

The Snowy Day and Other Stories **by Ezra Jack Keats**

Adapted for the stage by Jerome Hairston

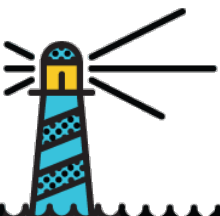
Based on the books by Ezra Jack Keats

With Music by Victor Zupanc

Originally commissioned and produced by Children's Theater Company

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for New Audiences

December 5 to December 30, 2024



About the Show

Join us in the LICM Theater to experience the wonder of a fresh snowfall, the delight of whistling for the first time, and the awe of finding a special treasure. In this childhood adventure, Ezra Jack Keats' classic books come to life, featuring live actors and shadow puppets telling the stories of *The Snowy Day*, *Goggles!*, *Whistle for Willie*, and *A Letter to Amy*.

Know Before You Go

Where You Will Go

Long Island Children's Museum Theater is a professional family theater at the heart of the Museum. We offer a range of performance styles for families and schools including musicals, plays, puppetry, dance, and music. Our high-quality live performances celebrate audience interactivity, are often literature based and always tell a great story.



Question Quest! What is the difference between live theater and a movie? Have you ever seen a live theater performance? What do you do when you see something on stage that you like? Do you clap? Cheer? Smile?

Give acting a try with [**On Stage: Theater Games and Activities for Kids.**](#)

Who You Will See...

The Cast

Peter – Yashaun Harris

Archie/Dad/Puppeteer - Yousuf Shah

Amy/Mom/Willie/Puppeteer -
Charmaine Elizabeth

Pepe/Puppeteer/Swing - Zarina Nudalo Cameron

The Production Team

Theater Program Director/Lighting Designer -
Jim Packard

Director/Puppet Artist - Austin Costello

Stage Manager - Lisa Rudin

Shadow Theater









Our show uses both shadow theater and live actors to tell the story. Shadow theater works by placing figures between a light and a screen. Puppeteers move them to create the illusion of moving images on the screen. It originated over 2000 years ago in China, and has a long history in India, Nepal and Southeast Asia.



Photo credit: *A Christmas Carol*, LICM Theater

Shadow Theater

You can make your own shadow puppets using your hand, a flashlight, and a blank wall. Use this chart for some ideas!

 <p>elephant</p>	<h2>Shadow PUPPETS</h2> <p>www.krokotak.com</p> 
 <p>butterfly</p>	 <p>deer</p>
 <p>dog</p>	 <p>horse</p>
 <p>rabbit</p>	 <p>snail</p>

[Printable version of the chart](#)

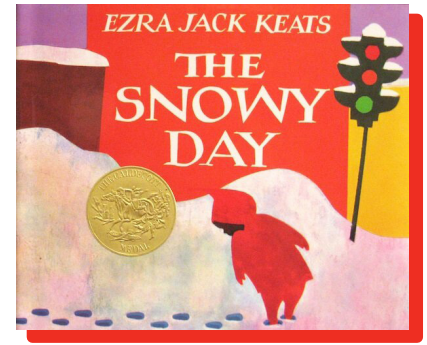
[Try these shadows puppet activities](#)

The Snowy Day

In *The Snowy Day*, Peter has a great time playing in the snow. He makes snow angels, walks different ways and enjoys hearing the crunch sound of the snow. How do you like to play in the snow?

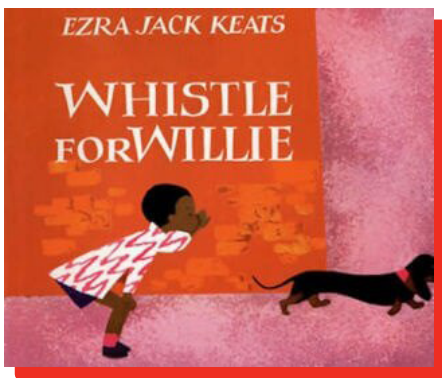
Snow Fun Facts

- Snow is not white, it is translucent.
- Snow takes about an hour to go from the cloud to the ground.
- Snow dampens sound.
- There are hundreds of words for it. Scotland has 421, including *spitters* - small drops of driving snow and *skelf* - a large snowflake.
- Snowflakes form when an extremely cold-water droplet freezes onto a pollen or dust particle, also called nucleus.



