



Disney
PRESENTS

THE LION KING

EDUCATION PROGRAM

SECONDARY SCHOOL

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTION - LIVE ON STAGE - CAPITOL THEATRE

THE LION KING

Sunrise on the savannah. The shaman baboon Rafiki raises her voice in a glorious chant, calling the animals to Pride Rock. Her words sing out, and the animals come. The elephants, rhinos, zebras, giraffes, wildebeests, cheetahs, and antelope all come to honour the new prince and celebrate the unending Circle of Life. THE LION KING, a brilliant and life-affirming musical, has begun.

For young people, THE LION KING offers a once-in-a-lifetime event, a wonderful introduction to the excitement of a live performance experience. For teachers, the narrative elements of THE LION KING's story and its creation can be launching points for vibrant classroom discussions and explorations.

THE LION KING tells the story of Simba's adventures as he struggles to accept his responsibilities and, most importantly, learn from his mistakes. We experience his journey from a precocious child to a wiser adult. THE LION KING can be an adventure of learning for both students and educators – an unforgettable journey into a new theatrical world.



Tsidili Le Loka (Rafiki) in the Original Broadway Production. Photo: Joan Marcus/Marc Bryan-Brown

THE LION KING



Introduction to the study guide

The study guide for THE LION KING contains learning activities that are appropriate to students in Years 7-10.

Part 1 is particularly relevant to elements of the new English Years 7-10 Syllabus and Drama Years 7-10; Years 7-8 (Stage 4); Years 9-10 (Stage 5).

Part 2 contains learning activities that are appropriate to elements of the syllabus for Years 7-10 in music, drama and visual arts, and visual design.

The study guide is particularly applicable for cross-curricular work in Years 7 and 8. Different faculties could teach different sections, culminating in a final evaluation task in which students are asked to explain and evaluate what they have learned from the unit.

THE LION KING study guide provides activities that will enable students to develop understanding in a wide range of language situations.

The activities provide learning opportunities for students in talking, listening, reading and writing in contexts that are of significance to them; for example experiencing, enjoying and responding sensitively and perceptively to a theatrical experience and a wide range of literature, including fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, film, websites and everyday texts.

Resources suggested in this guide comprise a range of texts which give students experience of Australian literature including: Aboriginal experiences and multicultural experiences in Australia, literature from other countries cultural heritages, popular culture and youth culture, picture books, Shakespeare (Stage 5) film and websites.



How to use this guide:

THE LION KING is an epic and an adventure story that explores important themes such as responsibility, growing up, the relationships between parents and children, and the connection between all creatures. THE LION KING is also a celebration of how theatre can tell stories, describe ideas, and coax us to react with our emotions. THE LION KING can be the starting point for discussions, projects and discoveries in such diverse subjects as English, literature, history, social studies, music, dance and theatre, or an interdisciplinary curriculum that blends them all. The extensive scope of this guide provides teachers and students with a large choice of activities. Teachers are encouraged to select from the guide for their specific use.

There are two major parts to THE LION KING study guide. Each part is broken into several sections, with explanations of the concepts behind the show's story, its creation, and quotes from the creative team. These sections are summarised on the following page.