

AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT GUIDE

THE GRAND THEATRE
PRODUCTION OF

Disney FROZEN THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
**KRISTEN ANDERSON-LOPEZ
& ROBERT LOPEZ**

BOOK BY **JENNIFER LEE**

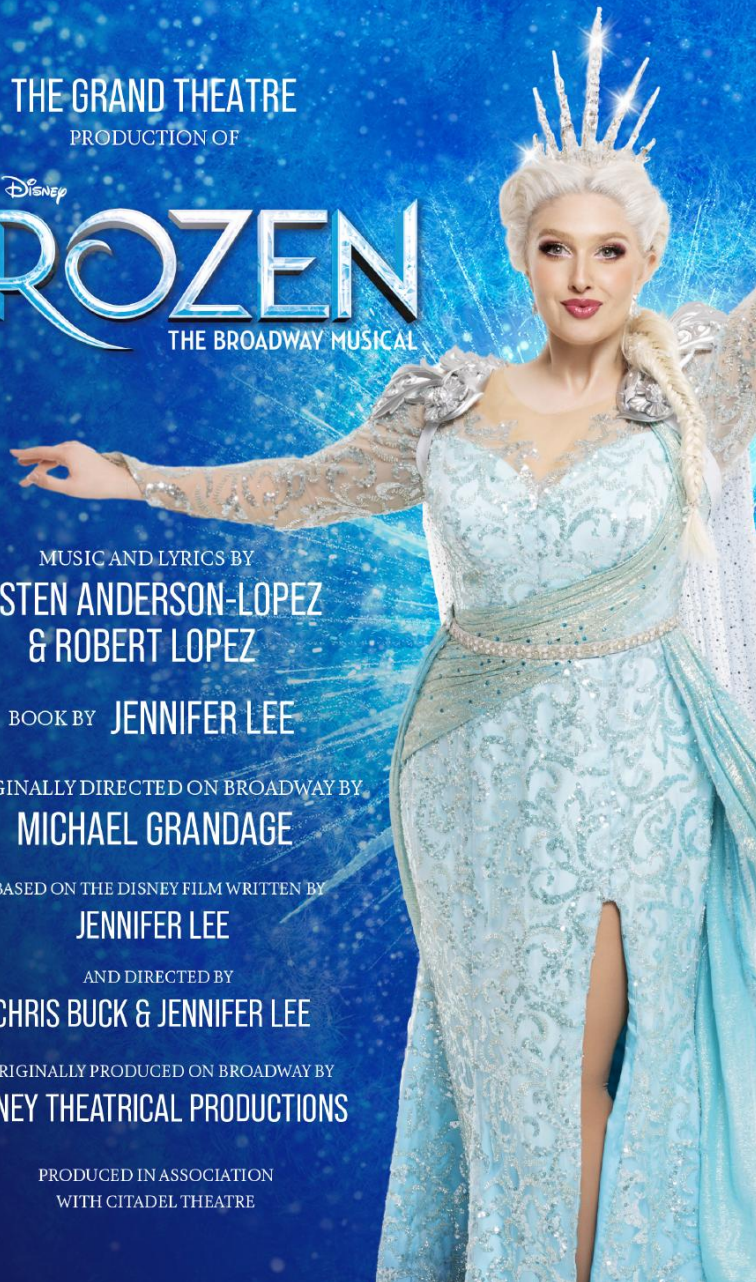
ORIGINALLY DIRECTED ON BROADWAY BY
MICHAEL GRANDAGE

BASED ON THE DISNEY FILM WRITTEN BY
JENNIFER LEE

AND DIRECTED BY
CHRIS BUCK & JENNIFER LEE

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY
DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION
WITH CITADEL THEATRE



**GRAND
THEATRE**
RACHEL PEAKE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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KELLY HOLIFF AS ELSA
COSTUME DESIGN BY CORY SINCENNES
PHOTO BY MATILSON

AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT GUIDE

DISNEY'S FROZEN

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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Set the stage for a powerful and entertaining live theatre experience! The Grand Theatre's 2025-26 Season Audience Enrichment Guides are designed to enrich and provide context for educators and students to engage more deeply with the production, both before and after visiting the Grand Theatre.

