

# Songs From the Garden

## Study Guide

### ACTIVITIES FOR AFTER THE SHOW (K – G3)

#### LANGUAGE

- 1. Clueless:** Which character in the story is *clueless*? A. Skeeter. Does this character change during the story? What would happen if you ran out of water at home?
- 2. Empathy:** Which character in the story is *Empathetic*? A: Empathina  
How does she show empathy? Who is she empathetic towards? What is empathy?
- 3. Communication:** How do the creatures in the garden communicate to each other?
- 4. Creativity:** Create your own Forest Character. Describe or draw your Grom and give them a name. What do they do to take care of the environment?
- 5. Self-awareness:** What goals can you set for yourself to make your environment better? What do you think the message of the play is?

#### SCIENCE / NATURE

- 1. Life Cycle:** Can you name the changes that Empathina's body goes through in the story during her *life cycle*? Hint: Listen to the lyrics of "There Was An Egg". Name the stages a butterfly goes through in nature. A: Egg, caterpillar (larva), cocoon (pupa/chrysalis), Butterfly (adult).
- 2. Carbon Footprint:** How big is your carbon footprint? What can you do to reduce your carbon footprint?
- 3. Echo:** What causes an echo in nature or in the city? (Mountains, valleys, caves, a bat's sonar, sound bouncing off of a building, someone singing into a special microphone).
- 4. Food and Nutrients:** What is your favourite fruit or veggie and why? Name 5 fruits or veggies that have different colours. How are fresh fruits and vegetables different from processed food that you could buy in a supermarket?
- 4. Others:** Where are places you could grow a garden? (School, home, indoor spaces). How much work is involved?

## **ART, DRAMA, MUSIC**

**1. Drought Drama Game:** Have students “hatch” as their favorite animal and move along the grass as a healthy animal and then move as a hungry/thirsty animal during a drought.

**2. In Sync Music Exercise:** Everyone must try to keep the beat with a slow tempo by clapping. What does it sound like when some people are early or late? (ie: messy, busy etc.)

**3. Body percussion:** Name examples of body percussion in the play, “Songs From the Garden!” A: Tapping your cheeks, tapping your chest, making a popping sound with your hands and mouth.

**4. Music instruments:** What instrument does Empathina make? A: Shaker. Can you make one of these in your classroom?

**5. Drama activity:** Get a partner. Discover how to make a happy face and a sad face and take turns making these expressions. Try and connect a real emotion to that face. How does that make you feel?

**6. Create:** Compose a musical composition, write a poem or produce a drama that is inspired by the beauty of nature.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**1. Being Outdoors:** Do you like spending time outdoors? What activities have you done or would like to do?

**2. Skateboarding:** How are skateboarding, surfing and snowboarding related? Which came first? Can you name some famous male and female skateboarders?

## **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

**1. Skateboarding:** What are the graphics like on skateboards? Do these athletes like to document their own maneuvers? How do they document it? How has skateboard culture affected modern clothing styles?

**2. Research:** Search online for famous people that were inspired by beauty in nature. Suggestions: Gertrude Jekyll, David Suzuki, Al Gore, Rob Stewart, Rod Stewart, Justin Trudeau, Jethro Tull, Ian Anderson, Antonio Vivaldi, Bedrich Smetana.