



NEWSTAGEED

Touring Productions 2023-2024

Junie B. Jones

The Musical

Study Guide

This tour is sponsored by:



MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES

UNITED WE STAND

THE CHISHOLM FOUNDATION



entergy

Music by Zina Goldrich
Book & Lyrics by Marcy Heisler

Director and Choreographer
Xerron Mingo

Music Director Angie Rawls



NEW STAGE Theatre

newstagetheatre.com/educate



1100 Carlisle St.
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Arts in Education Production

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Junie B. Jones **The Musical**

“The B stands for Beatrice, only I do not like Beatrice, I just like B, and that’s all!” Wowiee wow wow! Junie B. Jones, America’s favorite elementary school student, comes to life onstage in this adaptation of three books in Barbara Park’s popular book series of the same name. Clad with purple glasses and all, Junie B., along with her classmates, parents, and teachers, sings and dances her way through the first grade, and while chronicling her adventures in her “top secret personal beeswax” journal, she learns the importance of facing obstacles head-on and turning bad situations into good ones. Junie B. Jones: The Musical, though written as a piece of theatre for young audiences, is fun for the entire family and highlights the timeless themes of friendship, acceptance, and humility.



This study guide was adapted with approval from the production of Junie B Jones the Musical presented at Florida RepTheatre in 2015.

Audience Etiquette



For many of your students, *Junie B. Jones* may be their first theatre experience. It may be helpful to discuss with them the expected behavior of an audience. New Stage asks that prior to the performance, students are made aware of the following:

- Stay with your group at all times and pay attention to your teachers and chaperones.
- Be sure to go to the bathroom before the performance begins. It is hard to leave once the performance begins.
- Make yourself comfortable while keeping movement to a minimum.
- Please do not stand up, walk around or put your feet on the seat in front of you.
- Absolutely no gum chewing, eating or drinking in the theatre.

Noise

Live theatre means live actors who can hear not only what is happening on the stage, but in the audience as well. While laughter and applause at appropriate time are appreciated by the actors, excessive noise and talking is not. Even whispering voices can be distracting to the actors and others in the audience.

- Do not talk during the performance.
- Cell phones are prohibited in the theatre. If you have one turn it off and put it away and do not bring it out during the performance.

Applause

Applause is used to acknowledge the performers and to voice appreciation or approval. Traditionally, applause comes before intermission and during curtain call which happens at the end of a performance when the cast returns to the stage for bows.



MORGAN MCKAY (Junie B. Jones) is a recent graduate from Liberty University with a BFA in musical theatre, where some of her favorite roles included Harriet Smith in the musical *Emma*, Charlotte in *Oliver!*, and Rebecca Gibbs in *Our Town*. In 2022, she was the co-director of creative and performing arts at Sandy Hill Summer Camp, and this past summer she was an actor and improv teacher at WinShape Camps for Girls in Georgia. She is looking forward to working with such a wonderful group of artists at New Stage Theatre. She would like to thank her parents for all of their love and support, and God for His unconditional love and the gifts and passion He has given her.



BAXTER EVANS III (Herb, Mr. Scary) is an actor and combatant from Clinton, Miss. where he went to Hinds Community College, and performed in shows called *Water Engine* and *Bus Stop*. Evans then moved to Hattiesburg, Miss. to study theatre at the University of Southern Mississippi, performing in the shows *Once in a Lifetime*, *She Kills Monsters*, *The Addams Family*, and *Macbeth*. While at USM, Evans received a KCATCF nomination, allowing him to travel to the KCATCF Region IV back in February 2023. He also served in Alpha Psi Omega, Harlem (a BIPOC theatre club), and Skip the Script (an improv club). Evans is excited to come back home to learn more and to work for a professional theatre company and is excited for what comes!

