested in the study guide.
- 3) From these words, select a few of them and create a short three-line poem.
- 4) Have each person in the group deliver the short poem by adding an emotion or a character choice to the poem. An example, use the word “Bandersnatch” angrily, happily or like a double-agent spy.
- 5) Discuss the poems and the way they were delivered. What does the audience discover about the nonsense words when they are spoken aloud?

Colorado Model Content Standards

Writing and Composition PG: Effectively use content-specific language, style, tone, and text structure to compose or adapt writing for different audiences and purposes.

Change Three Things

- 1) Students line up in two lines facing each other so that each person has a partner who is standing across from them. One row will be Row A and the other is Row B.
- 2) Tell the group that they will have 30 seconds to observe their partners. At the signal, they will turn their backs to each other.
- 3) While their backs are turned, each person must change three things about their appearance. All changes must be visible. This can be simple; taking off a shoe, switching their hair style or more difficult; removing an earring.
- 4) At the signal, the two rows turn back and face each other. They have two minutes to figure out what their partner changed.
- 5) Discuss which were easy changes to spot and which were more difficult. How many people caught all three changes?
- 6) After the performance, discuss how the actors were able to represent their characters in *Lookingglass Alice*. Was costume design the only device used to portray each characters?

Colorado Model Content Standards

Drama and Theatre Arts PG: Employ drama and theatre skills, and articulate the aesthetics of a variety of characters and roles.

Page to Stage: Adapting *Lookingglass Alice*

- 1) Start by picking a short excerpt from the novel *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll or another story he wrote. After reading the excerpt, find some key themes and character choices that you can adapt into a monologue or scene for the stage.
- 2) From the passage, change what happens on the written page into a script for a play. Pay close attention to the dialogue and the action in the passage.
- 3) After writing the first draft, cast the scene and have the students read the scenes that they have written.
- 4) Discuss the differences between the novel and scenes. What did the authors do to convey the characters and plot? Did they have to invent, delete, or change anything to communicate the story?
- 5) Raising the bar: After the first draft of the scene or monologue has been adapted, change the point of view. What changes would have to be made to clearly show that the events being described are from a different person?
- 6) Discuss how the scene may change when told through the different voice. Discuss the process of an adapter and how you chose to the best voice for your perspective?
- 7) After seeing the production, what did the adapting company, Lookingglass Theatre, modify to tell their version of Lewis Carroll's story? What were the differences between the scenes that were written in class? Does a play adaptation limit the adapter's possibilities?

Writing PG: Effectively use content-specific language, style, tone and text structure to compose or adapt writing for different audiences and purposes.

Writing PG: Write with clear focus, coherent organization, sufficient elaboration, and detail.

Drama and Theatre Arts PG: Employ drama and theatre skills, and articulate the aesthetics of a variety of characters and roles.

Perspective Writing – Personal Narratives for Characters

- 1) Select an important moment from the play. This should be a moment that has more than one person in attendance. For example, the first meeting between Alice and the March Hare or when the Cheshire Cat enters.
- 2) From this moment, the students are to pick a character from the story and to give the character's perspective and attitude of what transpired. Explanations of how they felt about this moment and how affects them should be explored.
- 3) Each person will write a short monologue describing the moment from the character's perspective of what they experienced.
- 4) Compare the monologues about the event from other characters that were involved. Discuss the similarities and differences that arose during the writing process. Was there general agreement of what happened or marked differences? Why were the moments similar or different? Were they subtle or obvious variations? Did the class agree on what was important to include and why? If not how would the elimination of some elements change the way the story would be understood when read?

Colorado Model Content Standards

Writing PG: Articulate the position of self and others using experiential and material logic.

Writing PG: Write with clear focus, coherent organization, sufficient elaboration, and detail.

UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES

Make your experience unforgettable when you join us for one of these insightful, educational events:

Insider Perspectives

Get an exclusive insider's perspective of each play when you join us for a professionally-moderated discussion with our creative team. Held at The Jones at Speer & Arapahoe. Free.
Sep 11 | 6pm

Theatre Thursday

Jump-start your weekend with fun. Your ticket to *Lookingglass Alice* for Theatre Thursday includes a cocktail and live music.
Sep 17 | 5:30pm

Family Day

Spark your family's sense of wonder with an amazing (and affordable) afternoon at the theatre. Get to the performance early for interactive activities, included with family 4-pack tickets.
Sep 20 | 12:30pm

Theatre & Theology Talkbacks

Join Pastor Dan Bollman of the Rocky Mountain Evangelical Lutheran Synod to examine each show through a theological lens directly after select performances. Free.
Sep 22 | Post-Show

Exclusive Behind the Lookingglass Experience

Discover how the wild world of Wonderland comes to life when you meet members of the cast for a behind-the-scenes conversation, insta-worthy photo op and signed limited-edition poster.
Limited number available
following Friday, Saturday matinee, Saturday evening, and Sunday performances
Sep 18 - Oct 11

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The Denver Public Library recommends:

Read!

The Search for WondLa by Tony Diterlizzi

Eva Nine is 12 years old, raised by a robot and lives in a world full of bizarre creatures. One day she is forced out and onto a quest to discover anyone else like her. She is certain there are other humans somewhere because of a scrap of cardboard with illustrations of a girl, adult and the strange word, “WondLa.” This beautifully illustrated New York Times best seller also features augmented reality commentary, where readers with webcams can delve even further into the story.

Watch!

Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away (Paramount 2013)

If you enjoyed the acrobatics and world building from *Lookingglass Alice*, we recommend giving this stunning production from James Cameron and Adam Adamson a try. When a young couple becomes separated from each other, they must journey through the magical worlds of Cirque du Soleil to reunite with each other once again.

Listen!

Wonderland: Alice Through a Whole New Looking Glass by Frank Wildhorn

From the creator of *Jekyll & Hyde* comes this unique adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s classic with a contemporary pop score to top it off. This 2011 Broadway production is about Alice, a single mother in New York City who uncovers an entire secret world just beneath the surface. There, a familiar cast of characters help her to rediscover what’s really important.

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Splintered by A.G. Howard

Alyssa Gardner has a curious connection to madness -- she finds herself hearing whispers coming from bugs and flowers, and after digging deeper, learns this same condition once landed her mother in a mental hospital. The curse stretches all the way back to Alyssa’s ancestor, Alice Liddell (Lewis Carroll’s real-life inspiration for *Alice in Wonderland*). Just how much more of the story is based on reality versus fiction? Find out in this dark fantasy with just a touch of romance.



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