

Mr McGee & the Biting Flea

By Pamela Allen

SOCIAL SCRIPT HANNAH PLAYHOUSE

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What is this pack for?

This information pack is to help prepare you for your visit.

Front of venue

There is a big sign above the doors that says 'Theatre Entrance'. There may be a poster on the front of the building with a picture of a theatre show.



Inside

When you go into the Hannah Playhouse, there is a lift to the right of the main doors as you enter. There are some seats on the ground floor. The ground floor is carpeted. There are stairs on the left.



There are 20 stairs up the first floor, or you can use the lift. You will find a space on the first floor with seats and space to stand.



When the theatre is ready for you to go inside, a Hannah Playhouse team member will tell you over a microphone.

Then you need to go up some more stairs (there are 20 here too), down a passageway and into the theatre where you will be shown where to sit.



You might be sitting in the balcony. If so, before you get to the 'main entrance' you go up the stairs on your right to the balcony level to take your seat.

There is wheelchair access from the auditorium foyer into the front of the auditorium, where the Stalls are situated. The auditorium has 22 stairs between the front and rear of the seating rows. The auditorium flooring is a mix of wood and concrete.

Where are the toilets?

On the first floor, go to the right hand side of the bar and the toilets are on the left.

There is a baby change facility in the accessible toilet. Please note there is no hoist system in the toilets.

Inside the theatre

There are rows of fold-down seats with stairs up either side. At the front is a stage, this is where the show will happen. When you arrive in the theatre the lights will be on so you can see where to go.



Once everyone has found their seats, the lights will change to be less bright so you can see the stage better and music will begin to play. The show is going to start! It's time to sit, listen, and watch the stage.



Show Synopsis

On the stage is two very large shelves filled with lots of suitcases and interesting objects. All of these objects are used throughout the show to help tell the story.

The show starts with a recorded announcement saying to turn phones off, and not to photograph or video the show. Then you will hear the performers talking over microphones before they get onto the stage – you will hear them before you see them. When you see them, they will see you and say hello before starting the show.

The show is made up of six short stories all performed by three actors on the stage- Jamie, Kate and Ari. They act and sing and dance.

After each short story, the actors will say 'the end' to show that that story has finished.

Mr McGee

After eating a red apple, Mr McGee finds that he can fly, until a passing bird brings him down to earth again.

In this story Mr McGee is a puppet with a balloon as his head! The balloon gets pumped up so that he can fly around the stage area.

Alexander's Outing

When a straggling, inattentive duckling falls down a deep hole in the road passers-by use their ingenuity and join together to come to the rescue.

The ladders and suitcases are arranged to create a small city for a family of ducks to go on an outing. The ducks are toy rubber ducks. Alexander the duck is walking with his mum and brothers and sisters. During their outing Alexander goes missing – he has fallen down a hole. Don't worry- he gets rescued in the end by some kind passers-by.

Belinda

This is the story of Belinda the cow, who only lets certain people milk her.

Two of the performers dress up as Belinda the cow. During this story Farmer Tom tries to milk Belinda and to begin with she doesn't want him to, so she runs away from him which is quite funny. Belinda the cow and Farmer Tom come out to the audience and run along the front of the stage. Farmer Tom eventually dresses up as his wife Bessie and Belinda the cow lets him milk her.

Brown Bread and Honey

The king loves to run and jump and ride his horse - but he also loves to eat. Soon he is too fat to run, jump and ride his horse and the delicious dishes prepared by his cooks no longer seem so good. One night he is really sick from over-eating and he sacks the cooks. As he feels better and a little hungry, he is upset when he is unable to find anyone who can make him breakfast. The next day the stable boy finds the king hungry and sad and gives him his lunch - brown bread and honey! From then on, the two lunch together and soon the king is able to run, jump and ride his horse again.

The performers become French chefs in this story and have French accents. If you listen carefully you can understand what they are saying. The performers also play many other characters to act out the story.

Inside Mary Elizabeth's House

There is a monster at Mary Elizabeth's house – but her classmates don't believe her! One night she invites them all home to dinner, and they realise she isn't lying!

The monster in this story is the audience. When the boys come over to Mary Elizabeth's house, she introduces them to the monster – and as part of the audience you can join in and do a very loud, monster roar! The boys get scared of your loud roar and run away.

McGee and The Biting Flea

Mr McGee went out to play, down to the beach one windy day, the story begins. His happy mood is spoilt when he is bitten by a flea, a flea that he can't get rid of. The only solution is to take off all his clothes and jump into the sea because of course, fleas don't like the sea. Mr McGee and the flea are finally separated, and the flea moves on to the hair of a dog instead.

It is very funny when Mr McGee starts to take his clothes off to find the flea. We see pretend large red spots where the flea has bitten him. He eventually takes all of his clothes off but hides behind a suitcase, so we don't see him fully naked.

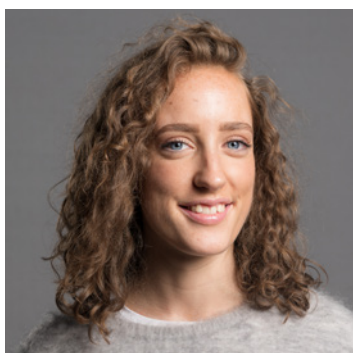
When the show has finished, people may clap their hands. You can clap too if you liked the show!

The lights will come back on and everyone will stand up and collect their things and leave the theatre.

Performers



Jamie Swarbick



Kate Hanning



Ariadne Baltazar

Thanks for watching, we'll see you next time!