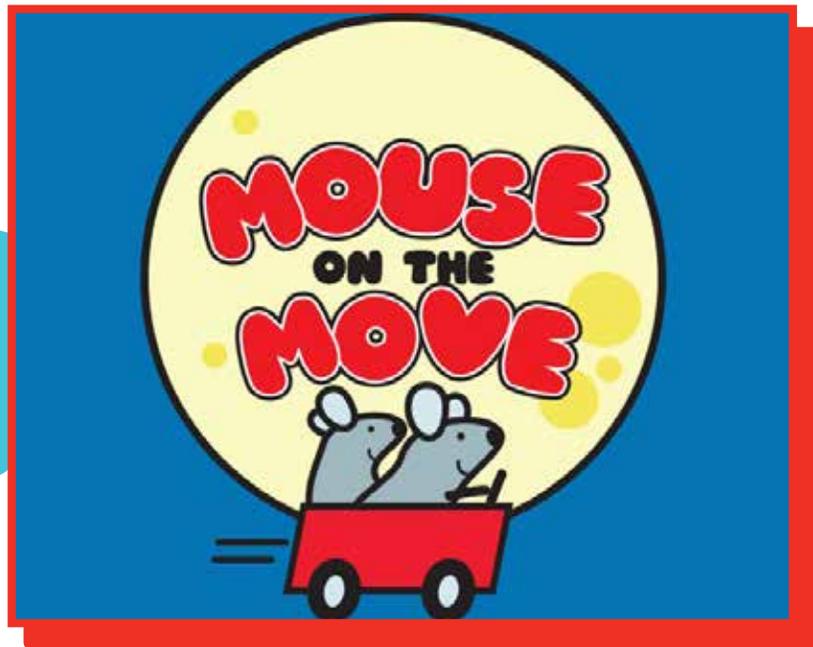


Long Island Children's Museum

Activity Packet



Mouse on the Move

Written by Janet Stanford and Kathryn Chase Bryer
Courtesy of Plays for Young Audiences

Performances:

Saturday, November 4, 2017 and Sunday, November 5, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 2 p.m. – Relaxed Performance

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 through Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 10:15 a.m. and noon

Friday, November 24, 2017 and Saturday, November 25, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Monday, February 19, 2018 through Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 and Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 10:15 a.m. and noon

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 and Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 10:15 a.m. and noon



Know Before You Go

The Theater...

Long Island Children's Museum Theater is the only theater on Long Island presenting performances specifically for family audiences on a year-round basis. It has presented vibrant and engaging performances for families since the Museum opened in 1993 and plays a central role in the range of educational experiences provided to visitors. In 2008, the LICM Theater expanded its role and began producing professional level family theater shows. Scripts are selected that encourage audience interaction and create personal experiences that we hope children will take with them throughout their lives.



Question Quest! What is the difference between live theater and a movie? Have you ever seen a live theater performance? What do you do when you see something on stage that you like? Do you clap? Cheer? Smile?

Click Further: Check out the **LICM Theater Website** for general information, performance schedules and online ticket sales for upcoming performances.

Literary Link: Learn about determination and introduce young audience members to the art of theater with the fun and light hearted, **Amandina** by Sergio Ruzzier.

Who You Will See...

The Cast

Lauren Cocco– Amilia

Kyle Mahoney– Freddy

The Production Staff

Austin Costello– Puppetry Director/Stage Manager

Samantha Impellizeri– Theater Program Coordinator

James Packard– Director/Lighting Designer



Question Quest! What is an actor? What is a director? What is a musician? What is a theater?

Click Further: Read about **research** that proved the importance of live theater for students.

Literary Link: Give acting a try with **On Stage: Theater Games and Activities for Kids**.

The Show

Two adventurous mice are ready to explore the world beyond their little mouse-hole. They decide to go to the moon because they believe it is made entirely of delicious, mouth-watering cheese. The pair learns to be resourceful, creative and brave as they discover a beautiful garden, navigate uncharted waters and travel through space in search of cheese. Created especially for young audience members, this multisensory and fantastically physical experience offers a wonderful introduction to the world of theater. Audience members become active in the storytelling as they use props and their imagination to help the mice.

Activity Time: Moon Hunt

Join in on the pursuit for the moon and find the six moons hidden throughout this Activity Packet. During the performance you may be asked to ring a bell every time you see the moon, so use this activity to practice your observation skills, memory and attention to detail.



