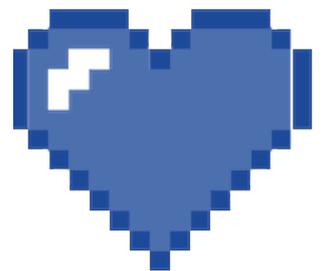
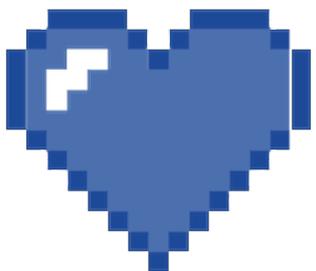
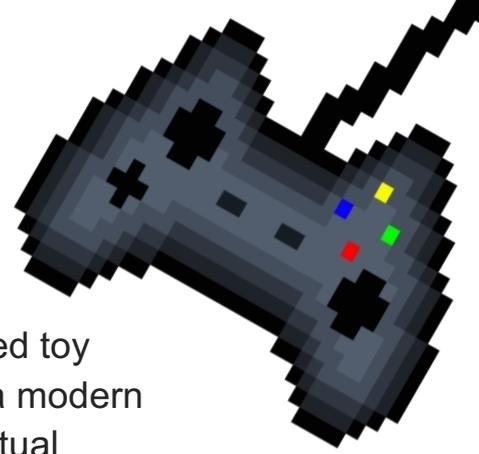


The Children's Theatre OF CINCINNATI



Show Companion
Activity Packet





ABOUT THE SHOW

Margery Williams' award-winning classic tale of a stuffed toy rabbit made real by a child's enduring love is retold in a modern and delightfully electric holiday musical. In an era of virtual reality and Minecraft, this musical captures the joy and magic of the book you know and love, with a 16-bit digital twist. This happy, hoppy, holiday show will get the entire family into the spirit of the season.

The Velveteen Rabbit **(or *How Toys Become Real*)**

The Velveteen Rabbit is a British children's book written by Margery Williams and illustrated by William Nicholson. It chronicles the story of a stuffed rabbit's desire to become real through the love of his owner. The book was first published in 1922 and has been republished many times since. *The Velveteen Rabbit* was Williams' first children's book. It has received multiple literary awards, and based on a 2007 online poll, the National Education Association voted the book #28 on the "Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children".

THE SCARLET FEVER

In the story, the boy comes down with scarlet fever, and the rabbit sits with him as he recovers. The doctor orders that the boy should be taken to the seaside and that his room should be disinfected — all his books and toys burnt, including the velveteen rabbit.

What is Scarlet Fever?

Scarlet fever is a disease whose signs and symptoms include a sore throat, fever, headaches, swollen lymph nodes, and a characteristic rash. The rash is red and feels like sandpaper and the tongue may be red and bumpy. It most commonly affects children between five and 15 years of age.

Why did the Velveteen Rabbit need to be taken away from the boy?

- Though scarlet fever affects a small number of people and is usually spread by coughing or sneezing, it can also be spread when a person touches an object that has the bacteria on it and then touches their mouth or nose.

Will the Boy be okay?

The disease is treatable with antibiotics, which prevent most complications, and outcomes with scarlet fever are typically good if treated.

WHAT IS REAL? WHAT IS LOVE?

“What is real?” asked the Velveteen Rabbit one day. “Does it mean having things that buzz inside you and a stick-out handle?” “Real isn’t how you are made,” said the Skin Horse. “It’s a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become real.”

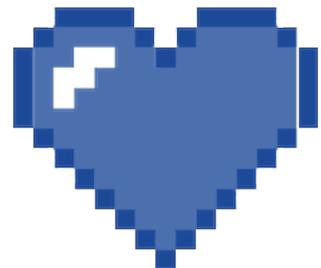
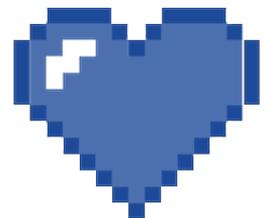
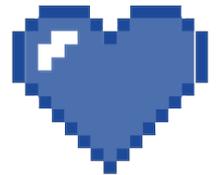
The Velveteen Rabbit is a delightful story in which the toys ask what is real and what is love. Essentially, the toy horse tells the rabbit that real is what happens when you are loved.

Each of us asks ourselves these same questions...