Each guide contains a range of material such as:

- Background information on the play and artists involved
- Plot synopsis, character lists, themes, curriculum connections
- Exciting insights specific to each production
- Classroom activities and reflection questions to guide discussions

THE ROLE OF THE AUDIENCE

Live theatre requires an audience, so everyone has an important role to play! As we welcome you to the Grand Theatre, here are some **theatre etiquette tips** to remember:

- Before the performance:
 - Please **arrive early**, enabling enough time to find your school's assigned seats.
 - We are a **scent-free environment** that **values respectful behaviour**.
 - **Avoid bringing backpacks/large bulky items** as they will need to remain in the lobby and can not come with you to your seat (due to emergency exit regulations).
 - While there is no dress code, we respectfully ask that **hats are removed**.
 - *Have an open mind and let the performance surprise you!*
- During the performance:
 - Please **turn off your cell phone**/electronic devices. Vibrations, sounds, and screen light during the performance is very distracting for the performers and other audience members.
 - Please remember that **only bottled water** is allowed in the theatre; **no food** during the show.
 - **Using cameras or recording devices during a performance is never permitted.**
 - When the lights dim, that's your cue to stop talking and turn your attention to the stage to enjoy the show.
 - If you **must leave your seat**, wait for an **appropriate break** in the show and quietly head towards the closest exit. An usher will help you.
 - Clap, cheer, laugh, and **feel!** **Make sure your reactions are respectful to those on stage and around you in the audience.** Theatre is LIVE, so remember *you can be seen and heard!*
- After the performance:
 - **Remain in your seats** until your teacher/chaperone instructs you to leave. Exit the theatre in an orderly fashion. Please **take all belongings and any garbage with you.**
 - Take a moment to reflect: What new ideas or perspectives are you leaving with?
 - Theatre is meant to be shared! Tell someone about your experience!

DISNEY'S FROZEN

Queen Elsa is reserved and careful, while her sister, Princess Anna, is free-spirited and playful. But Elsa harbours a secret—she has powers she cannot control, leading her to flee from her past, and the home she's always known. Now, Anna is determined to reunite with Elsa and break the winter spell threatening their people.

The Tony-nominated *Frozen* is the stage adaptation of Disney's Grammy Award-winning 2013 animated film. Featuring music and lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, the musical includes beloved songs such as "Let It Go", "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?", and "Monster." This London, Ontario premiere will be helmed by Grand Theatre Artistic Director Rachel Peake.

Running Time: 2h 15m, including one intermission.

Age recommendation: 5+

Content Advisory

This play contains scenes of peril and violence; romantic elements like flirting and kissing; and themes including loss of a parent. Production elements include theatrical fog, haze, and flashing lights.

Themes

- Community and Belonging
- Kindness and Compassion
- Identity and Self-Discovery
- Love and Romance
- Loneliness and Isolation

Curriculum Connections

The Arts

- Dance, Grade 1-8
 - A2, A3
- Dance, Grade 9 (ATC1O)
Dance, Grade 10 (ATC2O)
Dance, Grade 11 (ATC3M/ACT3O)
Dance, Grade 12 (ATC4M/ATC4E)
 - B1, B2, B3, C2
- Drama, Grade 1-8
 - B2, B3
- Drama, Grade 9 (ADA1O)

Drama, Grade 10 (ADA2O)

Drama, Grade 11 (ADA3M/ADA3O)

Drama, Grade 12 (ADA4M/ADA4E)

- o B1, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3
- Exploring and Creating in the Arts, Grade 11 (AEA3O)
Exploring and Creating in the Arts, Grade 12 (AEA4O)
 - o A1, A2, B1, B2, B3, B4, C1, C2, C3
- Music, Grade 1-8
 - o C2, C3
- Music, Grade 9 (AMU1O)
Music, Grade 10 (AMU2O)
Music, Grade 11 (AMU3M/AMU3O)
Music, Grade 12 (AMU4M/AMU4E)
 - o B1, B2, B3, B4, C2, C3
- Visual Arts, Grade 1-8
 - o D2, D3
- Visual Arts, Grade 9 (AVI1O)
Visual Arts, Grade 10 (AVI2O)
Visual Arts, Grade 11 (AVI3M/AVI3O)
Visual Arts, Grade 12 (AVI4M/AVI4E)
 - o B1, B2, B3, C2, C3

