

**Meerkat**  
**Productions**



**INCURSIONS GUIDE 2016/17**

**MEERKATPRODUCTIONS.COM.AU**

# HELLO!

★ WE'RE MEERKAT PRODUCTIONS ★



## ABOUT US

Meerkat Productions specialize in adapting children's literature for the stage; creating fresh and vibrant productions which prompt discussion and debate with students. We are Australian owned and operated by qualified teachers and perform at private functions, schools, libraries and public events.

**Our role (and our passion) is to empower children by entertaining them with theatre. We choose to tackle the issues that are difficult for teachers to raise in the classroom. Our shows enable students and teachers to engage in the conversations they must have and our teacher resources enable them to handle the discussion effectively.**

In our opinion, exposing young people to live performance from a young age is critical. Our children are part of a technology based culture, and we are in danger of losing the wonder of storytelling, the magic of seeing real actors unravel a story before your eyes, and the sheer delight of seeing a live performance. Theatre has the ability to create life long memories for children and adults alike.

## WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016/17

Every year we give all of our shows a refresh. This year they're getting a brand new set which is more vibrant, interactive and engaging for the students.

**"The movement throughout the room was incredible. Every student had their attention fixed the entire time."**

*St Michaels PS, North Melbourne, VIC*

**"Clever use of space. Great interaction with the audience and getting them involved."**

*Morang South PS, VIC*



**We have a new show!** Our term 3 adaptation of Anna Walker's award winning book Mr Huff is now available during terms 1 & 2. This show supports schools in the delivery of the **Personal and Social Capability curriculum**.

We're introducing a referral program. If you book one of our shows and recommend us to another school that also books with us we'll give you 5% off your final invoice.

**Did you know you can book more than one show on the same day?** Any shows that are available in the same term can be booked on the same day. Have a chat to us about potential multiple booking discounts.

## WHY CHOOSE US

- We have a really simple booking process! We'll send you a quote which you can accept online.
- Not only that, we bring you some of the best practitioners in Australian Theatre. Our performers are all young, professionally trained performers with a current WWCC and our creative team work in the professional theatre industry, including the musicals The Sound of Music and The Lion King and at Melbourne Theatre Company.
- Our shows use music and puppetry and include a structured and informative Q&A session which supports the school's delivery of the **Critical and Creative Thinking curriculum**. We also encourage audience participation and active engagement in all of our performances.

**WE PROVIDE EXPERIENCES  
THAT ARE:**

**LITERACY DRIVEN  
CURRICULUM-BASED  
SEEN BY 50,000 STUDENTS YEARLY**

## WHAT'S PROVIDED BY US?

**1**

**TEACHER RESOURCE PACKS TO SUPPORT OUR VISIT AND TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION AFTER WE'VE LEFT**

**2**

**SHOW FLYERS AND PERMISSION LETTER TEMPLATES**

**3**

**ALL STAGING, SOUND AND LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS**

**4**

**AN AMAZING SHOW!**

**5**

**STRUCTURED POST-PERFORMANCE Q&A WITH THE STUDENTS WHERE WE TALK ABOUT THE THEMES RAISED IN THE SHOW, HOW OUR SET, PROPS, PUPPETS, ETC. WORK AND HOW THEY WERE MADE**



## WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

A performance space 5m by 5m, plus enough room for the students to sit on the floor and watch the show

Access to the performance space one hour before and one hour after the show

One power point

**That's it!**



**JUMP ON OUR WEBSITE TO CHECK DATES,  
GET A QUOTE OR GIVE US A CALL ON 1300 308 311**



# INCURSIONS AVAILABLE 2016/17

## MR HUFF

### ABOUT THE SHOW

Bill is having a bad day. Mr Huff is following him around and making everything seem difficult. Bill tries to get rid of him, but Mr Huff just gets bigger and bigger! Then they both stop, and a surprising thing happens... Our adaptation of Anna Walker's award winning book enables children to identify emotions and how to deal with them.

### TESTIMONIALS

"Wonderful that children are exposed to such relevant mental health issues through quality drama." – *St Columba Anglican School, Port Macquarie, NSW*

"Excellent opportunities for all children to participate. Age appropriate to help embed learning how to manage emotions." – *St Stephen's College, Upper Coomera, QLD*

"I have one particular student who often experiences 'the huffs'. You made his day. ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT!!" – *Gayndah State School, QLD*

#### KEY THEMES

Anxiety in children, Emotional Intelligence, dealing with a bad day, resilience, mindfulness

#### CURRICULUM AREAS

Personal & Social Capability; Health & Physical Education; Critical & Creative Thinking; English; Arts

#### SUITABLE FOR

Prep to Grade 6

#### AVAILABLE

Terms 1 & 2



## ANTI-BULLYING: BULLY BULL RING



### ABOUT THE SHOW

The characters all perform their own song & dance numbers to help Bellamy understand different approaches to resolving the issues of bullying. With lesson plans & question time incorporating the ideals of programmes such as **"You Can Do It"** & **"Better Buddies"** just to name a few. Ideal for schools focussing on bullying into the future.

