



The Caterpillar's Footprint

A play for children under 6 years old and their caregivers



What is it? *The Caterpillar's Footprint* is a play intentionally created for very young audiences of children under 6 years old. It contains actors, puppets, live music, multi-sensory stimulation and gentle invitations to participate in the action of the play. It is a gentle introduction to theater and dramatic play using intimate interactions, and only about 24 people will experience the play at a time. The majority of the play takes place inside of a portable yurt dome—Caterpillar's home! Before going into the yurt dome, the children and their caregivers are invited to explore a sensory forest with Bear and Bird to become acclimated to the performance space and the actors.

What is *The Caterpillar's Footprint* about? It is Caterpillar's special day and audiences are invited to accompany Bear on a journey to visit his best friend. Discover why today is so special as Caterpillar is visited by this silly Bear, a mischievous Fox, and a sneezy Dinosaur! Over the course of the 40 minute play, audiences are invited to help find an egg, sing, smell flowers, dance, play with a small parachute, and lay scarves on their new friend Caterpillar (hint, the scarves help with Caterpillar's metamorphosis!)



What is the seating like? Is it accessible to wheelchairs? The sensory forest is a free play area where children are invited to touch, smell, and interact with the props and materials in the space. Actors will talk and interact with the children. Seating is on the floor.

To get inside the yurt dome, adult audience members will need to duck to go inside the door. Inside the yurt dome, there is a cushion on the floor for every audience member. If a member of your party cannot sit on the floor, please see a Kerfuffle Front of House team member and we will show you to accessible seating.

Wheelchairs can go inside the Yurt Dome.

How long is the show? The entire play lasts about 35-40 minutes, from entering the sensory forest to exiting the yurt dome at the very end.

Additionally, we like to offer a brief, simple post-performance hands-on art making experience that can add another 10 minutes if the child chooses to participate, and if the facility can accommodate the experience. (In the past this has ranged from a simple coloring activity to a chalk activity outside to a collaborative mural)

If your school would like to offer a post-performance art making experience, we ask that it takes place in a separate room so the actors can re-set for their next performance.





What are the expectations of adults during the show? Caregivers are expected to accompany the children through the entire experience. Caregivers are welcome and encouraged to interact with the puppets and actors, too!

The Caterpillar's Footprint is specifically designed for children ages 2-5, and are invited to talk, sing or verbally interact with the show as much as they'd like. *The Caterpillar's Footprint* is a no-shushing zone!

If a child does not want to enter the yurt dome, please let a Kerfuffle Front of House team member know and we will show you where to sit where your child can still view the performance.



How do I prepare my students? Check out this [6 minute version](https://tinyurl.com/y3hkhnc9) of the show on Youtube! (<https://tinyurl.com/y3hkhnc9>)

Additionally, your school has the option for an experienced Kerfuffle Teaching Artist to facilitate a pre-show creative drama lesson that will help to introduce your students to the characters and themes of the play.

Classroom teachers also have the option to attend a professional development event offered in



conjunction with this performance, led by Kerfuffle Artistic Director, Ashley Laverty. The PD event will offer information and instruction on how to incorporate dramatic play into your classroom practice—a proven method of supporting socio-emotional learning, and cultivating curiosity.

I have more questions! Awesome! Visit www.kerffuffletvy.com for more information, or feel free to reach out to Ashley at kerffuffletvy@gmail.com!

