



## Mapping Connections to Your Theater Experience

This overview provides a preview of the big picture Enduring Understandings of each performance and preview of the Compelling Questions used to frame an Inquiry project in your classroom. We would love for what is happening on stage at Des Moines Performing Arts to provide a jumping off point to invite deeper engagement, to spark conversation, and connect to topics and objectives already present in your classroom.

### Penguins

March 30, 2020 at the Civic Center

Grades PK-3

#### ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS

Family can take many forms and appearances. There are many ways that people (and animals) can create supportive relationships with one another.

Though impossible to know exactly what the penguins in the Central Park Zoo were thinking or feeling, the story was powerful to many. An event can represent a deeper meaning through the creation of a story and be meaningful for others. Sharing stories is a way that people connect.

#### COMPELLING QUESTIONS

- How do the different versions of the penguins' story connect to the performance? What is added? What is missing? Why do you imagine the creators of the performance made the artistic choices they did?
- What else do we know about how animals form family groups in and out of captivity? Do all animals create “families?” What is the purpose of an animal family?
- How do you decide with whom you’d like to be friends? How important is it to you to make your own choices about who your friends are?

You can find more information on our website and in the Curriculum Guides that work to connect the themes of the performance to Social Studies, Writing and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills standards. Fine Arts Standards in Theater, Dance, and Music can connect when appropriate.

Preview of Standards connected to Inquiry Guide:

<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>Literacy/Writing</b>
Developing Claims and Using Evidence	Research to Build and Present Knowledge
Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions	<b>21st Century Skills</b>
Taking Informed Action	Technology Literacy 21.3-5.TL.3