

TALKING POINTS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: *PETE THE CAT'S BIG HOLLYWOOD ADVENTURE*

Show & Theater Company:

Pete the Cat's Big Hollywood Adventure by TheaterWorksUSA based in New York City

Art Form:

Musical theater (a play with songs)

Context:

- This show is based on multiple books in the *Pete the Cat* series, including *Cavecat Pete*, *Pete the Cat and the Treasure Map*, and *The Cool Cat Boogie*.
- The *Pete the Cat* series is written and illustrated by James and Kimberly Dean.

Main Characters:

- **Pete the Cat** is a “super zen rockin’ cat with blue fur.” He’s always excited for adventures but can get easily distracted.
- **Callie** the Calico is “a kind and brainy cat who loves the movies.” Her best bud is Pete the Cat.
- **Ethyl** is a shy dinosaur. Her favorite thing in the world is vegetables.
- The **Security Guard** loves Hollywood and guards the Hollywood sign. He has another secret job!
- **Robo-Pete** is Pete the Cat’s “super excited robot friend.”

Special Things to Look for:

- The characters in the play travel to Hollywood, where movies are made.
 - ? What state is Hollywood in? What state do you live in?
- The performers in this show are pretending to be lots of different characters, including animals and robots (and robot animals). Sometimes those characters even pretend to be other characters!
 - ? What are the performers doing to pretend to be someone else? Do you notice changes to the way they talk, move, and dress when they’re acting?

Theater Etiquette:

- Respect the theater, one person to a seat, limit bathroom breaks, do not kick the seats, no food or drink in the theater (bottled water okay), and turn off cell phones/no texting.
- ? How is watching live theater different than watching a movie or TV?
 - We can’t pause, rewind, or fast forward with live theater.
 - Live theater is exciting because each performance is unique.
 - Students are in the same room as the performers. Moving around and making sounds can affect the performers and other members of the audience.