

SENSORY- FRIENDLY/ RELAXED PERFORMANCE

PRE-VISIT GUIDE

Ugly Duckling



This is a show about Ugly, a duckling that doesn't quite look or act like any other duckling. Mommy duck loves him just the way he is, but his duckling brothers and sisters tease him for being different. Ugly goes out on an adventure in the woodlands to find a place where he could fit in. Along the way, Ugly meets lots of new and interesting friends and discovers that being different can be a great thing!

You will hear different sound effects, see different kinds of lights, and the characters will sometimes play and sing songs.

Some of the lights in the theater will remain on during the performance so you are able to move around, enter, and exit as you need.

Ugly Duckling is 50 minutes and has no intermission, but you are free to leave and come back at any time.

The show has a lot of characters, and they will all be performed by three very talented actors, who will use costumes, different voices, and even puppets to change between characters!

Out of costume, they look like this:



Danny Childs



Marcelo Cervone



Dora Rubinstein

The stage is made up of different set pieces which help tell the story. It looks like this:



They also use different props to tell their story, which look like this:



SENSORY BREAKDOWN

Show start – The show begins with little duckling puppets running around the stage chirping in a high-pitched voice.

5 Minutes – A sudden cracking sound is heard as the egg begins to hatch, and the ducklings begin chirping again in excitement.

6 Minutes – The egg suddenly flies out of Mommy Duck's hands and the lights go dark. The lights flash back on and Ugly appears where the egg had just landed.

10 Minutes – Music starts playing as Ugly and Fluffy sing a song.

11 Minutes – Fluffy whistles to show Ugly how to chirp like a duckling.

14 Minutes – Lights dim and music starts to play as Ugly swims and dances in the pond.

20 Minutes – Lights suddenly turn off as Goose jumps to the center of the stage honking and moving his arms around.

23 Minutes – A dog barks, and the dog runs in and chases the Goose around.

25 Minutes – Loud rock music starts to play and Dog sings a song.

34 Minutes – Mommy Duck shouts Ugly's name out to the audience.

37 Minutes – Lights dim, spotlights appear, and music starts to play. The music gets a little bit louder, and the actors are now dancing around with a white, long piece of fabric, covering the entire stage with it.

40 Minutes – The lights suddenly get brighter, music starts to play, and two swan puppets appear to be flying around.

44 Minutes – Upbeat music starts to play, the lights are flashing, and all the swans sing and dance with excitement.

46 Minutes – The song ends and the music stops for a moment but then, suddenly starts playing again with a recording of a cheering crowd.

50 Minutes – The swan starts drumming a beat on a box, Ugly and Mommy join him with ukuleles, and they sing a song.

THE PLOT

The show starts with Mommy Duck gathering her ducklings together for nest time, as she tells everyone it is almost time for the new egg to hatch. They learn that they will have a new duckling brother or sister. Mommy sings a bedtime song for her ducklings, and everyone goes to sleep.



In the morning, the egg finally hatches, and out rolls an odd looking duckling. He is not small, yellow or fluffy like the other ducklings. This duckling is tall and long and has gray feathers. Mommy Duck welcomes him to the world, and introduces him to his brothers and sisters. The ducklings ask why he is so different from them and Mommy tells them that looks are not important, all that matters is what he does.



Fluffy, one of the ducklings, is mean to his new brother and decides to name him Ugly. Fluffy sings a song to try and teach Ugly how to waddle, chirp, and peck like a duckling, but Ugly can't do anything like a true duckling.



Mommy takes all the ducklings to the pond for their first swimming lesson and Ugly turns out to be a very good swimmer, even better than Fluffy! Fluffy gets jealous and makes fun of Ugly for being different. Ugly becomes very sad and wishes he could look and act like all the other ducklings so that he could be their friend. Fluffy tells Ugly he wants to be his friend and play hide and seek, but when Ugly goes to hide, Fluffy runs away, leaving Ugly alone in the woods.



In the woods, Ugly meets a wild Goose. The Goose tells Ugly that he should not care if everyone likes him, Ugly just needs to learn how to fight and then everyone will respect him. The Goose asks Ugly if he wants to join him and the other wild geese, but suddenly a dog appears and chases the Goose away.



The Dog and Ugly quickly become friends. Dog teaches him all the ways to get a person to like him, like begging and doing tricks. Dog sings a song about how important it is to be liked. Ugly reminds them that they are a good dog and that Ugly likes them for who they are. Ugly then meets a cat who teaches him how to be cool and not care about what others think. When Ugly asks Cat for help finding the way home, Cat decides to leave.



Ugly is left alone as it gets colder and colder. A group of beautiful birds fly by Ugly and he wants to learn more about them. As the seasons go by, Mommy Duck is still looking for Ugly. Soon, snow starts to fall and it becomes winter.



Mommy suddenly sees a pack of swans flying in the sky. She asks the swans if they have seen Ugly and to her surprise, Ugly is one of the swans! They hug and celebrate by singing a song about how it is good to be different. At the end, Mommy Duck starts getting ready for her new eggs and Ugly visits her. She has another egg that is different from the others and is excited to show Ugly. The egg begins to crack as the lights fade.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE SHOW

To learn more about our Sensory Friendly/Relaxed Performances,
please visit <https://www.scfta.org/sensoryfriendly>.



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