The Cast of Junie B. Jones

Associate Artists 2023-2024



PAUL PELLETIER JR (Daddy, Sheldon, Jose, and Bobbie Jean Piper)

is an actor, singer, playwright, and combatant. Pelletier is also a graduate of The University of Central Florida, having graduated with a BFA in acting. Over the course of his 7+ year career in the theatre, Pelletier has been a part of several fantastic productions. Ranging from spectacular musicals like *RENT*, *Little Women the Musical*, and *Into The Woods*, to classic pieces such as *As You Like It*, *Much*

Ado About Nothing, and *Indecent*. Pelletier is also a huge advocate for new voices and pieces in the theatre, having been both a playwright and actor for companies such as Project Spotlight and The Orlando Fringe Festival, organizations that help produce first time playwrights and independent company's works. Pelletier seeks to bring laughter to those he meets, both on stage and off it, with a quick joke and chipper outlook on life. When not on the stage, he is an avid Dungeons & Dragons player, having been in games lasting over four years. Pelletier is incredibly grateful to be a part of the New Stage Artist Associate program, and can't wait to make new and exciting art with such amazing individuals! www.paulpelletierjr.com



JADE KRYSTAL DYER (Lucille, May, Grace, Mother and Mrs. Gutzman)

is a graduate of Florida State University with a bachelor of arts in theatre on a performance track. Some of her performance experience includes *Hair the Musical*, *Julius Caesar*, *Sweet Charity*, and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. When not on stage, Dyer also enjoys taking on other roles in entertainment, such as writing, producing, and directing an original Choreopoem titled *Dear, [BLANK]; Love, Anonymous* as well as acting as an associate producer and production coordinator on an indie television series called *Tri-County*. As an actor and a person, Dyer prioritizes kindness, respect, and enjoyment for all! She is ecstatic to be a part of the New Stage team, and all of the wonderful things that are yet to come! You can find her on Instagram @jade.krystalll.

The Creative Team

behind Junie B. Jones, The Musical

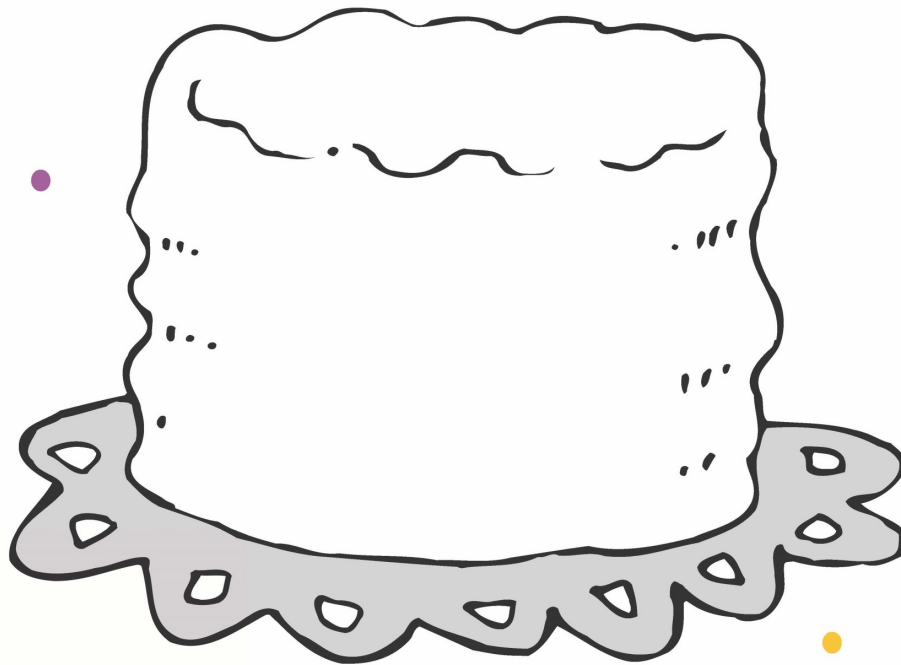
XERRON X. MINGO (Education Director/Co-Director) is a graduate of Florida A&M University. Born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and recently resided in New York City where he worked as a health & safety manager for productions on Apple TV and HGtv. He also worked as a testing secretary and production coordinator for television shows with LIONSGATE and Apple Music Reviews. For the past ten summers, Mingo has worked at Raquette Lake Camps teaching musical theatre to students from all across the world. He recently made a return to the stage and served as choreographer while playing the role of Fezziwig in **A Christmas Carol** at New Stage in 2021. He has worked professionally at a plethora of regional theatres in a handful of states. Some of his past credits include **Matilda** (Rudolpho/Choreographer), **Hell In High Water** (Cephus), **Sister Act** (TJ), **Shakespeare in Love** (Wabash/Frees), and Disney's **Beauty & The Beast** (Monsieur Dar'que). Moreover, **The Wiz** (The Lion) and **The Hot Mikado** (Pooh-Bah) at the GLOW Lyric Theatre in Greenville, S.C. He was in **Black Nativity** (Narrator) at Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, **The Great Society** at Asolo Rep, and **Hairspray** (Gilbert) at American Stage. Mingo continues to live in the Light and could not be more blessed to do so as he embarks on this new journey as education director at New Stage Theatre.

