

# TALKING POINTS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: WHAT DO YOU DO WITH AN IDEA?

## Show & Theater Company:

*What Do You Do With An Idea?* presented by Inlet Dance Theatre

## Art Form:

Dance theatre performance

## Context:

- Inlet Dance Theatre is a professional dance company from northeast Ohio.
  - ? Can you find Ohio on a map of the United States?
- This dance show is based on the book *What Do You Do With an Idea?* by Kobi Yomada, illustrated by Mae Besom.
  - ? What does an author do? What does an illustrator do?

## Main Characters:

The characters in this story don't have names, but we can describe them.

- The Child – the main character, who gets an Idea and has to learn how to take care of it.
- The Idea – the Idea the Child gets. It may not be a person, but it acts and moves and needs attention like it's alive!
- The Townspeople – the people who live near the Child. They don't understand the Idea at first!

## Concept:

- The story never tells us what the Child's idea is. That makes it easier for us to imagine it's about our ideas!
  - ? Have you ever had an Idea that other people made fun of? How did you respond?
- The Townspeople weren't very helpful to the Child and their Idea.
  - ? Can you help your friends take care of their ideas? How?
- ? Do you have an idea you want to work on right now? An idea for something to want to make, or do, or learn, or draw? Tell somebody about it!
- ? Where do you think ideas come from?

## Special Things to Look for:

- This dance theatre performance is mostly dance, and the characters don't speak, but there is a narrator.
  - ? How does the narrator help you understand the show? How would it be different if there was no narrator?
- ? Do you know the name of the special clothes actors wear to make them look like a character? Do you think it is easier or harder to dance in a costume?

## 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!

**Show Info: *What Do You Do With An Idea?* • November 29 – December 17, 2021 • Grades PK-4**