

# Be Creative

## Chapter 4 Resources

### Books

Check your shelves for other favorite titles. These titles were in print when the manual went to press unless otherwise noted with an “OP.”

Adler, David. *Cam Jansen and the School Play Mystery*. Puffin, 2005. 64 p. (978-0142403556) Pri, Int.

*When a thief takes the box office money at the school play, Cam uses her photographic memory to solve the mystery.*

Aliki. *A Play's the Thing*. HarperCollins, 2005. 32 p. (978-0060743550) Pre, Pri.  
*Miss Brilliant's class puts on a performance of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."*

Archambault, John. *Boom Chicka Rock*. Philomel, 2004. 40 p. (978-0399235870) Pre.  
*Twelve mice living in a cuckoo clock wander out to find birthday cake and have a party while Max the cat sleeps.*

Bany-Winters, Lisa. *Funny Bones: Comedy, Games and Activities for Kids*. Chicago Review Press, 2002. 155 p. (978-1556524448, pap.) Int.

*Includes ideas about comedic styles and routines, how to use props, developing a distinctive character, using music, improvisational techniques, as well as the history of comedy and some well-known people in the field.*

Bany-Winters, Lisa. *On Stage: Theater Games and Activities for Kids*. Chicago Review Press, 1997. 160 p. (978-1556523243, pap.) Pri, Int, YA.

*Covers basic theater vocabulary, puppetry and pantomime, sound effects, costumes, props, and makeup along with several play scripts.*

Bauer, Caroline Feller. *Leading Kids to Books Through Puppets*. ALA Editions, 1997. 156 p. (978-0838907061, pap.) Adult.

*This is a great resource for librarians wishing to find easy ways to add puppets of all kinds to their repertoire.*

Best, Cari. *Shrinking Violet*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2001. 40 p. (978-0374368821) Pre, Pri.

*Violet, who is very shy and hates for anyone to look at her in school, finally comes out of her shell when she is cast as Lady Space in a play about the solar system and saves the production from disaster.*

Bonk, John J. *Dustin Grubbs: One-Man Show*. Little Brown Young Readers, 2005. 256 p. (978-0316156363) Int.

*A sixth-grader, who longs to see his name in lights, recounts life at Buttermilk Falls Elementary in preparation for the school drama production.*

Cecil, Randy. *One Dark and Dreadful Night*. Henry Holt & Company, 2004. 32 p. (978-

0805067798) Pri.

*Maestro Von Haughty wants to present three thrilling tales of terror and misfortune, but members of the Wayward Orphans Theatre make some very silly changes to the costumes and script.*

Cheaney, J. B. ***The Playmaker***. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2000. 320 p. (978-0375805776) Int, YA.

*While working as an apprentice in a London theater company in 1597, 14-year-old Richard uncovers a mystery involving the disappearance of his father and a traitorous plot to overthrow Queen Elizabeth.*

Conford, Ellen. ***Annabel the Actress Starring in Camping It Up*** (Annabel the Actress). Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2004. 64 p. (978-0689847356) Pri, Int.

*Annabel auditions for the camp play and cinches the lead role. But Annabel soon learns that the show must go on even when things don't go exactly as rehearsed. Fourth in the series.*

Cooper, Susan. ***The Magician's Boy***. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2005. 112 p. (978-0689876226) Pri.

*A boy who works for a magician meets familiar fairy tale characters when he is transported to the Land of Story in search of a missing puppet.*

Creech, Sharon. ***Replay***. Joanna Cotler Books, 2005. 240 p. (978-0060540197) Int, YA.

*While preparing for a role in the school play, 12-year-old Leo finds an autobiography that his father wrote as a teenager and ponders the ways people change as they grow up. Includes the text for the play, "Rumpopo's Porch."*

de Paola, Tomie. ***Stagestruck***. Putnam Juvenile, 2005. 32 p. (978-0399243387) Pre, Pri.