BETTY WONG (Box Office Assistant/Education Assistant) begins her 18th season at New Stage. She continues to enjoy traveling to schools and towns throughout the state with the Professional Apprentice Company to provide live theatre experiences for students and adults of all ages. When not on the road, you can find her in the box office. She has also served for many years as a volunteer in other areas of the theatre. Her professional work experiences in education and her passion for live theatre have contributed to the growth and expansion of New Stage's Education Department. She has served as a consultant to school districts throughout the state of Mississippi. Wong has a B.S. in Educational Psychology from Mississippi State University, a M.Ed. from Delta State University, and recently won the 2019 Exemplary Arts Service Award from the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education.

REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITY

Happy Birthday, Junie B. Jones!

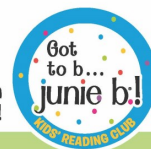
Junie B. was named after the month of June because she was born on "Junie the first"! Can you decorate her birthday cake?



If you were named after your birthday month, what would your name be?



Visit JunieBKidsClub.com for books, activities, and more!



Illustrations © 2015 by Barbara Park, from the Junie B. Jones® series by Barbara Park

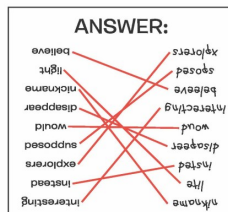
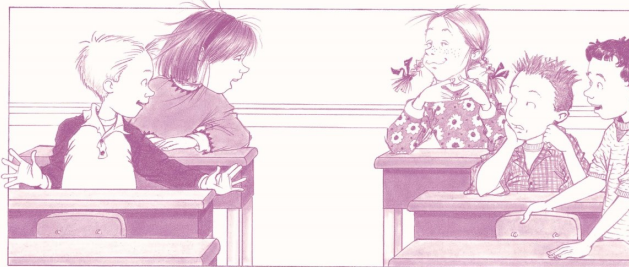
REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITIES!

REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITY

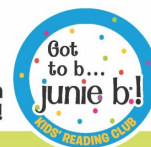
Junie B. Spelling B.!

Sometimes Junie B. makes spelling mistakes, just like the rest of us. Can you draw a line from her misspelled word to the correctly spelled one?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| nikname | interesting |
| lite | instead |
| insted | explorers |
| disapeer | supposed |
| woud | would |
| interecting | disappear |
| beleeev | nickname |
| sposed | light |
| xplorers | believe |



Visit JunieBKidsClub.com for books, activities, and more!

