



Questions for the Ride Home: *Stellaluna*

- 1 *Stellaluna* is performed using rod and overt puppetry styles (overt means “done in plain sight”). What specific examples of these puppetry styles did you see in today’s show? Where else have you seen puppets, and what styles are they?
- 2 This puppet show features different species of flying animals. Can you name them all? What do they have in common, and what is unique about them one from another? See the other side of this page for more about this topic!
- 3 The story of *Stellaluna* celebrates unlikely friendships and how we can be so different yet feel so much the same. Think of someone different from you. This “different” could be because of where they live, how they speak, what they look like or enjoy doing, for example. Now think of that same person and what he/she/they might have in common with you. What is an example of a time you’ve reached out to connect with someone with whom you don’t have much in common? How did this make you, him, her, feel? How can you keep adding this positive energy to the world?

Note from Aretta Baumgartner, Education Director

The Center for Puppetry Arts is proud to have worked with second graders at Atlanta Public Schools’ Burgess-Peterson Academy (BPA) to support the creation of this brand-new puppet show! Thanks to a grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts, the Center’s Artistic Director, Jon Ludwig, and the Center’s Education Director, Aretta Baumgartner, visited BPA four times between September 2019 and January 2020, leading second graders through creative dramatics, visual art, music, puppetry and reading activities. These activities empowered students to explore ideas about characters and themes, to create images of *Stellaluna*’s world, to identify key moments in the story’s narrative, to help make decisions about sets and puppets and costumes, and to guide musical theming that accompanies the production. The collaboration included a field trip by the students to the Center to see this show they have helped bring to life and will culminate in a final session that will allow students and teachers to reflect on the year-long adventure. THANK YOU to Principal David White, Instructional Coach Melanie Searcy and the awesome second grade team (Lisa Cunningham, Alicia Fletcher, Deja Hall, Tene Jones, and Marlene Murphy) for opening up schedules and classrooms to make this magic possible!



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Breathtaking Basics About Beautiful Bats!

Stellaluna features bats and birds. Though both are flying animals, bats are NOT in the same animal group as birds—they are, in fact, mammals like humans! Bats have fur, birds have feathers. Bats give birth to live babies, birds lay eggs. Bats have lungs much like humans' lungs, birds have very complex respiratory (breathing) systems. Bats are incredible mammals in a special order (classification) "chiroptera"—let's take this fun quiz and discover more about what make them unique!

1. What can bats do that no other mammal can?
2. What are the two main groupings of bats?
3. True or false: bats have hands like human hands.
4. What is the name for the sound waves that some bats send out from their nose or mouth that hit an object and bounce back to allow the bats to "see" in the dark?
5. True or false: a bat like Stellaluna could be found in Georgia.

ANSWERS: 1. Fly. 2. Megabats and microbats. 3. True (the bones in their wings are very similar to the human hand, with webbing between the "fingers"). 4. Echolocation. 5. False (though 16 species of bats are found in Georgia, none are fruit bats—most are grey or brown bats).



Thank you to our friends at the Chattahoochee Nature Center (www.chattnaturecenter.org) for providing their "Bats Incredible" program to the Center for Puppetry Arts to enhance educational opportunities around our world-premiere puppet show adaptation of Stellaluna by Janell Cannon! The program (a travelling classroom) has inspired the basics above and the learning activity that's used in our instructor-led Create-A-Puppet Workshops™ in support of this show.

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