What is real? What is love?

We have online platforms that claim to offer *real* community, friends, and followers. We have virtual reality sites and games where you can create a *real* identity. Is any of this truly real or is it surface-level only?

Like the Velveteen Rabbit is made real by the Boy's love, real love transforms each of us for good.





READING QUESTIONS



1. TCT's *The Velveteen Rabbit* is based on the 1922 children's book, written by Margery Williams, and illustrated by whom?

- A. Bill Williams
- B. Margery Williams
- C. William Nicholson
- D. Nick Nicholson

2. Why does the Velveteen Rabbit need to be thrown out in the story?

- A. Because he's old and shabby
- B. To remove any trace of the virus
- C. Because the Boy prefers mechanical toys
- D. To make room for newer toys

3. Which illness does the boy come down with in the story?

- A. Pneumonia
- B. Whooping Cough
- C. Influenza
- D. Scarlet Fever

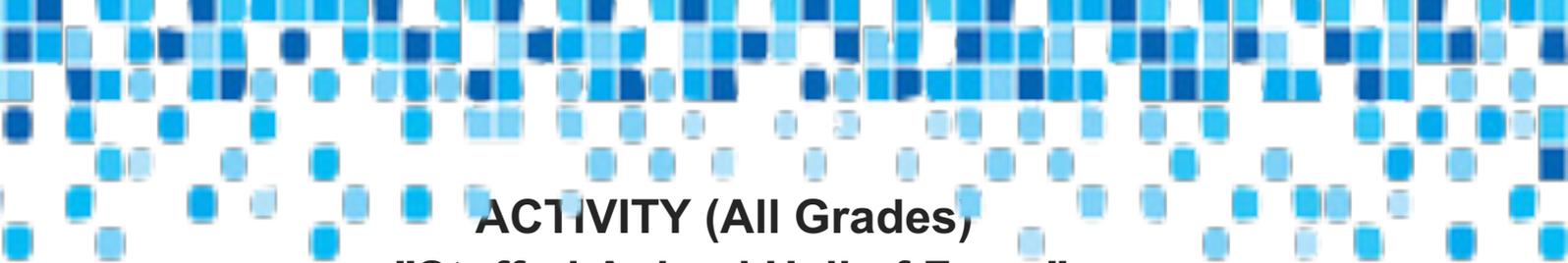
4. In the end, what is it that finally transforms the Velveteen Rabbit, and makes him "real"?