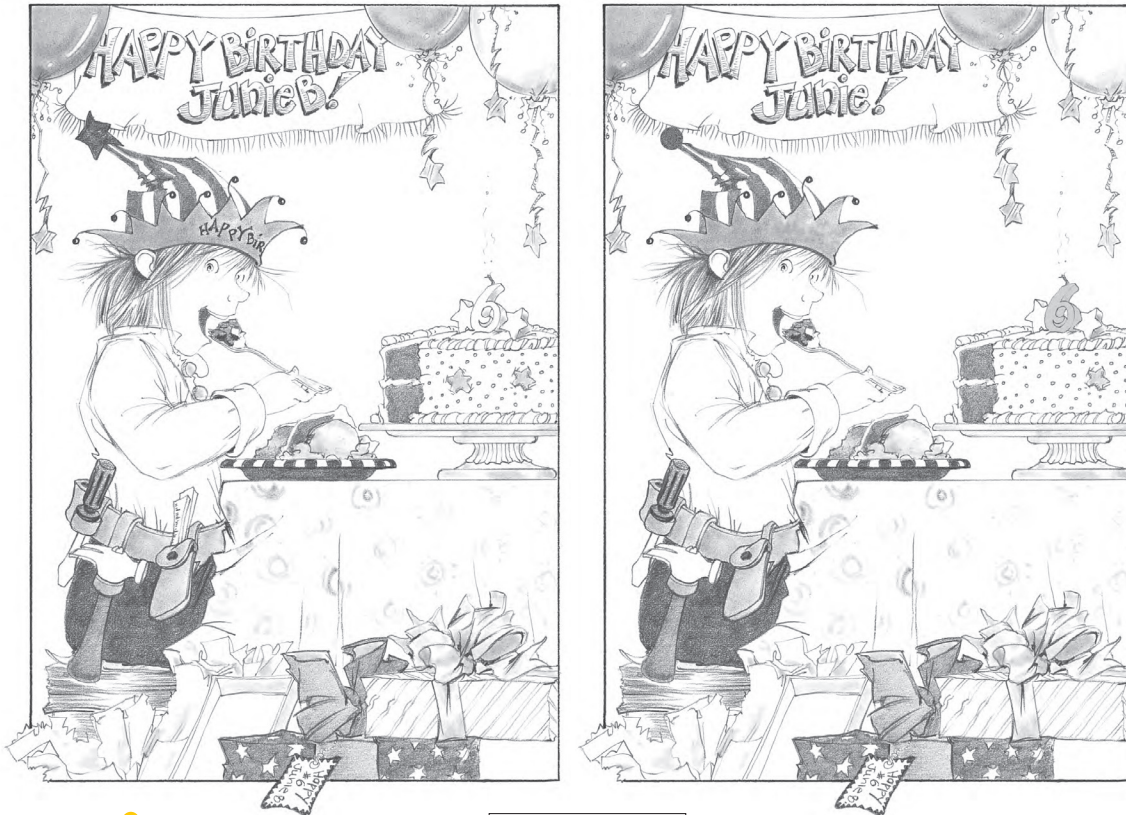


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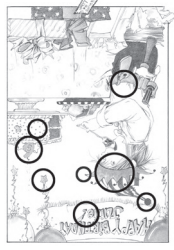
REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITY

Junie B. Party Picture Double Take!

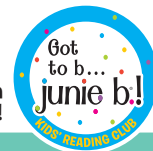
Can you spot the 8 differences in the second party picture?



ANSWER:



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REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITIES!

REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITY

Summer Fun with Junie B. Jones!

School's out for the summer! Help Junie B. find all the words below.
Words can go horizontally, vertically, diagonally, or backward.

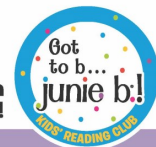
- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Bathing suit | Junie | Sand | Summer |
| Beach | Ocean | Seashells | Vacation |
| Diving board | Pool | Sprinkler | Waves |