Classical Studies and International Languages

- International Languages, Level 1 (LBABD – LDYBD/ LBABO – LDYBO)
International Languages, Level 2 (LBACU – LDYCU/LBACO – LDYCO)
International Languages, Level 3 (LBADU – LDYDU/LBADO – LDYDO)
 - o A1, A2, A3

English

- English, Grade 9 (ENL1W)
 - o A1, A3, B1, C1, C2, C3, D1, D2)
- English, Grade 10 (ENG2D/ENG2P)
English, Grade 11 (ENG3U/ENG3C/ENG3E)
English, Grade 12 (ENG4U/ENG4C/ENG4E)
 - o A1 Listening to Understand: A1.1-9; A2 Speaking to Communicate: A2.4-7; A3 Reflecting on Skills and Strategies: A3.2; B1 Reading for Meaning: B1.2, B1.5-8; B2 Understanding Form and Style: B2.2-3; B3 Reading with Fluency: B3.2-3; B4 Reflecting on Skills and Strategies:

B4.2; C1 Developing and Organizing Content: C1.3; C2 Using Knowledge of Form and Style: C2.1-3; D1 Understanding Media Texts: D1.1-6; D2 Understanding Media Forms, Conventions, and Techniques: D2.1-2

- Presentation and Speaking Skills, Grade 11 (EPS3O)
 - A1 Identifying Elements of Effective Presentations: A1.1-5; A2 Assessing Presentations: A2.1-5
- The Writer's Craft, Grade 12 (EWC4U/EWC4C)
 - A1 Writing, Writers, and the Writing Life: A1.1-6; B1 Exploring Ideas, Forms and Styles: B1.1

English As a Second Language and English Literacy Development

- English as a Second Language, ESL Level 1 (ESLAO)
English as a Second Language, ESL Level 2, (ESLBO)
English as a Second Language, ESL Level 3, (ESLCO)
English as a Second Language, ESL Level 4, (ESLDO)
 - A1 Developing Listening Comprehension: A1.1-2; Socio-cultural Competence and Media Literacy; D4 Developing Media Knowledge and Skills: D4.1-2

Social Sciences and Humanities

- Equity Studies - World Cultures, Grade 12 (HSC4M)
 - A1, B1, B2, C1

CAST

PABBIE / ENSEMBLE	VANCE AVERY
ENSEMBLE	CRYSTAL CASERA
WESELTON / ENSEMBLE	ANDREW COWNDEN [†]
OLAF / ENSEMBLE	IZAD ETEMADI
ANNA	CHARIZ FAULMINO
QUEEN IDUNA / ENSEMBLE	JENNIFER HARDING
YOUNG ANNA	HARMONY HOLDER
ELSA	KELLY HOLIFF
SVEN / ENSEMBLE	RICHARD LEE HSI*
YOUNG ANNA	OAKAN OYAFUSO
YOUNG ELSA	KYLIE PROUTY
OAKEN / BISHOP / ENSEMBLE	LEE SIEGEL
KRISTOFF / ENSEMBLE	MARK SINONGCO
KING AGNARR / ENSEMBLE	ADAM STEVENSON
BULDA / ENSEMBLE	TAHIRIH VEJDANI
ENSEMBLE	CHRIS VERGARA
YOUNG ELSA	ALBA EVORA WEILER
HANS / ENSEMBLE	ARAN WILSON-MCANALLY
HAND MAIDEN / ENSEMBLE	STEPHANIE WOLFE

UNDERSTUDIES

WESELTON	VANCE AVERY
HAND MAIDEN / ANNA	CRYSTAL CASERA
ELSA	JENNIFER HARDING
KING AGNARR	LEE SIEGEL
PABBIE / WESELTON / OAKEN / BISHOP	ADAM STEVENSON
OLAF	TAHIRIH VEJDANI
HANS / SVEN / KRISTOFF	CHRIS VERGARA
QUEEN IDUNA / BULDA	STEPHANIE WOLFE

