

Andy Offutt Irwin's

STUDY GUIDE

for the performance of

Letters, Numbers and Other Important Stuff

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MEET THE ARTIST

Andy began his career writing and directing shows with the comedy troupe, SAK Theatre, at Walt Disney World. Now a happy arts educator, he is currently in his twenty-first year as Artist-in-Residence at Oxford College of Emory University where has been the recipient of the *Clark Award for Exemplary Teaching*. Andy has presented workshops and residencies for LaGuardia High School of Art & Music and Performing Arts in New York (the *FAME!* School); City University of New York; Georgia College & State University; and Atlanta City Schools. He has been the featured performer/speaker at the *Library of Congress/Viburnum Foundation Family Literacy Workshop*. He is an Artist Partner with *Character through the Arts*, and *Artful Learning*TM in which the Leonard Bernstein Model is taught through a series of ongoing professional workshops and mentoring relationships with teachers. Blah, blah, blah. He is very much in touch with his outer child.

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

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**PROPER ETIQUETTE AND
AUDIENCE TRAINING**

Certainly it should go without saying that the students should sit quietly, attentively, and – by all means – laugh when the performance is funny. If the children are seated on the floor, they should remain *crisscross-applesauce*, although no one can say what *applesauce* has to do with it. At the time of this writing, there is little or no scientific evidence correlating the consumption of applesauce and the proper behavior of children at a performance. That said, teachers should be prepared to participate, as well as the children, and do any paperwork at a later time.

About the Program

Andy begins the program in silence, which is to say, don't ask him a question and expect a verbal response before the program begins. You'll understand after he starts.

Active counting, alphabet and spelling songs, along with some tunes that teach life lessons. Original songs include, "My Fingers Equal my Toes", "You are a Goofy Kid" and "Socks Go Between my Feet and my Shoes."

Objectives

1. Students will engage in interactive music and storytelling techniques of association and repetition
2. Students will learn several numbers and letters of the alphabet
3. Students will enjoy themselves

Vocabulary

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|-----------|------------|
| 1. one | 11. us |
| 2. two | 12. hand |
| 3. three | 13. finger |
| 4. number | 14. glove |
| 5. letter | 15. foot |
| 6. word | 16. toes |
| 7. I | 17. sock |
| 8. me | 18. shoe |
| 9. you | 19. lace |
| 10. we | 20. fun |

Curriculum Connection

Fine Arts:

With his guitar, Andy creates responses, in the form of movements, to steady beats. He also creates simple vocal and percussive sounds to songs, poems and stories.

Language Arts:

Children will repeat auditory sequences: letters, words, numbers, and rhythmic patterns. Andy will also increase the children's vocabulary to reflect a growing range of interests and knowledge.

Character Education:

Children learn important values, such as: honesty, fairness, creativity and acceptance. Children will be exposed to lessons in tolerance and altruism as well.

Class Exercise: Have the children draw a picture describing how they feel after the program and then hold a classroom discussion in where the children help to interpret each others' pictures.