Question Quest! How many moons could you find in the packet? Were all of the moons the same size or different sizes? Based on the show description, why do you think you will be asked to point out the moon in the show?

Click Further: Expand your observation skills with [free printable hidden picture puzzles](#).

Literary Link: Continue the hunt with [Spot the Mouse on the Move](#).

Muenster Moon

Do you think the moon is made of cheese? Of course not! Everybody knows that our lunar neighbor does not, in fact, consist of yummy cheesy goodness. So where did the myth that the moon is made of cheese come from in the first place?



Though the idea that the moon is made of cheese has been around for centuries, it's doubtful that anyone ever actually believed it, at least not academically. The earliest record of this bizarre notion comes from a **medieval story** in which a ravenous wolf chases a seemingly ill-fated fox, hoping to score an easy meal. Thinking fast, the fox convinces his pursuer that the moon's reflection on a nearby pond is actually a block of cheese floating on its surface and that the wolf must drink all of the water to acquire the tasty treat. Guzzling his way to the prize, the wolf eventually drinks too much and bursts, leaving the fox alive and victorious.

The moon being made of cheese may be a myth, but these moon facts are no fabrication.

- The moon is not a planet, but a **satellite** of the Earth.
- The moon orbits the Earth every 27.3 days.
- The moon has a **diameter** of 2,158 miles.
- It is the fifth largest moon in the **solar system**.
- The Earth's **tides** are largely caused by the gravitational pull of the moon.
- The moon goes through **phases** that make it appear as if it's changing shape.
- A lunar **eclipse** occurs when the Earth is between the sun and the moon.
- The first person to set foot on the moon was **Neil Armstrong**.
- The average distance from the moon to the Earth is 238900 miles.
 - o Travelling by car: 130 days
 - o Travelling by rocket: 13 hours
 - o Travelling by speed of light: 1.52 seconds

Question Quest! Have you ever seen the moon out your window? If so, what shape was it? What else do you see in the night sky? How is the sky at night different than the sky during the day?

Click Further: Watch a clip from **Wallace and Gromit's A Grand Day Out** in which Wallace and Gromit go to the moon and are disappointed to discover it is not made of cheese. Then, check out **Google Moon** to explore the surface of the moon and learn about the Apollo moon landings.

Literary Link: Read along with **Papa, Please Get the Moon For Me** by Eric Carle.



Activity Time: Moon Munchies

The moon may not be made of cheese, but you can make some moon-themed goodies to eat as you read through this Activity Packet. Try **moon pies**, a simplified **mooncake**, and other **moon munchies**. If you're ready to challenge your baking skills, try a **traditional mooncake** and learn how it pertains to the Mid-Autumn festival of Chinese culture.



Featured Creatures

In the show *Mouse on the Move* none of the characters you meet will be human. Instead, the two main characters are mice and along their adventure they come across a cat, ladybug and sea star. All of these critters can also be found on Long Island. How many have you seen?



Mice...

- Are typically **nocturnal**.
- Tails can grow as long as their bodies.
- Eat 15 to 20 times a day.
- Use their whiskers to sense temperature.
- Are good swimmers.
- Can squeeze through openings as small as a dime.

Cats...

- Are the most common pets in the United States.
- Can sleep up to 16 hours a day.
- Can jump approximately seven times their height.
- Cannot taste anything sweet.
- Have a sense of smell is approximately 14 times that of a human.
- In a group of three or more are called a clowder or a pounce.



Ladybugs...

- Come in a variety of colors and patterns besides the classic red with black spots.
- Are often great for gardens because they eat aphids, an agricultural pest.
- Lay eggs in clusters or rows on the underside of leaves.
- Are considered **good luck** in many cultures.
- Develop through a **life cycle**: egg to larvae, larvae to pupa, pupa to adult ladybug.
- **Hibernate** during the winter.

Sea Star...

- Are not actually fish and cannot swim. They are **echinoderms**.
- Can be found in every ocean, but cannot survive in fresh water.
- Usually have five arms, but some species have up to 40!
- Can regrow their arms and will sometimes drop an arm if caught by a predator.
- Have many tiny eyes at the end of each arm, but cannot see very well.



Question Quest! What similarities and differences can you find between these animals? If you could have any animals as a pet, what would it be? What is your favorite animal? Why is it your favorite? How many legs does each animal have? How many legs do you have?