[†] FIGHT CAPTAIN

* DANCE CAPTAIN

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR	RACHEL PEAKE
MUSIC DIRECTOR	ALEXANDRA KANE
CHOREOGRAPHER	AINSLEY HILLYARD
MUSIC SUPERVISOR	STEVEN GREENFIELD
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER	CORY SINCENNES
LIGHTING DESIGNER	JARETH LI
PROJECTION DESIGNER	AMELIA SCOTT
SOUND DESIGNER	OWEN HUTCHINSON
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	NICOLE WILSON
STAGE MANAGER	KELLY LUFT
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	JORDAN GUETTER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	LORE GREEN

ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR / KEYBOARD I	ALEXANDRA KANE
TRUMPET	ALEXA BROWN
REEDS	JENNIFER CAHILL
TROMBONE	SIDNEE MCLEOD
BASS	ANNA PIN
KEYBOARD II	ANGELA SOUTHERN
DRUMS / PERCUSSION	MARK SWAN



CHARACTER OVERVIEW

- Elsa** – Future queen of Arendelle with special magical powers that she must learn to control
- Anna** – Elsa’s younger sister who is full of life and spreads optimism throughout the Kingdom
- King Agnarr** – Ruler of Arendelle and caring father who seeks to protect Elsa and Anna
- Queen Iduna** – Loving mother of Elsa and Anna with deep ties to the Hidden Folk
- Townspeople of Arendelle** – Citizens of Arendelle, a fictional kingdom and the main setting
- Olaf** – Cheerful and loveable snowman who is brought to life by Elsa’s magic
- Kristoff** – Rugged ice harvester and mountain man with a soft heart, destined to be with Anna
- Sven** – Kristoff’s best friend and loyal reindeer
- Hans** – Charming prince of the Southern Isles with selfish ambitions
- Duke of Weselton** – Pompous representative of Arendelle’s most profitable trading partner
- Oaken** – Friendly yet shrewd proprietor of Wandering Oaken’s Trading Post and Sauna
- Hidden Folk** – Magical, mysterious beings who heal Anna and raise Kristoff
- Pabbie** – Wise leader of the Hidden Folk, protective of Kristoff
- Bulda** – Nurturing Hidden Folk leader who is like a parent to Kristoff

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Opening

YOUNG ANNA, YOUNG ELSA, KING AGNARR,
QUEEN IDUNA, TOWNSPEOPLE

A Little Bit of You

YOUNG ANNA, YOUNG ELSA

First Joik / Northern Lights

QUEEN IDUNA, PABBIE, YOUNG ELSA
KING AGNARR, COMPANY

Do You Want to Build a Snowman?

YOUNG ANNA, YOUNG ELSA, ANNA

For the First Time in Forever

ANNA, ELSA, TOWNSPEOPLE

Hans of the Southern Isles

HANS

Dangerous to Dream

ELSA, TOWNSPEOPLE

Love Is an Open Door

ANNA, HANS

Reindeer(s) Are Better Than People

KRISTOFF

What Do You Know About Love?

ANNA, KRISTOFF

In Summer

OLAF

Hans of the Southern Isles (Reprise)

HANS, WESELTON, TOWNSPEOPLE

Let It Go

ELSA

ACT TWO

Entr'acte

Hygge

OAKEN, OAKEN'S FAMILY, KRISTOFF,
ANNA, OLAF

I Can't Lose You

ANNA, ELSA

Fixer Upper

PABBIE, BULDA, HIDDEN FOLK, OLAF

Kristoff Lullaby

KRISTOFF

Monster

ELSA, HANS, MEN

Colder by the Minute

ANNA, KRISTOFF, ELSA, HANS,
TOWNSPEOPLE

Finale

COMPANY

PLOT SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

Scene 1: Summer Festival

Young Princess Elsa takes the stage with her playful younger sister, Princess Anna, *who eagerly urges her sister to use her special magical powers to build a snowman* ('Opening'). Their parents, King Agnarr and Queen Iduna, gently remind Elsa of the importance of concealing her powers and being careful.

Scene 2: Young Anna and Young Elsa's Bedroom

It's bedtime, but Anna is still yearning to build a snowman. Moved by Anna's eagerness, Elsa gives in and constructs the perfect snowman - Olaf. When Anna begs for more, Elsa accidentally strikes her in the head while aiming her powers at Anna's bed ('A Little Bit of You'). The King and Queen are quickly summoned and rush Anna to the Hidden Folk for healing ('First Joik') who are able to revive her since the magic missed her heart. However, hurt by her actions, Elsa fears the future harm her powers might cause and is given the Queen's gloves to help control them ('Northern Lights').

