

Visual Story

A visual resource for children and adults with Autism, Asperger's, Sensory Processing Disorder and associated conditions.

This resource is intended to help prepare any visitors for a new experience and to help them to become familiar with the show, surroundings and situation.

This play is based on the original books written and illustrated by Jon Klassen.

The Show

The show lasts for approx. 40 minutes

There are 2 performers in the show. All of the characters are puppets.

The show has recorded music.

A bear has lost his hat. What if he never sees it again? WAIT! He has seen his hat.

A fish has stolen a hat. And he'll probably get away with it. Probably.

Two turtles have found a hat. The hat looks good on both of them. But there are two turtles. And there is only one hat.

Following their hit digital series, lockdown sensations Ian Nicholson and Sam Wilde are back with more of their trademark cardboard design. Jon Klassen's beloved books, *I Want My Hat Back*, *This is Not My Hat* and *We Found A Hat*, will have a brand new life of their own LIVE on the Little Angel Theatre stage. All your favourites including Bear, Little Fish and the Turtles will be making an appearance in this one-of-a-kind trilogy.

The *I Want My Hat Back* Trilogy is aimed at **ages 3 – 6**. The play contains three simple, funny and gently paced stories where animal characters act on feelings about ownership, wanting things and fairness that children of this age can relate to. In the first two stories it is implied that small animals have been eaten by bigger animals (off stage). The final story shows a friendship. Under-3s may get a little restless as the show runs for 40 minutes without many 'joining in' parts.