Click Further: Watch **mice doing tricks**, learn some more **cat facts**, see how a **sea star moves** and dance along to Sesame Street's **Ladybugs' Picnic**.

Literary Link: Read along with **Wemberly Worried** and **Sheila Rae, The Brave**. These classic Kevin Henkes books show two mice with very different personalities, similarly to the mice found in *Mouse on the Move*. Which mouse do you think you are more similar to?

Activity Time: Critter Craft

Try these crafts for each of our Mouse on the Move animal friends!

- **Mighty Mouse Ears:** Get creative and follow [any of these](#) tutorials for inspiration.
- **Cute Kitty Planter:** Get recycling and turn a plastic bottle into your **own indoor garden**.
- **Lively Ladybug Tennis:** Get moving and take **this** balloon tennis to the next level by decorating your balloons to look like **ladybugs!**
- **Sea Star:** Get molding by **making your own sea star** out of baking soda dough.

Pretend Play Power!

In *Mouse on the Move*, the two mice use their creativity and imagination to play pretend. By using objects found around their home, they are able to travel all the way to the moon and back. Just like the mice in the show, children love to pretend play. This should always be encouraged as there are many benefits to pretend play.

Pretend play is very important for the development of children's minds. It has the power to help children understand the real world and cope with their emotions and experiences. Pretend play provides a safe space in which children can test their limits and explore potential experiences. Always allow your children to have control over pretend play as they have little control over the real big sometimes scary world. Pretend play also allows the child to:

- Develop social skills, like sharing and taking turns.
- Improve language development.
- Use his or her imagination, an important building block for learning.
- Enhance his or her self-esteem.



Question Quest! What are some of the ways you like to play pretend? If you could be any animal, which animal would you like to be?

Click Further: [Learn more](#) about the importance of pretend play and how to encourage it.

Literary Link: Read along with the classic Maurice Sendak book *Where the Wild Things Are* and see how the main character, Max, lets his imagination run wild.

Activity Time: Imagine That!

Pretend you are the mice in *Mouse on the Move*. Collect items from around your home to create a flying machine to take to the moon. Just be sure to ask permission before taking something that doesn't belong to you! What does your flying machine look like? What does your flying machine sound like? Why did you select the items you did?



Now climb inside and use your imagination to travel to the moon! What/who do you choose to take with you? What do you see along the way? What happens once you get there? How does the moon smell? How do you get home?

During Your Visit

Show Time!

Before the Show:

- Please do not bring food or beverages into the Theater (bottled water is permitted).
- Please turn off or silence cell phones when entering the Theater. This makes the experience more enjoyable for everyone.

During the Show:

- LICM Theater is a place that encourages audience interaction in most of our shows. However, we ask that the audience remain seated until prompted by the actors to enter the stage area or respond to questions.
- Keep the aisles clear as per fire safety regulations and in case of emergency.
- We know that young children are curious and will want to ask you questions during the performance—feel free to talk quietly with your children.
- The use of recording and/or photographic equipment is strictly prohibited. You will have an opportunity to take photos of our performers and chat with them at the end of every show.

After the Show:

- Stay and meet the performers!



Question Quest! What was your favorite part of the show? How did the show make you feel? What do you think the performers did to prepare for the show? What question would you like to ask our performers?

Click Further: Learn about one of the important aspects of theater etiquette with **this short silent film** by Drew the Dramatic Fool.

Literary Link: Learn about the process of writing a play as you read the playful picture book, **Full Moon and Star**, by Lee Bennett Hopkins.

Making Connections

When you come to see the show, be sure to stick around afterwards and check out all of the galleries in the museum. These are some specific ways you can use the galleries to expand upon your trip to see *Mouse on the Move*. Teachers should look into **extending your visit** if you have not already!

Activity Time: TotSpot



TotSpot has many options for younger visitors to explore pretend play. Toss on a construction hat and work on a construction site. Try on a mailperson's uniform and deliver mail to mailboxes around the gallery. Pick some vegetables at the farm stand and sell them to a friend. The opportunities are endless with imagination!

This early childhood gallery is also a great way to explore different types of transportation, like that found in *Mouse on the Move*. You can drive a bus, a motorcycle, a boat, an ice cream truck, a digger and a train! You can also find check out some transportation-themed puzzles and books.

Question Quest! What do you want to be when you grow up? Which mode of transportation is your favorite? Why? Which modes of transportation found in TotSpot did you see in the show?