- A. Love
- B. Magic
- C. Friendship
- D. Family

5. Which character in the story tells the Velveteen Rabbit the secret to becoming "real"?

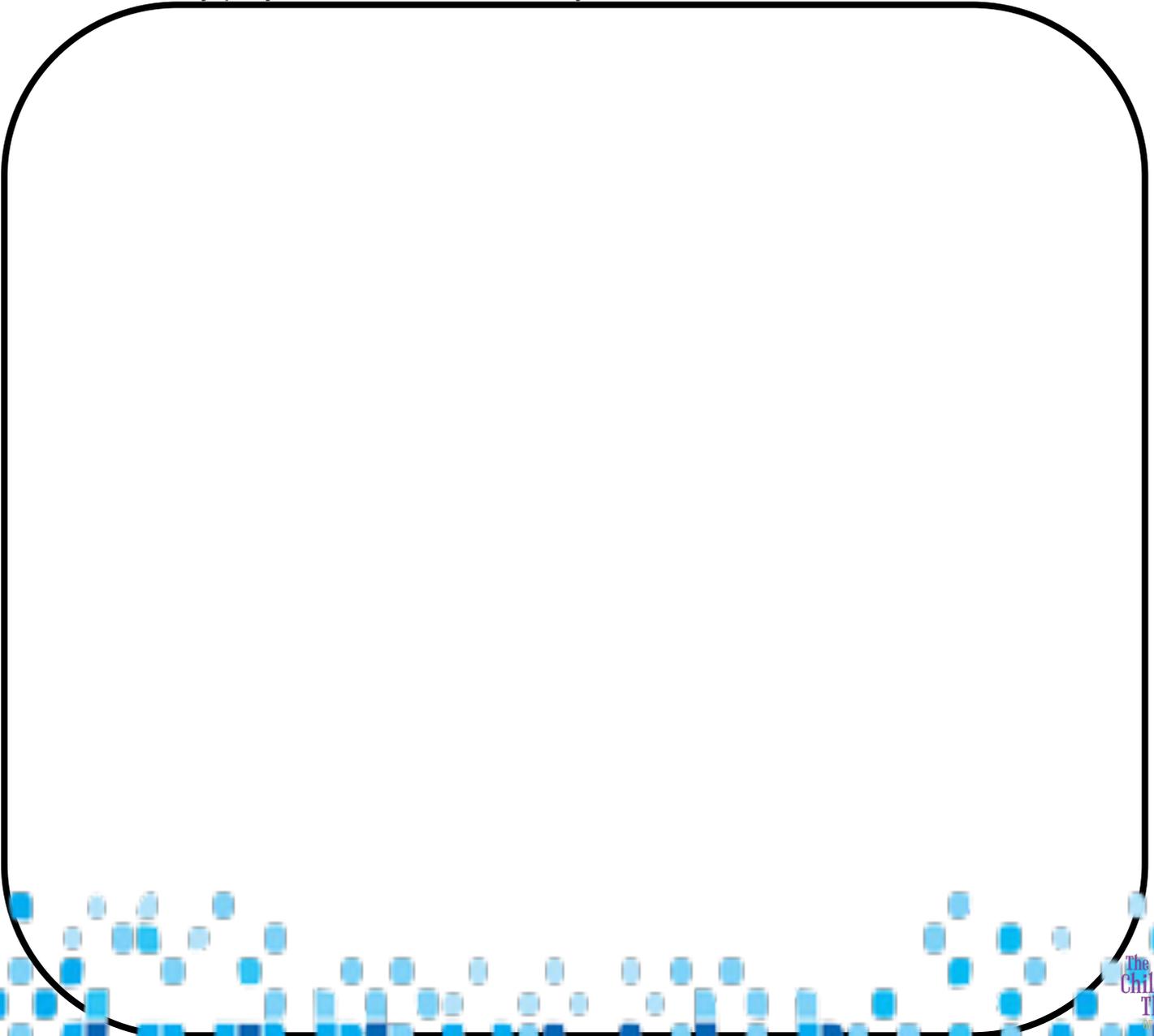
- A. The Robot
- B. The Boy
- C. The Skin Horse
- D. The Girl Rabbit





ACTIVITY (All Grades), "Stuffed Animal Hall of Fame"

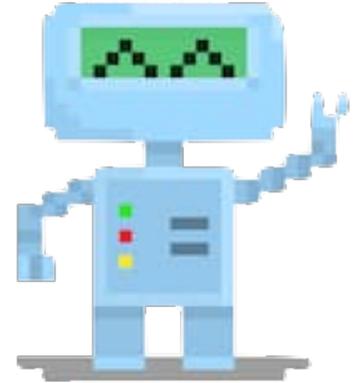
Stuffed animals play an important role in the emotional development of many children, often becoming a child's first friend. To honor our soft, huggable buddies, have students "Show & Tell" about their first or favorite Stuffed Animal (or if the student doesn't have one, have them ask a parent or older relative to tell them about THEIR first or favorite Stuffed Animal). If the Stuffed Animal is still around, have the student bring it in to show to class (if not, have students draw a picture of their toy in the space below to share), and create a "Certificate of Honor" detailing the Stuffed Animal's name, and why it is/was so special to it's owner. Display the Certificates/Animals/Pictures in the classroom to honor our Stuffed Animal friends and the special role they play in the lives of so many children.



JUMBLE

Unscramble the letters below to reveal words or phrases related to the story.

1. FIRMTOTANANS _____
2. NETEVELEV _____
3. LAGIDIT _____
4. CASTLER FREEV _____
5. EXISTEN TIB _____



WORD SEARCH

Find the following words (forwards - vertical - horizontal - diagonal) in the grid below:

Velveteen - Rabbit - Toys - Robot - Boy - Mother - Father -
Scarlet - Fever - Real - Love - Bear - Horse

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

ANSWER KEY

Reading Questions

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. C

Word Jumble

1. Transformation
2. Velveteen
3. Digital
4. Scarlet Fever
5. Sixteen Bit



Word Search

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

GRADE LEVEL STANDARDS

RI.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

RL.2.2 Analyze literary text development.

a. Determine the lesson or moral.

b. Retell stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures.

RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.