

A Wayne Scott • *LifeHouse Theater-On-The-Air* Production

The Emperor's New Clothes

An Original Adaptation by
Melissa Schwartzkopf

Based on the Tale by Hans Christian Andersen

Curriculum Guide

LIFE HIGHLIGHTS – HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

- 1805** Hans Christian Andersen is born in Odense, Denmark, on April 2.
- 1819** Andersen moves to Copenhagen to seek his fortune on the stage.
- 1827** First poem, 'The Dying Child', published in *Copenhagen Post*.
- 1829** First book, the comic fantasy *A Walking Tour from the Holmen Canal to the Eastern Point of the Amager*, published.
- 1831** Andersen travels to Germany and publishes *Shadow Pictures* about his journey.
- 1835** First volume of *Eventyr fortalte for Born* (Fairy tales, told for Children) published on May 8.
- 1837** Third volume of fairy tales containing 'The Little Mermaid' and 'The Emperor's New Clothes' published.
- 1838** Andersen is awarded an annual grant by the King of Denmark. First translations of his fairy tales into German.
- 1840** *The Mulatto* performed at the Royal Theatre.
- 1843** *New Fairy Tales*, including 'The Ugly Duckling,' 'The Nightingale' and 'The Top and the Ball,' published.
- 1845** 'The Little Match Girl' published.
- 1847** Andersen visits England and meets Charles Dickens.
- 1858-59** Four volumes of *New Tales and Stories*, all experimenting with new styles of story-writing and no longer intended for children, published.
- 1867** Anderson is awarded the “Freedom of the City of Odense.”
- 1875** Andersen dies on August 4 in Copenhagen.

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES - CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Ned steal from the King?
2. How does Ned repay his debt to the King?
3. Why does King Amswit call himself an Emperor?
4. According to Alistair, what makes the cloth so unique?
5. What did Captain Hughes tell Ned, when asked if he saw the cloth?
6. What does Lady Jenny suggest after “seeing” the clothes?
7. Why did no one want to admit they could not see the clothes?
8. Why does Ned embarrass the emperor in the middle of the parade?
9. Why did the emperor send out a note to the other kingdoms, even though it would put his reputation on the line?
10. What new position is Ned given?

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES - CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Ned steal from the King?
A: Pomegranates
2. How does Ned repay his debt to the King?
A: He works in the kingdom as a page.
3. Why does King Amswit call himself an Emperor?
A: The title "king" just isn't big enough for him.
4. According to Alistair, what makes the cloth so unique?
A: It is invisible to anyone who is unfit for their duties.
5. What did Captain Hughes tell Ned, when asked if he saw the cloth?
A: Hughes said that it was intricate with elaborate patterns.
6. What does Lady Jenny suggest after "seeing" the clothes?
A: That the emperor throw a parade to display his new outfit.
7. Why did no one want to admit they could not see the clothes?
A: They were afraid they would be seen as unfit for their jobs.
8. Why does Ned embarrass the emperor in the middle of the parade?
A: Because the Emperor did not listen to Ned when he tried to tell him the truth before.
9. Why did the emperor send out a note to the other kingdoms, even though it would put his reputation on the line?
A: Because he needed to warn the other kingdoms about the con artists.
10. What new position is Ned given?
A: Royal Truth Teller

KEY VERSES

*"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."
Exodus 20:16, the Eighth Commandment*

*"My lips will not speak wickedness, and my tongue will utter no deceit."
Job 27:4*

*"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and
whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."
Luke 16:10*

FUN FACTS

- Hans Christian Andersen was born in a humble one-room house to a shoemaker and a washerwoman and he lost his father when he was 11.
- Andersen considered himself ugly all his life and it was this self-view that inspired "The Ugly Duckling."
- Including recently discovered and unpublished stories, Andersen wrote about 212 tales.
- Andersen's works have been translated into approximately 150 languages.

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

1. Ned discovers that remaining quiet about something, when you know the truth, is sometimes the same as lying. Do you think it is ever all right to lie? What is a "white lie?"

2. It is often difficult to tell the truth. Describe a time when you have told the truth in a difficult circumstance. Are you glad that you told the truth?

BIBLIOGRPHY

Timeline of Hans Christian Andersen:

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