

TALKING POINTS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: STEVE TRASH

Show and Theater Company:

- Steve Trash, a stage magician with a focus on ecology and recycling

Art Form:

- An educational magic show with a focus on ecology and recycling.
 - ? Have you seen a magic show before? Can you do any magic tricks?

Context:

- Steve Trash's magic shows are all about science, specifically the science of *ecology*.
 - ? Do you know what ecology means? (It's the study of the environment. Ecology helps us study our environment here on earth so we know how to take care of it!)
- Through magic and illusions, Steve teaches his audience about recycling, littering, and how trash can actually be a valuable resource!
 - ? What are some things you already know about recycling?
 - ? What items do you think your trash is most full of? Do you know if they can be recycled?

Main Characters:

- Steve Trash does this show all by himself, so let's learn a little bit more about him.
- He's been working in entertainment since 1984, appearing on TV shows like *Reading Rainbow* and at famous magic venues like The Magic Castle.
 - ? Do some math – for how many years has Steve Trash been entertaining people? (Hint: Take the current year and subtract!)
- He has his own TV show: *Steve Trash Science* on PBS.
- He lives in a "green home" to help care of the environment. His home is specially insulated to avoid using power, has a lot of reduced-energy appliances, and has a composting tub in his backyard.
 - ? What are some things you know are good for the environment? Do you do any of those in your home? If not, can you?

Special Things to Look for:

- ? What magic trick surprised you the most?
- ? What's something new you learned about recycling?
- ? How do the props and costumes on the stage help Steve do his act?
- ? Steve recycles a lot of "trash" – what "trash" do you think you could reuse in your own home?

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!