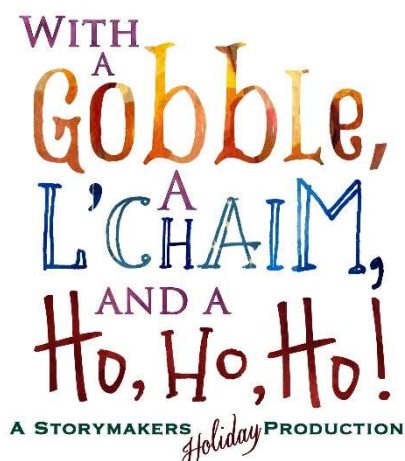


Performance Guide



For students in grades K-2

ELA.K.R.1.1, ELA.K.R.3.3, ELA.1.R.1.1, ELA.1.R.1.2, MU.K.C.2.1, MU.K.H.1.1, MU.2.H.2.1, SS.K.A.2.1, SS.K.A.2.2, SS.K.A.2.3, SS.K.A.2.4, SS.1.A.2.1, SS.1.A.2.2, SS.1.A.2.3, SS.1.A.2.4, SS.2.A.2.1

Hey, did the Pilgrims and Indians really eat turkey at the First Thanksgiving? We say...maybe! And what do Latkes have to do with Hanukkah? Let's visit Chelm and find out. A dozen Christmas cookies is really 13? How did that happen? Come celebrate with us and we'll tell you about all these holiday traditions with some songs and some stories and even a miracle or two...or three.

Geography

On a classroom world map or globe, locate the following places that served as settings for the tales in the production:

Albany, NY

Arles, France

Chelm, Poland

Plymouth, MA

Historical Figures

William Bradford – A founder and longtime governor of the Plymouth Colony settlement, Bradford was among the passengers on the Mayflower's trans-Atlantic journey and he signed the Mayflower Compact upon arriving in Massachusetts in 1620.

Massasoit – Wampanoag Indian chief who throughout his life maintained peaceful relations with English settlers in the area of the Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts.

St. Nicholas - Saint Nicholas, also called Nikolaos of Myra, was Bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor, and is a historic Christian saint. Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nikolaos the Wonderworker.

Squanto - Also known as Tisquantum, he was a Native American of the Patuxet tribe who acted as an interpreter and guide to the Pilgrim settlers at Plymouth during their first winter in the New World.

Vocabulary

Auld lang syne – (Gaelic phrase meaning long, long ago.) It's a Scots poem written by Robert Burns in 1788 and set to the tune of a traditional folk song. It's well known in the English-speaking countries and is traditionally sung to bid farewell to the old year at the stroke of midnight.

Baker's Dozen – (13 instead of 12) This phrase most likely originated from the practice of medieval English bakers giving an extra loaf when selling a dozen in order to avoid being penalized for selling short weight.

Chelm - city in Lublin district, Poland. The community is considered one of the oldest in Poland, possibly dating from the 12th century.

Convent - A community of people in a religious order, especially nuns.

Dreidel - The classic *dreidel* is a four-sided spinning top made of wood, plastic, or the proverbial clay. On the four sides of the *dreidel* appear four letters from the Hebrew alphabet—*nun* (נ), *gimmel* (ג), *hey* (ה), and *shin* (ש). These four letters are an acronym for "*nes gadol hayah sham*"—"a great miracle happened there."

Fowl - A bird, especially one that can be eaten as food, such as a duck or a chicken.

L'chaim – A Hebrew word used when making a toast meaning "to life".

Mayflower – An English ship that famously transported the first English Puritans, known today as the Pilgrims, from Plymouth, England to the New World in 1620.

Mazel tov – Hebrew phrase meaning good fortune is used to express congratulations for a happy and significant occasion or event.

Middle Ages - In the history of Europe, the Middle Ages or Medieval Period lasted from the 5th to the 15th century. It began with the fall of the Western Roman Empire and merged into the Renaissance and the Age of Discovery.

Predator - An animal that naturally preys on others.

Ramadan - Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam. Each day during Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset.

Sacrilegious - not showing respect for a holy place, object, or idea.

Venison – The meat of a deer.

Wampanoag – The name, Wampanoag, means People of the First Light. They were Algonquian-speaking North American Indians who formerly occupied parts of what are now the states of Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Zlotys - the basic monetary unit of Poland

Activities

(ELA.K.R.3.3, ELA.K.R.1.4, ELA.1.R.1.2, ELA.1.R.1.4, ELA.2.R.1.4)

- 1) Compare and contrast the Mysterious Stranger from the Chelm tale with the Dutch Baker from *The Baker's Dozen*. What food do they cook? What holidays are they celebrating? Who do you think is the better person and why? What are the morals of each of these stories?
- 2) Write a rhyming poem or song lyric about a holiday and share it with the class.

The simplest Rhyme Schemes are AABB, ABAB. Please see examples below:

My cat is nice. **A**
My cat likes mice. **A**
My cat is fat. **B**
I like my cat. **B**

My cat is nice. **A**
My cat is fat. **B**
My cat likes mice. **A**
I like my cat. **B**

Theater Etiquette

Respect the theater.

Respect the audience.

Respect the performers.