Cover illustration from the book by Jon Klassen, illustrated by Jon Klassen

Production Photographs by Suzi Corker

Characters—I Want My Hat Back



Bear



Rabbit



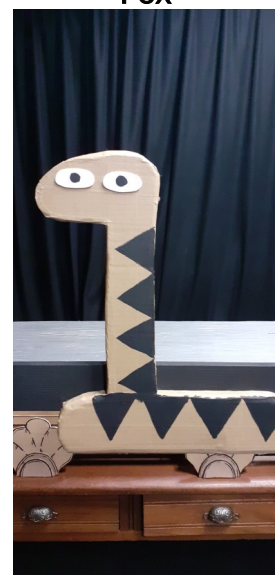
Fox



Frog



Tortoise



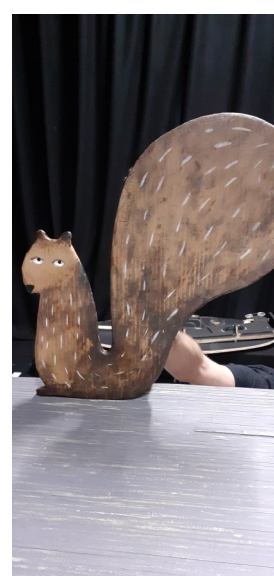
Snake



Mole

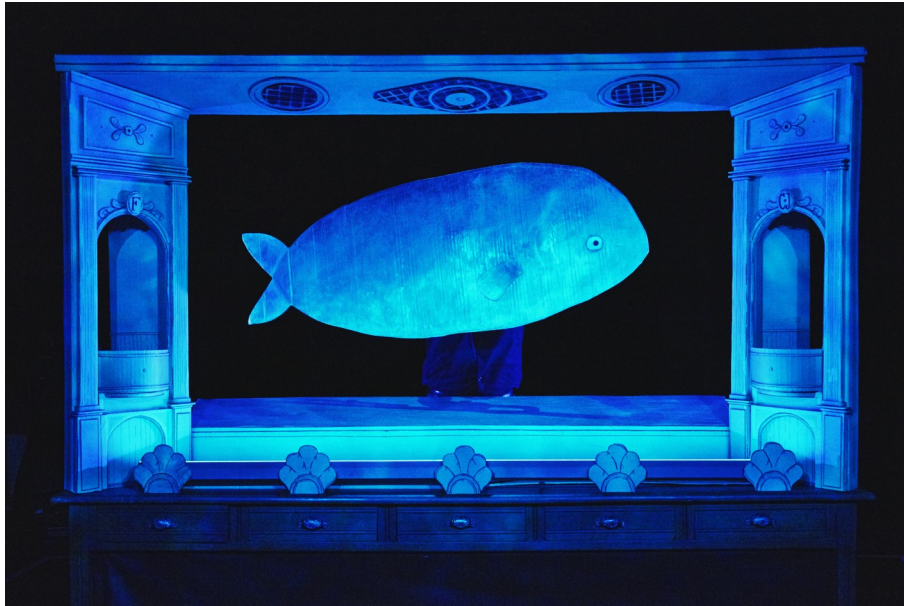


Deer



Squirrel

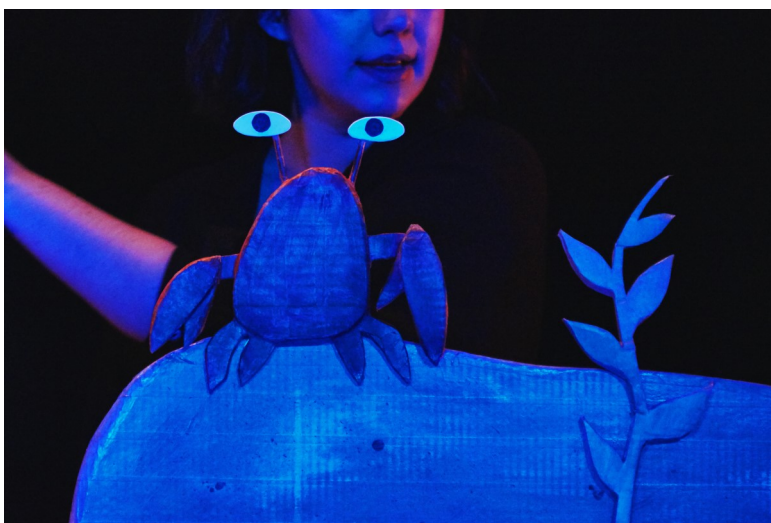
Characters—This is Not My Hat



Big Fish



Little Fish



Crab

Characters—We Found A Hat



Tortoise

The Show

In this section special alerts are written in blue ink.



When you enter the auditorium you will see a big cardboard stage with glowing light. This is the area where the performance takes place. The performance takes place behind the stage and in front of the stage. **Gentle music is playing.**

When it's time for the show to start there is an announcement to tell you.

The lights go dark. The two performers enter and stand in front of the stage. They open some of the drawers on the front of the stage and take out some leaves. They throw the leaves over the audience.

The performers hold up cardboard signs to introduce the first story. **I Want My Hat Back.**



The lights on the audience get darker and the lights on the stage get brighter.

A Bear is watching a leaf. He tries to get the leaf but it keeps moving and blowing away. **He sneezes** and it blows around.

The leaf lands on the Bear's head. He realises his hat has gone.

He goes to look for his hat and meets a Fox. The Fox has not seen his hat.



The Bear meets a jumping Frog. A fly buzzes in. The Frog eats the fly with his long tongue. The Frog has not seen the hat.



The Bear meets a Rabbit. The Rabbit is wearing a hat. The Bear leans in and looks closely at the rabbit. **Scary music plays, the lights go a bit darker and the rabbit shakes in fear.** The Rabbit says they have not seen the hat, or stolen a hat, and to stop asking questions, so the Bear leaves.



The Bear meets a Tortoise. The Tortoise has not seen the hat. The Bear helps the Tortoise climb a rock. The Tortoise has a neck that gets longer and shorter.



The Bear meets a Snake. The Snake has not seen the hat.



A Mole pops out of the ground. The Mole has not seen the hat. The Mole does not know what a hat is. The Mole pops back into the ground again.



The Bear lies down for a rest. A leaf blows across the stage. He is sad. His tummy goes up and down as he lies back and thinks about his lost hat.



A Deer comes along. The Deer has not seen the hat. He asks the Bear what his hat looks like. The Bear is thinking about his hat.



The Bear suddenly realises he has seen his hat! **The lights go red, the Bears eye's light up, he is angry!**

Fast and furious music plays as the Bear runs back past all the animals he has met. His legs spin as he runs and the performers come out in front of the stage. Finally the Bear finds the rabbit!



The Bear shouts "You stole my hat!"

The curtains close on the stage.

There is a close up on the Bear and Rabbits big faces. The Bear growls at the Rabbit.



The lights go red and fast music plays as the Bear chases the Rabbit around the stage.