Click Further: Rock out with Barney to *The Wheels on the Bus* song!

Literary Link: After you hop off the TotSpot bus, read along with Mo Willem's *Don't Let the Pidgeon Drive the Bus!*

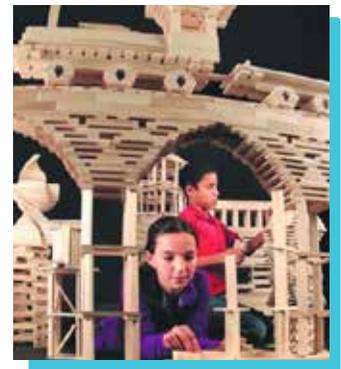
Activity Time: Building Boom with KEVA™ Planks

Bring your imagination to life by making a miniature model of your very own flying machine like the mice in the show! Explore the gallery and take a look at all of the examples of how to use the KEVA planks. See if you can find the boat and the train. Now use this inspiration to get building!

Question Quest! What is the name of your flying machine? How many KEVA blocks tall is your flying machine? How do you imagine your flying machine looks on the inside?

Click Further: Check out the **world's tallest KEVA Plank tower!**

Literary Link: Celebrate building by reading Cristy Hale's *Dreaming Up*. This collection of poetry, illustrations and photography shows how young children's constructions, created as they play, are reflected in notable works of architecture from around the world.



Activity Time: Feasts for Beasts

Visit this zoo of a gallery to see critters similar to the ones you saw in *Mouse on the Move*. There you will meet Tempey, our therapy guinea pig, who is a rodent just like the mice in the show. There is also a collection of bugs, like the ladybugs in the show. You can find walking sticks, cockroaches, bees and a millipede.

Question Quest! Out of the critters you saw in this gallery, which one was your favorite? Why? What do the bugs you saw have in common? Can you find a picture of a mouse on the gallery wall?



Click Further: Learn more about rodents with **this article** from Britannica and then watch **this video** about the world's weirdest rodents.

Literary Link: Continue the buzz about bugs by reading along with *I Like Bugs* by Margaret Wise Brown.

After Your Visit

Routine Rumble



In *Mouse on the Move*, we joined the mice as they went about their morning routine. The mice practiced good hygiene by brushing their teeth and cleaning their ears and tails. They continued their healthy routine by exercising. They lifted weights together and one mouse practiced yoga while the other warmed up with kickboxing. They concluded their morning routine by sitting down together for breakfast.

Having a routine is an important tool in childhood development. Young children do not yet fully understand the concept of time. Therefore, they do not order their lives by hours or minutes, but rather by the events that happen around them. When these events happen in the same order every day, children have a better understanding of their world. People feel most secure when their lives are predictable. When adults provide an environment that feels safe, children learn that they can trust others to take care of them and meet their needs.

Question Quest! What is your morning routine? How is it different from your bedtime routine? What do you like to eat for breakfast? What is your favorite way to exercise?

Click Further: For sources and further information, check out [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Teachers can **read further** about the importance of morning routines in the classroom and ideas on how to implement them.

Literary Link: Read and stretch along with *Good Morning Yoga* by Mariam Gates.

Activity Time: Yoga with Bari

Stretch out your muscles and get ready to grow big and strong with yoga! Follow along with to these Kids Yoga hits with Bari Koral.

- **The Yoga Alphabet**
- **The Sun Dance**
- **Dancing Bear**
- **Apple Tree**

Did you know that **Bari Koral** has performed on the LICM stage?



Transportation Station

As children work to understand the world around them, different modes of transportation seem to be one of the first things to fascinate them. They see transportation vehicles wherever they go and many children take in transportation on a daily basis. As seen in *Mouse on the Move*, this fascination often develops through play. The two mice use their imaginations to drive a car, boat and even a flying machine!

Click Further: Learn more about transportation with the furry friends of *Sesame Street* in an episode called *"Bikes, Trains, Planes, and Cars!"*

Literary Link: Read along as you sing *We All Go Travelling By* by Sheena Roberts.

Activity Time: Ready to Roll

Use wheeled wonders to create your very own masterpiece! Fill shallow plates or trays with paint and set out an assortment of small toy vehicles and large sheets of paper. Dip the wheels in paint and roll them across the paper creating different paths and patterns. This is a great way to get transportation-loving children who may not normally love art activities to try something new. If you have sidewalk/driveway access, try **this oversized version** too.