Scene 3: Castle Hallway/Elsa's Bedroom

Young Anna, unaware of the earlier accident, is still desperate to play with Elsa's magic. But Elsa, struggling to conceal her growing powers, pushes Anna away and confides in the King and Queen. They try to comfort her before bidding Elsa and Anna farewell as they embark on a journey. Tragically, the King and Queen lose their lives at sea, leaving Anna deeply longing for her sister's company ('Do You Want to Build a Snowman').

Scene 4: Anna's Bedroom/Castle Interiors

Commotion fills the castle as Elsa's Coronation Day arrives, and Anna enthusiastically gets ready for the big day, dreaming she will finally meet 'the one' ('For the First Time in Forever'). Meanwhile, Elsa anxiously prepares to step out into the world hoping to keep her magical powers concealed.

Scene 5: Castle Courtyard

In the chaos of the day, the Prince of Southern Isles, Hans, runs into Anna both falling into Kristoff's ice cart ('Hans of the Southern Isles') and after a brief introduction, part ways.

Scene 6: Castle Chapel

Gathered in the cathedral, Elsa fears being a danger to the people of Arendelle and bravely manages to take off her gloves and hold the orb and scepter before her people, claiming her anointing as queen ('Dangerous to Dream').

Scene 7: Castle Ballroom/ Castle Garden

Elsa and Anna reconnect after years apart, but their bond is quickly strained when Elsa refuses to reopen the castle. Hurt, Anna retreats outside with Hans, and charmed by each other, Hans proposes to Anna ('Love Is an Open Door'). Back in the ballroom, Elsa withholds her blessing for the newly engaged couple. As a result,

tensions rise, and after Anna grabs Elsa's glove, Elsa accidentally unleashes her powers. Dismayed, she flees, and leaving Hans in charge of Arendelle, Anna runs after her.

Scene 8: Foot of the North Mountain

Anna interrupts Kristoff the ice harvester and his reindeer Sven as they bond ('Reindeers Are Better Than People') who caution her against journeying to the North Mountain alone and are hired to join her. As Anna explains the cause of the disruption, Kristoff expresses his disapproval of her sudden engagement ('What Do You Know About Love').

Scene 9: Winter Wonderland

Along the way, Anna is surprised to bump into Olaf ('The North Mountain') who expresses his desire for Elsa to bring back summer ('In Summer') and joins them on their journey.

Scene 10: Castle Courtyard

Back in the castle, Hans prepares to set out to rescue Anna after a *townsperson* brings back her dress. He tries to convince Weselton the duke and the town of his devotion to Anna and commitment to lead ('Hans of the Southern Isle – Reprise').

Scene 11: North Mountain

On the North Mountain, Elsa finally breaks free from the restraint she has lived with for years and finally embraces her magical powers and true self ('Let It Go').

ACT 2

Scene 1: Wandering Oaken's Trading Post and Sauna

Anna and Kristoff stop at the Wandering Oaken's Trading Post and Sauna where Oaken explains the mastery of maintaining an uplifted spirit in Arendelle winter - Hygge ('Hygge').

Scene 2: Elsa's Ice Palace

Captivated by its beauty, Anna, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven arrive at Elsa's ice palace ('Let It Go - Reprise'). Surprised by their visit and startled to see Olaf, Elsa listens as Anna apologizes and expresses her wish to reconnect ('I Can't Lose You'). While Elsa shares this desire, she insists on remaining isolated since she cannot control her powers. When Anna reveals that Arendelle is frozen and tries to convince Elsa to unfreeze it, Elsa panics and accidentally shoots a shock wave with her powers that hits Anna's chest. Distressed, Elsa demands that they leave.

Scene 3: Foot of the North Mountain

Together, Kristoff and Anna reassemble Olaf's body that they find split apart ('Do You Want to Build A Snowman - Reprise'). Seeing that Anna's hair is turning white, Kristoff suggests taking Anna to the Hidden Folk ('Kristoff Joik').