*Although Tommy fails to get the part of Peter Rabbit in the kindergarten play, he still finds a way to be the center of attention on stage.*

Edwards, Julie. ***The Great American Mousical***. Julie Andrews Collection, 2006. 160 p. (978-0060579180) Int.

*The adventures of theatrical mice that live and work in a miniature world beneath Broadway.*

Faulkner, Keith, and Jonathan Lambert. ***The Wide-Mouthed Frog: A Pop-up Book***. Dial, 1996. 16 p. (978-0803718753, lib. bdg.) Pre, Pri.

*Retells the story of the mother wide-mouthed frog who nearly gets eaten by a crocodile.*

Fleischman, Paul. ***Lost! A Story in String***. Henry Holt & Company, 2000. 32 p. (978-0805055832) Pri.

*A grandmother tells a story about a young girl who uses her wits and what is available to her to help her survive when she is lost in the snow. Includes instructions for creating a number of string figures mentioned in the story.*

Gibbs, Adrea. ***Let's Put on a Show! A Beginner's Theatre Handbook for Young Actors***. Meriwether Publishing, 1999. 159 p. (978-1566080521, pap.) Int, YA.

*A guidebook for young would-be thespians, covering theatre vocabulary, scripting, casting, staging, sets and scenery, props, costumes, and makeup, as well as the basics of backstage and technical particulars.*

Haley, Gail E. **A Story, A Story**. Atheneum, 1970. 36 p. (978-0689205118, lib. bdg.) Pre, Pri.

*Recounts how most African folktales came to be called "Spider Stories."*

Hoeye, Michael. **No Time Like Show Time, a Hermux Tantamoq Adventure**. Puffin, 2006. 288 p. (978-0399238802) Int.

*Watchmaker-mouse Hermux Tantamoq enters the exciting and somewhat shady world of show business to investigate a mysterious blackmailer at the Varmint Theater.*

Holabird, Katharine. **Angelina on Stage**. Viking Juvenile, 2006. 32 p. (978-0670060580) Pre, Pri.

*When Cousin Henry gets all the attention in the grown-up musical in which they have roles, Angelina becomes jealous, but she demonstrates her fondness for him when a crisis occurs on opening night.*

Jeffers, Oliver. **How to Catch a Star**. Philomel Books, 2004. 32 p. (978-0399242861) Pre, Pri.

*Eager to catch a star, a little boy thinks of imaginative ways to catch one.*

Karr, Kathleen. **Gilbert and Sullivan Set Me Free**. Hyperion, 2003. 240 p. (978-0786819164) Int, YA.

*During the early 1900s, a teenaged inmate's dreary life at Massachusetts's Sherborn Prison for Women changes for the better after she becomes a member of the prison choir and participates in the production of the operetta "The Pirates of Penzance."*

Krulik, Nancy E. **No Biz Like Show Biz** (Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo). Grosset & Dunlap, 2007. 76 p. (978-0448444406, pap.) Pri.

*Thanks to the magic wind, when the unassuming Miriam (instead of the smug Suzanne) gets the leading role in the school play, Katie soon finds herself on stage, trying to sing and remember her lines. Includes directions for making fingerprint doodles.*

Laguna, Sofie. **Too Loud Lily**. Scholastic, 2004. 32 p. (978-0439579131) Pri.

*Lily's family and friends often complain that she is too loud, but that loudness makes her a hit in the school play.*

Langley, Jonathan, and Karen Langley. **Shine**. Marshall Cavendish, 2002. 32 p. (978-0761451273) Pre, Pri.

*Jimmy practices "shining" for his role in the school Nativity play.*

Love, Anne D. **The Puppeteer's Apprentice**. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2003. 192 p. (978-0689844249) Int.

*A medieval orphan girl called Mouse gains the courage she needs to follow her dreams of becoming a puppeteer's apprentice.*

MacDonald, Margaret Read. **The Fat Cat, a Danish Folktale**. August House, 2001. 32 p. (978-0874836165) Pre, Pri.

