

# TALKING POINTS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: CHICKEN DANCE

## Show and Theater Company:

- *Chicken Dance* by ArtsPower

## Art Form:

- A musical – a story with songs
  - ? Can you think of other musicals? What are other examples of stories with songs?

## Context:

- Based on a book by author Tammi Sauer and illustrated by Dan Santat.
  - ? Have you ever read this book?
- The story is about two chickens trying to win tickets to see the famous singer Elvis Poultry in concert. Elvis Poultry is based on a real-life singer named Elvis Presley, who was one of the most famous musicians in the world back in the 1950s and 1960s.
  - ? Do you know any songs by Elvis Presley? (If not, ask some of the adults you know!)
  - ? Who is a famous singer you would want to see in concert some day?

## Main Characters:

- Marge and Lola – the main characters, two chickens who are friends and fans of Elvis Poultry!
- Elvis Poultry – a famous singer who will be performing at “The Final Doodle Doo” concert
- Elsie the Cow – Marge and Lola’s cow friend who decides not to enter the contest because she’s sure she’ll lose
- Gertie the Goat and Penelope the Pig – Marge and Lola’s friends who are also entering the contest
- Mac the Duck – the barnyard bully who tells Marge and Lola they’re not good enough to win the contest
  - ? Has someone ever made you feel bad for trying something? What did you do?
  - ? How you can support your friends who are trying to do something new?

## Special Things to Look for:

- ? What are some of the things Marge and Lola try to do before they find their talent?
- ? What are some of your talents? What is a talent you want to learn?
- ? The actors on stage are not actually chickens, cows, and ducks. How do they act like they are?
  - They wear costumes, they use their voices to sound different, they move their bodies differently
- ? If you have read the book, how is this different from the book? How is it the same?

## Virtual Theater Etiquette:

As you watch this show, try to immerse yourself as you would if you were at the theater in person.

- Find a quiet space to watch.
- Respect your space – in the theater, we don’t put our feet on the seats in front of us or jump and down in our chairs; wherever you’re watching this, treat your space with the same level of respect.
- Limit distractions.
- Use the restroom before the show starts so you won’t miss anything.
- Put any other electronic devices away.
- Clap when you see something you love!