Scene 4: Liminal World

The Hidden Folk, disappointed that Anna and Kristoff are not a couple, express their belief that Kristoff would be a perfect match ('Fixer Upper'). Suddenly, Anna collapses in his arms. Realizing that the magic has struck Anna's heart, the Hidden Folk conclude that only a true love's kiss can save her. Meanwhile, Kristoff grapples with helplessness ('Kristoff's Lullaby')

Scene 5: Mountain Pass

Hans, Weselton and other Volunteers travel through the intensifying winter ('End This Winter').

Scene 6: Elsa's Ice Palace

Elsa confronts the impact of her powers and fights accusations of being a monster ('Monster').

Scene 7: Arendelle, Castle Gates

Hans and the men bring Elsa to the castle gates and take her inside. Soon after, Kristoff arrives, carrying a weakened Anna in his hands, urgently requesting that she be rushed to Prince Hans.

Scene 8: Castle Library

Desperate for a true love's kiss, Anna discovers that Hans never truly loved her and only married her for the throne, leaving her locked in the room to die. Triumphant, Olaf finds his way to Anna and reveals that her true love is really Kristoff.

Scene 9: Whiteout/Thaw

Elsa manages to escape into the raging storm after Hans falsely announces Anna's death and accuses her of treason. Meanwhile, Anna and Kristoff struggle to find each other through the storm. Hans eventually finds Elsa and draws out his sword to strike her – only for Anna to leap between them, freezing solid and knocking out Hans ('Colder By the Minute'). Devasted, Elsa breaks down, but as Anna begins to thaw, Elsa realizes that love is the Key ('Finale'). Reunited and restored, Anna lights up at Kristoff's sight and runs to kiss him. She then punches Hans, reclaiming her power as Weselton is stunned by Elsa's strength.

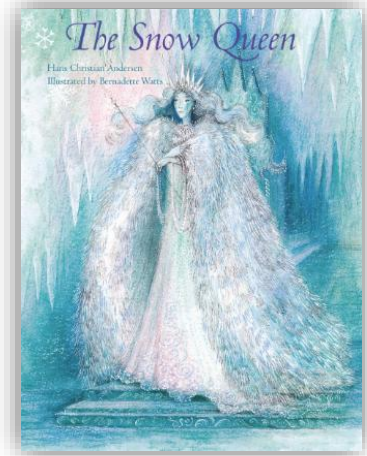
ABOUT THE PLAY

From Page to Stage

The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Andersen

Disney's *Frozen* that we know and love – on the screen and on the stage – is inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*, written almost two hundred years ago in 1844. This timeless fairy tale spins a story about friendship, innocence, and emotional resilience. At its heart are two children – Gerda and Kai – whose bond is tested when the Snow Queen lures Kai into her icy realm. Gerda's courage and steadfast love guide her through a cold, symbolic landscape, making her one of Andersen's earliest and strongest female protagonists – a child who rescues rather than is rescued.

First as a blockbuster film (and world-wide cultural moment) and then in its Broadway musical adaptation, Disney's *Frozen* transform Gerda and Kai's tale into a modern fable of sisterhood. The Snow Queen becomes Elsa, a conflicted heroine whose powers isolate her, while Gerda's bravery is reborn in Anna's warmth and loyalty. Together, they represent two facets of female strength – self-acceptance and unconditional love. The filmmakers also gave a nod to Gerda in the character of Anna and to the faithful reindeer who comes to Gerda's aid in the character of Sven.



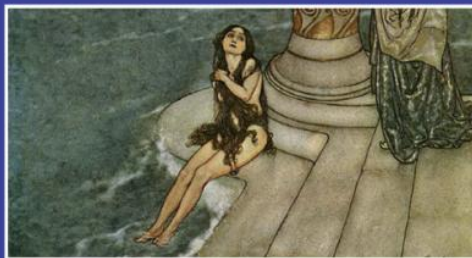
Favourite Fairy Tales of the women leading Disney's *Frozen* to the Grand Theatre stage



Jack and the Beanstalk

RACHEL PEAKE, DIRECTOR

"I love the sense of danger and adventure in it, and of the idea of making your own luck. Though I also remember, even as a child, being shocked that he gets away with stealing!"



The Little Mermaid

ALEXANDRA KANE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

"The mermaid saves the prince, yet he marries someone else. Her sisters then give her a tool to exact her revenge on him but she decides against it and instead becomes something even greater than she was before. It teaches us to do the right thing always, and you'll become an even greater version of yourself."