*A greedy cat grows enormous as he eats everything in sight, including his friends and neighbors who call him fat. An older edition of this retelling by Jack Kent is OP.*

MacLean, Christine Kole. **Mary Margaret, Center Stage.** Dutton Juvenile, 2006. 160 p. (978-0525475972) Pri, Int.

*Mary Margaret is hoping to be Cinderella in the community play but must face the fact that the lead will be played by Ellie, the new girl in class who seems to do everything right.*

McDonald, Megan. **When the Library Lights Go Out.** Atheneum, 2005. 40 p. (978-0689861703) Pre, Pri.

*When the lights go out in the library, the storytime puppets set out on an adventure to find their missing friend, Hermit Crab.*

O'Connell, Rebecca. **The Baby Goes Beep.** Roaring Brook Press, 2003. 32 p. (978-0761317890) Pre.

*Colorful pictures show baby making all kinds of noises before quietly going to sleep.*

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Stage Fright on a Summer Night** (Magic Tree House # 25). Random House Books for Young Readers, 2002. 96 p. (978-0375806117, pap.) Pri, Int.  
*Jack and Annie travel in their magic tree house to Elizabethan London, where they become actors in a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and try to rescue a tame bear.*

Park, Barbara. **Junie B., First Grader—Shipwrecked.** Random House Books for Young Readers, 2003. 88 p. (978-0375828041) Pri.

*Junie B.'s journal entries start with Room One's stomach virus excitement, the first grade Columbus Day play, and getting the part of the Pinta, the fastest ship.*

Paterson, Katherine. **The Master Puppeteer.** Harper Teen, 1989. 192 p. (978-0064402811, pap.) Int.

*A 13-year-old boy describes the poverty and discontent of 18th-century Osaka and the world of puppeteers in which he lives.*

Pellowski, Anne. **The Story Vine, a Sourcebook of Unusual and Easy-to-Tell Stories from around the World.** Aladdin, 1984. OP.

*Includes the string story, "The Farmer and His Yams."*

Pennypacker, Sara. **The Talented Clementine.** Hyperion, 2007. 144 p. (978-0786838707) Pri.

*In this second easy chapter book about Clementine, the eight-year-old, convinced that she has no talents, tries to find a way to avoid participating in the class talent show.*

Pinkney, Andrea Davis, and Brian Pinkney. **Shake Shake Shake.** Red Wagon Books, 1997. 8 p. (978-0152006327, board bk.) Pre.

*A mother and her young children play with an African percussion instrument called a shekere.*

Poydar, Nancy. **Bunny Business.** Holiday House, 2003. 32 p. (978-0823417711) Pre, Pri.  
*When his class performs a spring play about rabbits, Harry proves that he is a good listener after all.*

Raffi. **This Little Light of Mine** (Raffi Songs to Read). Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2004. 32 p. (978-0375828713) Pre, Pri.

*Illustrations portray children putting on a school play and encouraging the shy star to let her*

*light shine in this version of the traditional song.*

Say, Allen. ***Kamishibai Man***. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. 32 p. (978-0618479542) Pri, Int. *After many years of retirement, an old Kamishibai man—a Japanese street performer who tells stories and sells candies—decides to make his rounds once more even though such entertainment declined after the advent of television.*

Schimmel, Nancy. ***Just Enough to Make a Story***. Sisters Choice, 1993. 3rd ed. 56 p. (978-0932164032, pap.) Adult. *This introduction to the art of storytelling includes the paper story, “The Rainhat.”*

Shannon, George. ***True Lies: 18 Tales for You to Judge***. HarperTrophy, 1998. 64 p. (978-0688163716, pap.) Pri, Int. *A collection of 18 brief folktales in which the reader is asked to explain how the folk character lied and told the truth at the same time.*