As they chase their heads pop through the curtains as they look out for each other.

The Bear and the hat appear above the stage. **There is a scream from the Rabbit!**



The curtains open and the Bear is sitting alone. Wearing the hat!

A squirrel asks the Bear if he's seen a Rabbit in a hat, The Bear says he hasn't. He says he would NEVER steal a hat. And he would NEVER eat a Rabbit!

The Curtains Close. This is the end of the first story. You can clap if you like.



One of the performers comes in front of the stage. They open one of the drawers and take out some bubbles. They blow bubbles over the audience. The lights turn blue and you can hear the sound of water.

The performer asks for help with making an underwater scene. If you have made a fish at home and brought it with you (information on our website) then you can get it out and make it swim now. If you don't have a fish you have made you can use your hand. The performer asks you to make your fish/hand:

Dart

Dive

Dance

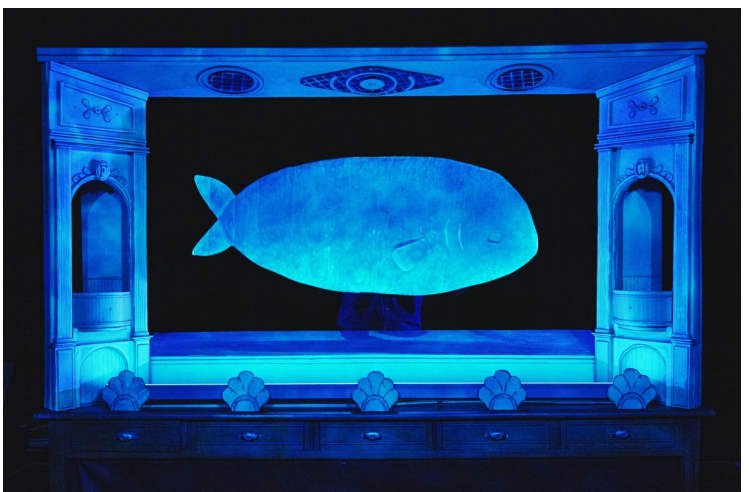


The other performer comes to the front of the stage to join in and they both hold up signs to introduce the second story. **This is Not My Hat.**

A Little Fish wearing a hat is swimming around nervously. They have stolen a hat from a Big Fish. **The Little Fish speaks through a microphone, whispering so the Big Fish can't hear.**

We see the Big Fish asleep on stage snoring. The Little Fish is not worried, the Little Fish thinks the Big Fish won't notice, or know who stole it, or be able to find them even if they did.

The Big Fish wakes up and does notice the hat is missing. It sniffs and follows the scent trail to find out where the hat has gone.



The Little Fish swims in front of the stage, with just a torch light to see the way. The Little Fish is going to hide in the part of the sea with the tall weeds, so the Big Fish can't find them. The Little Fish isn't worried that the Crab saw them with the hat. The Crab said that they wouldn't tell anyone.....

The Big Fish meets the Crab. The Crab is scared of the Big Fish. They talk to each other in funny voices. The crab is so scared that it points the Big Fish in the direction that the Little Fish went.

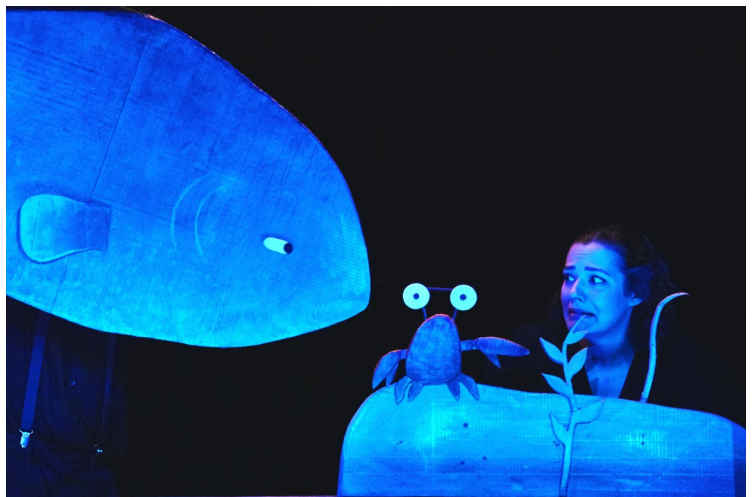
The Little Fish hides in the weeds. The Big Fish swims in front of the stage sniffing around for the Little Fish. **The Big Fish sniffs some of the audience.** The Little Fish's eyes are glowing in the dark amongst the weeds and the Big Fish notices!

