



Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

Charlotte's Web

**Relaxed Performance
Show Guide**



Charlotte's Web

Charlotte's Web is a play about people and animals on a farm.

In the story, a girl named Fern and a spider named Charlotte become friends with a pig named Wilbur.



play

A play tells a story with actors talking, moving, or playing music on a stage.

Acting out a story is pretend and may not be like the real world.

In the play, the people are acting out a story to figure out what to do when certain things happen.



actors

Sometimes in the play, actors will be telling the story with narration. Sometimes they will be pretending to act out the story.

Some actors will be playing instruments when they are not part of telling the story.

Some actors will get close to the audience but they will stay in their own space.



farm

A farm is a place where people and animals live.

Animals are raised here and people grow food on the farm.



animals

In the play, some actors will be playing an animal like a pig, a goose, a gander, a rat, or a sheep.

These actors may move or sound like an animal as part of acting out the story.



instruments

In the play, some actors play instruments like drums, bells, and guitars to help tell the story.

If the sounds get too loud, I can cover my ears.



Charlotte and her web

In the play, an actress will play the role of Charlotte, who is a spider.

Spiders spin webs in order to eat and live in different places.

Charlotte will get tired as the story goes on and she gets older.



words

Charlotte spins words into her web like "Radiant," "Terrific," and "Humble" in order to get people to see how great Wilbur is.

This is surprising to people because spiders don't usually know how to make words in their webs.



fighting

Some of the characters in the play will fight or chase or struggle with each other. This is only pretend and the actors are only helping to tell the story.



friendship

Being friends means helping each other in different situations.

Fern and Wilbur are friends.
Charlotte and Wilbur are friends.

They help each other when they have problems or need support.



kindness

Being kind to each other is part of being friends or being part of a family.

Some of the characters in the story are grumpy but still kind to each other.

Kindness can mean helping each other or saying nice things.



county fair

A county fair is a place where lots of people gather to compete in contests or have fun.

Animals can be judged at a county fair and win prizes.



life and death on the farm

Some of the characters in the play talk about life and death on the farm. This is a natural part of life, but all of the actors are pretending.

Most animals don't live as long as people and can also serve other purposes - cows give us milk, sheep give us wool, and chickens lay eggs.



final scene

The show ends when all of the actors come on stage to take a bow.

This is called a curtain call.

Many people will clap to let the actors know how much they liked the play.

Credits

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