The Ugly Duckling

AINSLEY HILLYARD, CHOREOGRAPHER

"I appreciate the story for its messaging around resilience, endurance, and self acceptance in the face of societal pressure. A belief in oneself regardless of hardship and perseverance in the face of bullying and unattainable beauty standards."

Check out the chart below to see how Frozen reimagines the classic tale of The Snow Queen:

FROZEN	BOTH	SNOW QUEEN
ELSA: MAIN PROTAGONIST	FEATURE SNOW QUEENS WITH ICE POWERS SHARE THEMES OF LOVE, COURAGE AND SACRIFICE HAVE SANDINAVIAN INSPIRED SETTINGS	SNOW QUEEN: MAIN ANTAGONIST
ELSA AND ANNA: SISTERS		KAI AND GERD: CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
ELSA IS STILL MASTERING POWERS		SNOW QUEEN HAS FULL CONTROL OF POWERS
POWERS USED FOR GOOD		POWERS USED FOR EVIL
ELSA AND ANNA: ROYALS		GERDA: LOWBORN BACKGROUND
LIGHTHEARTED, COMEDIC SIDE CHARACTERS		DARK, THREATENING SIDE CHARACTERS
SISTERS SEPARATED BY ROOM		FRIENDS SEPARATED BY ROSE GARDEN
SISTERLY LOVE BETWEEN ELSA AND ANNA SAVES THEM		GERDA'S LOVE AND DETERMINATION SAVE KAI

Frozen Film vs Musical

While *Frozen: The Musical* stays true to the storyline of the film, there are several notable differences.

Take a look at the elements below — can you guess if they belong to the film or the musical?		
Elements	Film	Musical
Marshmallow Monster	☐	☐
Oaken Sauna Scene	☐	☐
Wolves	☐	☐
Trolls	☐	☐
Hidden Folk	☐	☐

Film: Marshmallow Monster, Wolves, Trolls | Musical: Lengthened Oaken Scene, Hidden Folk

Nordic Influences

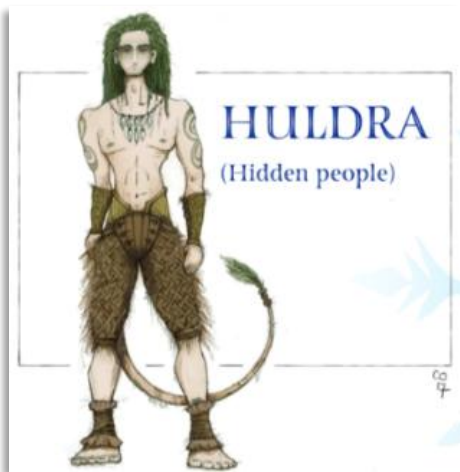
Frozen draws inspiration from the diverse geography, mythology, and cultural traditions of Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland, each with its own unique language, history and customs. One of the most striking elements of the Nordic countries is inspired the setting of *Frozen*'s Arendelle, a fictional seaside kingdom.

Key to the story is the far northern latitude, which causes nearly endless sunshine in the summer and almost total darkness in the winter, during which the famed Northern Lights dance in the sky. The balance of summer and winter is essential to survival; without summer there will be nothing to harvest to sustain life during the harsh, cold, dark winter. Among the animals that can survive the extreme temperatures are reindeer, which have played an important role in Nordic communities for centuries providing labour, food, and clothing.



Northern Lights

The extremes of day and night experienced by Nordic people for millennia have naturally inspired rich outdoor and indoor cultural traditions. One of the latter is encapsulated by the Danish word *hygge* (also used in Norway), which is loosely translated as “cosy” and applies to any indoor activities that bring warmth and happiness, often shared with family and friends. Song and dance also form an important part of Nordic folk traditions. The songs of the Sámi people, who today live across the far northern regions of Norway, Sweden, Finland and even Russia – well above the Arctic Circle – are rooted in a unique vocal style called joiking, which is featured in *Frozen*.



The vast night of the Nordic winter has long ignited the imagination of its people and inspired diverse mythologies. Norway's iconic trolls, which were featured in the animated *Frozen* film, have been transformed in the stage adaptation into “Hidden Folk,” more human-like fantastical creatures inspired by the elfin *huldufólk* mythology from Iceland and the Faroe Islands.