Playful Puppets

Many characters in *Mouse on the Move* are brought to life through puppetry. A puppet is any inanimate object that humans bring to life for an audience. Puppetry has been around for thousands of years and has been used for telling stories throughout history. The puppets you saw in *Mouse on the Move* are varying types of hand puppets. Hand puppets are controlled by a person's hand that fits inside the puppet's interior and controls the puppet's mouth.



The ladybug is a hand and rod puppet. This type of puppet is a combination of a hand puppet and a rod puppet. The hand in the puppet's interior controls the mouth while the wings are controlled by external rods. These rods can move independently or simultaneously. While puppeteers are normally hidden from view while working with hand puppets, the ladybug's operator can be seen onstage.

The sea star is a full body puppet. This specific puppet is a combination of a hand puppet and a full body puppet. The puppeteer uses one hand to control the mouth while the other hand acts as the puppet's

Question Quest! Have you ever played with a puppet? What types of puppets have you seen before? Why do you think puppets were used in the show?

hand. The puppeteer's feet also act as the puppet's feet. The puppeteer isn't hidden from the audience and instead becomes a part of the puppet itself.

Click Further: Meet our Puppetry Director, **Austin Costello**, as he talks about a type of puppet seen in the show and be sure to check out **his website** to see footage from other projects he has worked on at LICM Theater.

Literary Link: Pick up a copy of ***Sneezy Wheezy Mr. Shark*** by Kate Thomson. This fun early reader book has a built-in hand puppet to play along with as you read.

Activity Time: Puppet Play

Make your own sock hand puppet by following **these simple instructions** and check out **this blog** for sock puppet examples and inspiration. No spare socks? Use a **brown paper bag** for your puppet instead.

After you finish your puppet creations, put on your very own puppet show for your friends and/or family. One idea for a puppet show is to tell about your trip to LICM to see *Mouse on the Move*.

Terrific Traits

In *Mouse on the Move*, the two mice had very different personalities and responded to things differently. One mouse was more outgoing and courageous, while the other mouse was more shy and cautious. It is important to understand that these differences are okay, and one way of acting and reacting is not better than the other. However, being able to identify these differences in personality type can help you better connect with and educate your child(ren).



One-third of people are introverts, those who'd prefer to listen rather than speak. Often caregivers want to correct the shyness that often accompanies this. However, this should usually be avoided because it can often make a child feel that he or she does not fit in. This personality type can come with many beneficial qualities, such as innovation, creativity and sensitivity, which have led people to make great contributions to society. Famous introverts include Albert Einstein, J.K. Rowling and Dr. Seuss. Introverts often learn better on their own or in a more intimate environment.

Being an extrovert tends to be supported more by society, but it often comes with its own set of difficulties. They tend to be better at working and communicating with people, but often have more difficulty with processing things internally. Therefore, extroverts learn better in a group environment where they can discuss their work and thought processes with others.

Question Quest! Which mouse do you relate to better? Why? Do you ever feel shy? If so, what do you do when you feel shy? How do you like to learn the best?

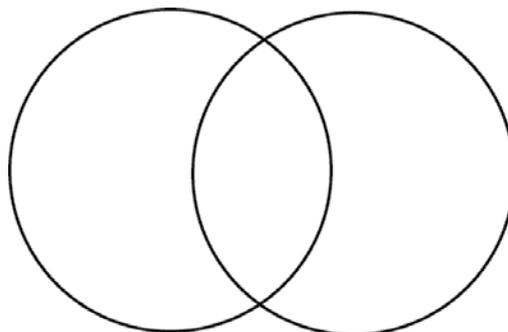


Click Further: For more information and source material, check out [this article](#) about children who are introverts and [this article](#) about children who are extroverts.

Literary Link: Conquer your fears as you read along with *Too Shy for Show and Tell* by Beth Bracken and illustrated by Jennifer A. Bell.

Activity Time: Ready to Recall

Recall as many character **traits** about each mouse as you can. Be sure to include both physical and personality traits. For example, one mouse has a long tail (physical trait) and is a neat packer (personality trait). Once you have a list of traits, organize them into a Venn Diagram. See how many similarities and differences you can find! How does a chart, like the **Venn Diagram**, help us organize information? What shapes do you see in a Venn Diagram?



Tell Us What You Thought!

We would love to hear from you. Share your feedback regarding your experience at the LICM Theater by emailing us at theater@licm.org.

We appreciate the support of the following:



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