



## Piccadilly Puppets Classroom Guide

### *Cat and Mouse Tales*



This multicultural show will have kids “squeak”ing with delight as they watch several folktales featuring these furry friends and “purr” along with some early rock tunes. Will the cat ever catch the mouse, or can these natural enemies ever be friends? Grades preK-5.

#### HISTORY

Piccadilly Puppets has been entertaining and educating students for fifty years! Our professional puppeteers have extensive experience working with children. We use a variety of puppetry styles and offer a varied repertoire of programs that relate to curriculum.

- ◆ Awarded the UNIMA Citation for Excellence in the Art of Puppetry
- ◆ Formerly on the Artist Roster of Arts For Learning

**1**

#### ELA STANDARD

ELAGSE1RL3: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

**2**

#### ELA STANDARD

ELAGSE2RL2: Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.

**3**

#### THEATRE ARTS STANDARD

TA1.RE.2 Critique various aspects of theatre and other media

## Learning Objectives

Students will be able to draw a picture or write a descriptive paragraph of one or more of the characters.  
Students will be able to retell one or more of the stories.  
Students will be able to compare and contrast different styles of puppets.

## Vocabulary and Geography

- |                      |                     |           |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| ◆ Setting            | ◆ Message or Lesson | ◆ Myanmar |
| ◆ Character          | ◆ Greece            |           |
| ◆ Problem & Solution | ◆ Thailand          |           |

## Assess the Learning : Questions to Ask the Students Following the Program

For each story: What was the setting? Who were the characters? What was the lesson?  
Cultures use myths and legends to explain the reasoning behind things in nature. Give some examples from this show. Can you think of any other stories that do this? (known as “pourquoi” tales, using the French word for “why”)

## Extend the Learning: Post-Show Activities

Find these countries on a map: Greece (“The Lion and the Mouse”), Thailand (“Why Siamese Cats Have a Kink in their Tails”) and Myanmar (aka Burma, “Why Cats Chase Mice”).  
Choose an animal to research. What do they eat? Who are their enemies (predators)? Can you find a folktale that features your animal?

## Additional Resources

American and World Folk Legends: <https://www.pitt.edu/~dash/folktexts.html>

Grimm’s Fairy Tales: [http://www.grimmstories.com/en/grimm\\_fairy-tales/index](http://www.grimmstories.com/en/grimm_fairy-tales/index)

American Folklore: <http://www.americanfolklore.net/>

Aesop’s Fables - There have been hundreds of books published. There should be a volume in your media center

Visit the Britannica Kids site and look up *cat*, *mouse*, or other animal: <https://kids.britannica.com/>