D	P	I	D	Y	I	H	O	Y	P	G	E	W	V	S
W	I	O	Q	H	M	P	C	P	W	W	A	A	L	P
L	Z	V	C	S	D	E	E	L	T	V	C	Z	L	R
P	O	A	I	U	E	Q	A	M	E	A	S	U	V	I
Q	E	O	F	N	O	A	N	S	T	W	Q	G	S	N
B	U	U	P	D	G	K	S	I	B	M	Y	J	B	K
Y	M	K	J	J	A	B	O	H	U	X	Q	F	F	L
K	Y	W	R	U	U	N	O	H	E	Q	L	U	Z	E
T	M	R	E	R	U	N	H	A	P	L	F	R	V	R
M	F	Y	M	N	J	A	I	O	R	V	L	D	D	A
G	L	B	M	Y	T	Q	D	E	T	D	U	S	N	H
D	G	T	U	A	K	G	R	B	Y	A	H	D	A	Y
A	T	Q	S	S	R	Z	L	F	P	B	W	E	S	M
K	C	X	F	Y	O	K	M	C	N	S	Z	J	N	N
B	A	T	H	I	N	G	S	U	I	T	Q	V	O	P



ANSWER:

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for books, activities, and more!



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All About Me!

My age is: _____

My hair is: _____

My favorite color is: _____

My favorite food is: _____

My favorite thing about school is: _____

My favorite pet is/would be: _____



All About Junie B.!

My age is: I am still in my 6's. But pretty soon, I will be in my 7's.

My hair is: kind of brownish with reddish in it.

My favorite color is: Mostly it's the color purple.

My favorite food is: yummy, delicious lemon pie!

My favorite thing about school is: When my teacher draws a happy face on my paper.

My favorite pet is: my dog named Tickle.

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REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITIES!

Theatre Vocabulary

- 1. Role** The character(s) played by an actor.
 - 2. Props** Items held by actors such as a rake or a cake.
 - 3. Script** the written words of a play the actors memorize their lines from.
 - 4. Climax** the height and “changing point” of the story.
 - 5. Blocking** the physical movement of actors. Where they stand and when they move.
 - 6. Costumes** what the actors wear, including accessories such as a hat.
 - 7. Playwright** the author of the play.
 - 8. Improvisation** acting without scripted lines. Similar to ad-libbing, meaning to make something up on the spot.
 - 9. Fourth Wall** the imaginary division between the audience and the actors. When actors speak directly to the audience, it is called “breaking the fourth wall.”
 - 10. Dialogue** the words spoken between 2 or more characters. A conversation.
 - 11. Monologue** a series of lines spoken by one actor only. They may be speaking to another on stage character, or may be alone on stage.
- 

About New Stage Theatre

Winner of the 2019 Governor Arts Award for Excellence in Theatre, located in the heart of Jackson.



The Theatre

New Stage Theatre is located in Jackson, Mississippi. New Stage Theatre was chartered as a nonprofit organization in 1965 and produced its initial season in the winter and spring of 1966. New Stage's first home was an adapted church at the corner of Gallatin and Hooker Streets. The theatre produced 13 seasons in the 150-seat church before moving to its present site in Belhaven in 1978.

Built in 1963 for the Jackson Little Theatre, the 12,000 square foot structure includes the 364-seat Meyer Crystal Auditorium, and a flexible, smaller performing space, the Jimmy Hewes Room. The theatre also owns the five other structures on the site, four of which are used for actors' housing and one for offices. In 1997, the theatre complex was designated as the Jane Reid Petty Theatre Center in recognition of the New Stage founder's contributions to the development of professional theatre in Mississippi.



The Mission

The mission of New Stage Theatre is to provide professional theatre of the highest quality for the people of Mississippi and the southeast. New Stage is committed to producing important contemporary works and classics, selected for their artistic merit and their power to illuminate the human condition. Challenging new works in development are included through the Eudora Welty New Play Series named for the distinguished writer who helped found New Stage. New in recent years is The Mississippi Plays Series.

More about **New Stage Theatre**

The theatre is dedicated to cultivating and educating a culturally diverse audience by gathering the finest available resources including playwrights, actors, directors, designers, technicians, administrators, trainees, and board members. Integral to the theatre's total effort, New Stage's Education Department maximizes its impact within our surrounding community, through artistic and technical apprenticeships, which mount touring programs facilitated by our Apprentice Company, aided with classroom materials for schools statewide, and developing curricula for and instructing youth classes.