### TESTIMONIALS

"Good lessons that apply to (students) everyday activities" –  
*Beaumaris Primary School, VIC*

"A great way to connect Program Achieve to bullying" – *Larmenier Catholic Primary School, TAS*

"A strong message which was clearly understood" – *Birchip School, VIC*

"Another high quality production. The standard of performance was excellent." –  
*St Mary's Catholic School, Bairnsdale, VIC*

#### KEY THEMES

Bullying, Racism, Problem Solving, Self-Image

#### CURRICULUM AREAS

Personal & Social Capability; Ethical Capability; Health & Physical Education; Critical & Creative Thinking; Arts

#### SUITABLE FOR

Prep to Grade 6

#### AVAILABLE

Terms 1,2 & 4







# FAIRYTALES & PUPPETRY: FRACTURED FAIRYTALES

## ABOUT THE SHOW

This is a show in two parts!

### Part 1: Good Things Come In Threes

Three of our favourite fairy tales are performed using three different styles of puppetry. But here's the twist, the students pick which story is told with which style of puppetry. Between each story the performers show the students how the puppets work and some are able to have a go at operating them.

*Suitable for: Prep to Grade 6*

### Part 2: Fractured Fairy Tales

Our optional extra. We take the same three stories and fracture them into one 15 minute story. If you book this part we reduce the puppetry workshop to ensure there's time for Q&A at the end.

*Suitable for: Grade/Year 3 to 6*

## TESTIMONIALS

"Visually engaging for students, excellent puppets, catchy songs. I enjoyed the costumes, music and puppets, an entertaining performance." – *Glenroy West Primary School, VIC*

"The best thing I've seen in a long time!...The puppets were amazing, really brilliant!... Brilliant voices!" – *Scotch College, Hawthorn, VIC*

"Absolutely Brilliant! Please, please come again. Great Inspiration for follow up activities." – *East Launceston Primary School, TAS*

### KEY THEMES

Fairy tales, Puppetry

### CURRICULUM AREAS

English; Critical & Creative Thinking; Arts

### AVAILABLE

Terms 1 & 2





# MATHS & SCIENCE: ADVENTURESCOPE



## ABOUT THE SHOW

This is a highly interactive Maths & Science show where students are constantly asked to be costumed volunteers on stage and become part of the action. Using recognisable characters we get students excited about maths and science and show how they are used to solve everyday problems.

## TESTIMONIALS

"A wonderful performance...Amazing and awesome!"

– *St John's Lutheran PS, Kingaroy, QLD*

"Prompted great maths discussions! To combine Science and Maths with theatre and film worked very well." – *East Launceston PS, East Launceston, TAS*

"High standard, fast paced, superb performance!" – *Piangil PS, Piangil, VIC*

"What a wonderful way to learn about science!" – *Auburn PS, Auburn, SA*

"Fast paced, great characters and story lines. Science concepts embedded cleverly into each scene." – *Watervale PS, Watervale, SA*

### KEY THEMES

Maths, Science, Problem Solving

### CURRICULUM AREAS

Mathematics; Science; Critical & Creative Thinking; Arts

### SUITABLE FOR

Prep to Grade 6

### AVAILABLE

Term 2



# BOOK WEEK: CBCA SHORTLISTED BOOK ADAPTATIONS

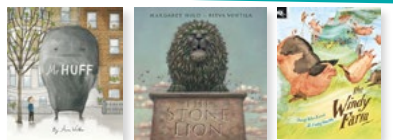


## ABOUT THE SHOW

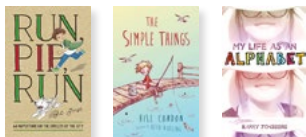
Each year, in celebration of Book Week and Literacy Week, we adapt two books shortlisted by the CBCA Picture Book & Younger Readers Book of The Year Awards. We create a 40 minute musical production including original songs and puppetry. The chosen books are announced in May, however the tour starts to sell out the previous September so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

## OUR RECENT ADAPTATIONS

### PICTURE BOOK



### YOUNGER READERS NOVEL



## TESTIMONIALS FROM MR HUFF

"It truly was the best shortlisted book performance I have ever seen." – *Iona Public School, Woodville, NSW*

"Absolutely fabulous!! Thank you. Super message - great lesson in life." – *St Oliver Plunkett School, Cannon Hill, QLD*

## TESTIMONIALS FROM RUN, PIP, RUN

"My favourite part of the incredible show is the puppets...The show can be improved by NOTHING because it was perfect." – *Student feedback*

"The Q&A session where the kids got to ask questions was excellent. I liked pulling out some of the positive themes of friendship, etc." – *St Michaels PS, North Melbourne, VIC*

### CURRICULUM AREAS

English; Critical & Creative Thinking; Arts

### SUITABLE FOR

Picture Book – Prep to Grade 6;  
Younger Readers – Grade / Year 3 to 7

### AVAILABLE

Terms 3

## CHRISTMAS SHOW: RUDOLPH'S RECRUITS



### ABOUT THE SHOW

A fantastic, original Aussie Christmas adventure. Join Rudolph in his quest to find a team of local Australian animals capable of pulling Santa's sleigh. Includes a visit from Santa too!!

### TESTIMONIAL

"Congratulations and thank you for presenting such a wonderful show to the boys. We all loved it...the "Aussie" interpretation was wonderful." – *Brighton Grammar School, Brighton, VIC*

#### KEY THEMES

Christmas, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Stereotypes, Friendships, Australian Fauna

#### CURRICULUM AREAS

Science; Critical & Creative Thinking; Arts

#### SUITABLE FOR

Prep to Grade 6

#### AVAILABLE

Term 4



**CHECK [MEERKATPRODUCTIONS.COM.AU](https://meerkatproductions.com.au)  
FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT EACH SHOW**