A tiny version of the Big Fish chases a tiny version of the Little Fish.

A giant eye appears in one of the stage windows. The Little Fish is in the front of the stage terrified. Another giant eye appears in the other stage window. Some giant teeth appear inside the stage. The Little Fish is inside the Big Fish's mouth. Dramatic drumming music plays and the lights go dark. There is a crunching sound.

The lights come on again. The Big Fish has his tiny hat back.

The curtains close. This is the end of the second story.



One of the performers brings out a spiky cactus plant. It pricks their fingers. **They open the drawers on the front of the stage and each time they do some music plays. The lights change to a warm sunshine glow. Gentle music plays and a tumbleweed rolls around. The performers play around with the tumbleweed, it swishes and rolls and they chase around the stage getting faster and faster and sillier and sillier. Sometimes the tumbleweed rolls towards the audience and the performers ask the audience to blow to make the tumbleweed move.**

The performers bump into each other as one brings on the signs and the other is still playing with the tumbleweed. They put the tumbleweed away and hold up the signs. **'We Found a Hat'**. This is the third story.

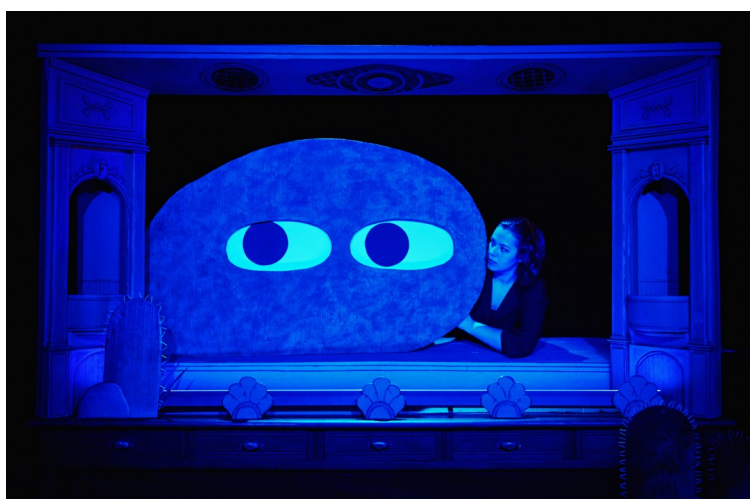
They hold up another sign. 'Part 1. Finding the Hat'.

Two Tortoise find a hat. They both try on the hat. They both look good in the hat. They both want the hat, but because there is only one hat they decide to leave it. They decide to forget about the hat.

They hold up another sign. 'Part 2. Watching the Sunset'.

The Tortoise are sat on a rock. They watch the sun go down. **The light changes as night falls.** One Tortoise asks the other what they are thinking about. One of them is thinking about the sunset.

We see a close up of their heads on the big stage and a light on a tiny stage next to the big stage reveals the hat. The eyes of one of the Tortoises is drawn to the hat. One of the Tortoise can't stop thinking about the hat.



They hold up another sign. 'Part 3. Going to sleep'.

The Tortoise are falling asleep. As one falls asleep the other is sneaking off towards the hat. The Tortoise that is falling asleep is dreaming. The Tortoise describes their dream.

Both Tortoise are floating in front of the stage, each wearing a hat. Music plays and the lights change. This is the dream.

The Tortoise who has snuck off to get the hat on the small stage realises that they can't have the hat if they can't BOTH have a hat.

With a yawn both the Tortoise settle down next to each other to sleep and dream.

A black cloth is flipped over the front of the stage and it goes dark. Two Tortoise with hats and mirror bodies float in front of the stage. Light reflects off their bodies and dances around the room. A mirror ball begins to spin and the whole space is bathed in glittery light as music plays.

All the lights go off.

This is the end of the show. You can clap if you want to.

The performers come to the front of the stage and hold up signs with the names of all the people who helped to make the show.

They take a bow and leave.

We hope you enjoyed the show.