Mainstage Productions

New Stage produces five plays each year in its subscription series, in addition to a holiday show, an annual student matinee, and a musical theatre summer camp featuring local youth. Mainstage productions range from master works to contemporary classics to new plays. All productions carry the mark of professional quality for which the theatre has long been recognized. Additionally, New Stage has a second season called Unframed, overseen by Artistic Director Francine Reynolds and facilitated by our Apprentice Company and Education staff, that features contemporary works. New plays are read and developed through the Eudora Welty New Plays Series and the Mississippi Plays Series.



The Staff

The theatre staff is comprised of seven full time administrative and artistic staff members, six full time production staff members, four acting apprentices, and three part time employees. All actors are paid and typically one to two AEA actors are hired per production.

Post-Show Discussion

1. What was your favorite part of the play? Why?
2. Who was your favorite character? Who was your favorite actor? Discuss the difference between characters and actors. Did your favorite actor happen to play your favorite character?
3. Did the actors portray the characters in the way you imagined? How were the characters different onstage compared to in the book? How were they the same?
4. What was your favorite prop that was used in the play? Hint: A prop is an object held by an actor such as a journal or tray of cookies.
5. What was the most exciting part of the play? Why do you think so?
6. Recall the events in the story from beginning to end. How did each character contribute to what happened?
7. Do you think the performance was effective? Why or why not?
8. What was your favorite technical element in the play? The costumes, set, or sound? Explain your choice. Discuss the importance of each of these elements.
9. Do you want to start a journal like Junie B.? Why or Why not?
10. Many actors in the played different characters throughout the show. How do you think the actors were able to play many characters? Hint: Think of costumes, physicality, and voice.
11. Would you add another Junie B Jones story to the play? Why or why not?



Evaluation Form for Students

1. What was your overall reaction to the play?
2. What was your reaction to the acting?
3. What was your reaction to the scenery, costumes, etc. of the play?
4. What was your favorite part of the play?
5. Did you learn anything from this production? If so, what?
6. What other stories would you enjoy seeing staged by live actors?

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Send us your feedback!

Please send you feedback and thoughts to us! Return form to:

New Stage Theatre, ATTN: Education Director, 1100 Carlisle Street, Jackson, MS 39202

Evaluation Form for Teachers/Leaders

1. What was your overall reaction to the play?
2. What was your reaction to the acting?
3. What was your reaction to the scenery, costumes, etc. of the play?
4. Please comment on the educational value of the play.
5. Do you feel this production was age appropriate for your students?
6. What titles or subjects would you like to see staged for student audiences?
6. Do you have other suggestions for future performances?

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NEW STAGE
Theatre

Celebrate
Season
58

LAUGHTER,
LOVE,
WONDER!
2023-24

601-948-3533
newstagetheatre.com

Lend Me a Soprano

By Ken Ludwig

September 12 – September 24, 2023

A New Comedy – Regional Premiere

What a predicament!

What The Constitution Means to Me

By Heidi Schreck

October 24 – November 5, 2023

Contemporary Play

A love letter to our constitution.

Elf The Musical

Book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin

Music by Matthew Sklar; Lyrics by Chad Beguelin

November 30 – December 21, 2023

Holiday Musical

*The best way to spread Christmas Cheer is
singing loud for all to hear!*

The Secret Garden: Spring Version

Music and Lyrics by Marsha Norman; Music by Lucy Simone

Based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett

February 6 – 18, 2024

Classic Musical

Find home and family where you least expect it.

Chicken & Biscuits

By Douglas Lyons

April 9 – April 21, 2024

New Comedy

Funerals bring out the tastiest of secrets...

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Book by Douglas McGrath; Words and Music by Gerry Goffin & Carole King,

Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil

May 28 – June 9, 2024

Musical

Ready to feel the Earth move?



Junie B. Jones

The Musical