Seuss, Dr. ***Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You?*** Random House Books for Young Readers, 1970. 36 p. (978-0394806228) Pre. *Mr. Brown can make lots of noises.*

Spolin, Viola. ***Theater Games for the Classroom: A Teacher’s Handbook***. Northwestern University Press, 1986. (978-0810140042) Adult. *Describes the rules and purpose of rhythmic movement games, space walks, transformation, sensory, and mirror games, and suggests storytelling activities.*

Tolan, Stephanie S. ***Surviving the Applewhites***. HarperCollins, 2002. 224 p. (978-0066236025) Int, YA. *Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family’s Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.*

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. ***The Mystery on Stage*** (Boxcar Children Mysteries). Albert Whitman, 1994. 128 p. (978-0807554180, pap.) Pri, Int. *The Aldens become involved in a community theater production of “The Wizard of Oz,” which is systematically and mysteriously being sabotaged.*

Winkler, Henry. ***The Curtain Went Up, My Pants Fell Down*** (Hank Zipzer #11). Grosset and Dunlap, 2007. 158 p. (978-0448442679) Pri, Int. *Failing fifth grade math, Hank must depend on Heather, the class brain, to help him get a “B” on the next test in order for him to be eligible to play the lead in the school play, “The King and I.”*

Wright, Denise Anton. ***One-Person Puppet Plays***. Teacher Ideas Press, 1990. 250 p. (978-0872877429, pap.) Adult. *Here’s another good resource for one-person libraries. It includes lots of tips, scripts, puppet patterns, and more.*

## **Audio**

Greg and Steve. ***Kids in Motion***. CD. Youngheart Records, 1987. (B00000AG63).

*Includes the song "The Freeze."*

Greg and Steve. ***Shake, Rattle & Rock***. CD. Greg & Steve Productions, 2006. (B000EHSME0).

*Includes the song "Stop & Go."*

Raffi. ***Rise and Shine***. CD. Rounder, 1996. (B0000003HG).

*Includes the song "This Little Light of Mine."*

Raffi. ***Singable Songs for the Very Young***. CD. Rounder, 1996. 1886767319.

*Includes "The More We Get Together."*

***Six Little Ducks***. CD. Kimbo Educational, 2000. (B000009NFY).

*Includes the song, "Swinging on a Star" and many other popular children's tunes.*

## **Web sites**

***Deep Fun.*** [www.deepfun.com/humancards.html](http://www.deepfun.com/humancards.html).

*A resourceful site by Bernard DeKoven, who is the founder of The Game Preserve, a retreat center for the study of play and also the author of Junkyard Sports. Includes directions for the Human Cards game.*

***Heather Forest Story Arts.*** [www.storyarts.org](http://www.storyarts.org).

*Storyteller Heather Forest's site has lesson plans, activities, and lots of ideas for incorporating storytelling into your programs.*

***Kamishibai for Kids.*** [www.kamishibai.com/index.html](http://www.kamishibai.com/index.html).

*This commercial site sells Kamishibai story cards. It also explains what this Japanese storytelling form is and ideas for using it. Each set includes a teacher's guide.*

***Kamishibai: Japanese Storytelling.***

[www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/outreach\\_materials/Kamishibai.pdf](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/outreach_materials/Kamishibai.pdf).

*This article from the Child Development Center of the University of Pittsburgh gives background on Kamishibai and also lesson plans for a project in which kids make their own Kamishibai storycards.*

***The e-Stories Project, Enoch Pratt Free Library.***

[www.prattlibrary.org/home/storyIndex.aspx](http://www.prattlibrary.org/home/storyIndex.aspx).

*A collection of live-action, multicultural storyteller performances viewable online. The stories represent many cultures including African, African American, Appalachian, Celtic, Chinese, Indian, Iranian, Irish, Jewish, and Native American. This project was funded by a grant from the Institute for Museums and Libraries. Check it out. The stories are wonderful to watch and listen to.*