As with any fairy tale, research into the real geographies, mythologies, and cultural traditions of our world ultimately gives way to the imaginations of its creators. Although inspired by the rich and beautiful Nordic countries, Arendelle and *Frozen* are pure fiction.

CLASSROOM ENGAGEMENT

Pre-Show - Whether you have a few minutes or a whole class period, here are a few ways to thoughtfully engage with the themes, history and characters of *Frozen* before watching the production.

If You Have 15 Minutes: Think-Pair-Share

Prompt: Whether you are familiar with Elsa's powers or any other fictional characters with magical power, consider if having special powers is a gift, a burden, or both.

- **Think:** Reflect and jot down your thoughts.
- **Pair:** Share with a partner. What do you agree on? What surprised you?
- **Share:** Share key takeaways with the class.

If You Have 30 Minutes: Design a New Character

- **Invent:** Create a new character that could fit into the world of *Frozen*. Come up with a brief backstory and include details about their personality, role, and any special powers they may have. Consider what motivates your character.
- **Draw:** Translate your character for the stage by designing their costume and overall look. Draw or sketch your ideas of how this character would appear on stage;
 - What does their costume look like? (wig, makeup, shoes, etc.)
 - Do they hold or use any items? Design their props.
 - What setting do they belong in? (set pieces, lighting design, etc.)
- **Present:** Share your character with the class and discuss how they might affect the story.

If You Have 1 Hour: A New 'Arendelle'

- **Research:** Read the information on pages 12-13 to learn more about Disney's real-world inspiration behind *Frozen*. Diving deep into a real or existing fictional location, you will research and draw inspiration from this setting to create your own 'Arendelle.' In small groups, decide on a promising place to start from and research the geography, mythology, people and cultural traditions of this real or fictional location.
- **Envision:** Select key features of your research that you think are interesting to reimagine for a new fictional story. Consider myths, cultural practices and unique components of the natural environment to begin building the world of your story. Give a name the new, fictional setting you are creating.
- **Design:** Create a mood board that visually represents your imagined setting. Showcase colors, textiles, characters present, environmental elements and representations of cultural practice. Use original or researched images, words or whatever else inspires you to complete your mood board.

Post-Show - Having watched *Frozen*, use these questions and activities to deepen your understanding of the story's message and reflect on how the show made you feel:

If You Have 15 Minutes: Think-Pair-Share

Question: Reflect on Elsa's identity and experience throughout the story. How does her journey of keeping a secret and feeling different relate to real people's experiences of being misunderstood and feeling set apart?

- **Think:** Reflect and jot down your thoughts.
- **Pair:** Share with a partner. What do you agree on? What surprised you?
- **Share:** Share key takeaways with the class

If You Have 30 Minutes: Scene Flip

- **Decide:** Pick a significant moment for a character from the show (e.g., Elsa's coronation, Anna meets Hans, Kristoff witnessing Anna's hair turning white). Identify a separate character present in this moment, and consider their unique perspective.
- **Uncover:** Putting yourself in the mindset of this alternate character, what might they say if given the chance to share their thoughts with audience? Write a short soliloquy for this character to deliver.
- **Share:** Volunteers may present their soliloquy to the class. Together, reflect on how the story changes through a new lens.

If You Have 1 Hour: Unveil the Magic

- **Identify:** Reflect on the special effects you witnessed on stage. Select a production element or moment of stage magic that you are curious to understand the technical process of.
- **Explore:** Break into small groups to share your curiosities and pick one special effect to attempt to unveil together. Brainstorm what production elements, design components, human action or materials were involved in bringing the magic to life. Think big! Theatres use everything from earth magnets to blackout fabric to lighting cues when creating special effects on stage.
- **Attempt:** Imagine you and your group members are the show's director, designers, and production staff. List the steps you would take from planning to execution of this special effect and see if you can figure out how the magic happens.

REFERENCES

Disney: The Snow Queen

<https://www.frozeneducation.co.uk/beyond-the-story/inspiration/the-snow-queen/>

Disney: Nordic Influences

<https://www.frozeneducation.co.uk/beyond-the-story/inspiration/nordic-influences/>

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about this Audience Enrichment Guide or Education at the Grand Theatre, please reach out to...

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Visit our website for future events and information!



We look forward to seeing you!