Snow Art Activity Make snowflakes out of coffee filters! You can paint them, too!

Make a Snowy Day Shape Collage!



Whistle for Willie

In *Whistle for Willie*, Peter wants to learn to whistle, so he can play with his dog, Willie. He tries many ways, asks his mother, and even puts on his father's hat to see if that helps. He gets discouraged but keeps trying and trying, never giving up. Do you think he learns how to whistle? What would happen if he stopped trying?

What makes it difficult to try again after failing?

- When you try something new and don't learn it the first time, it can cause you to feel bad about yourself.
- Because you don't want to feel bad about yourself, you don't want to try again.
- But, if you never try again, you won't learn how to do the new thing...
- Which would make you feel good about yourself!

What helps you persist? Think about these points:

- Trying something new and not getting it right away is part of learning, everyone experiences it.
- Every time you try and don't succeed, you learn a little bit more about how to do it right the next time.
- It's ok to ask for help, just like Peter does!
- Imagine how great you will feel when you master it!
- You have learned new things before, like reading, or tying your shoes, or doing a cartwheel, and you succeeded at those! You can succeed at new things, too!



Picture by rawpixel.com



pic by brgfx at freepik.com

Practice perseverance with an obstacle course:

Set up an obstacle course using materials such as cones, balls, hoops, scarves, etc. Assign an activity at each spot throughout the course, such as jumping jacks, running a specific distance, hopping on one foot, etc.

[Try this outdoor, animal-themed obstacle course.](#)

Goggles

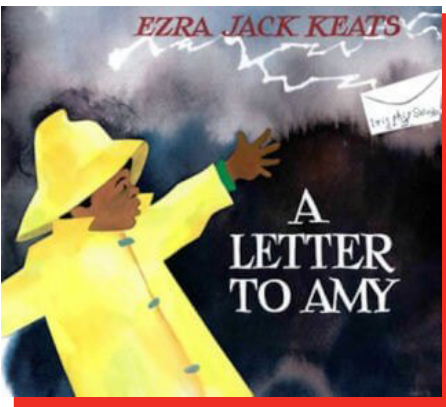
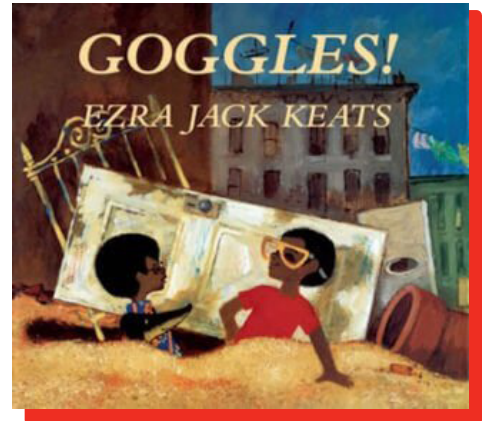
In the book *Goggles*, Peter and his friend Archie find a pair of goggles and play different games with them. They fly like astronauts, swim underwater like deep sea divers, and race motorcycles. Have you ever played all different games with one object? How many different things can you pretend is is?

Activity

Find a household object and use your imagination to pretend it is something else! For example, you could pretend a blanket is a tent and go camping, or make it a lake to swim in, or use it as a cape and play superheroes!

For a class or group:

- Gather some objects and then sit in a circle.
- Put all the objects into the center of the circle.
- Allow one child to pick whichever one is interesting to them.
- After their turn, they put it back into the center for another child to use.
- “Transform” the object into something that it is not. The child picks up the item and says, “This is not a _____, it’s a...” then they will transform the object into something it is not, through pantomime. For example: This is not a roll of tape, this is my (pantomiming biting into an apple)!



A Letter to Amy

In *A Letter to Amy*, Peter struggles to write a letter to Amy to invite her to his birthday party. He wants it to be perfect. He isn’t sure what information to include and almost forgets the stamp. Do you know how to write, address and mail a letter?

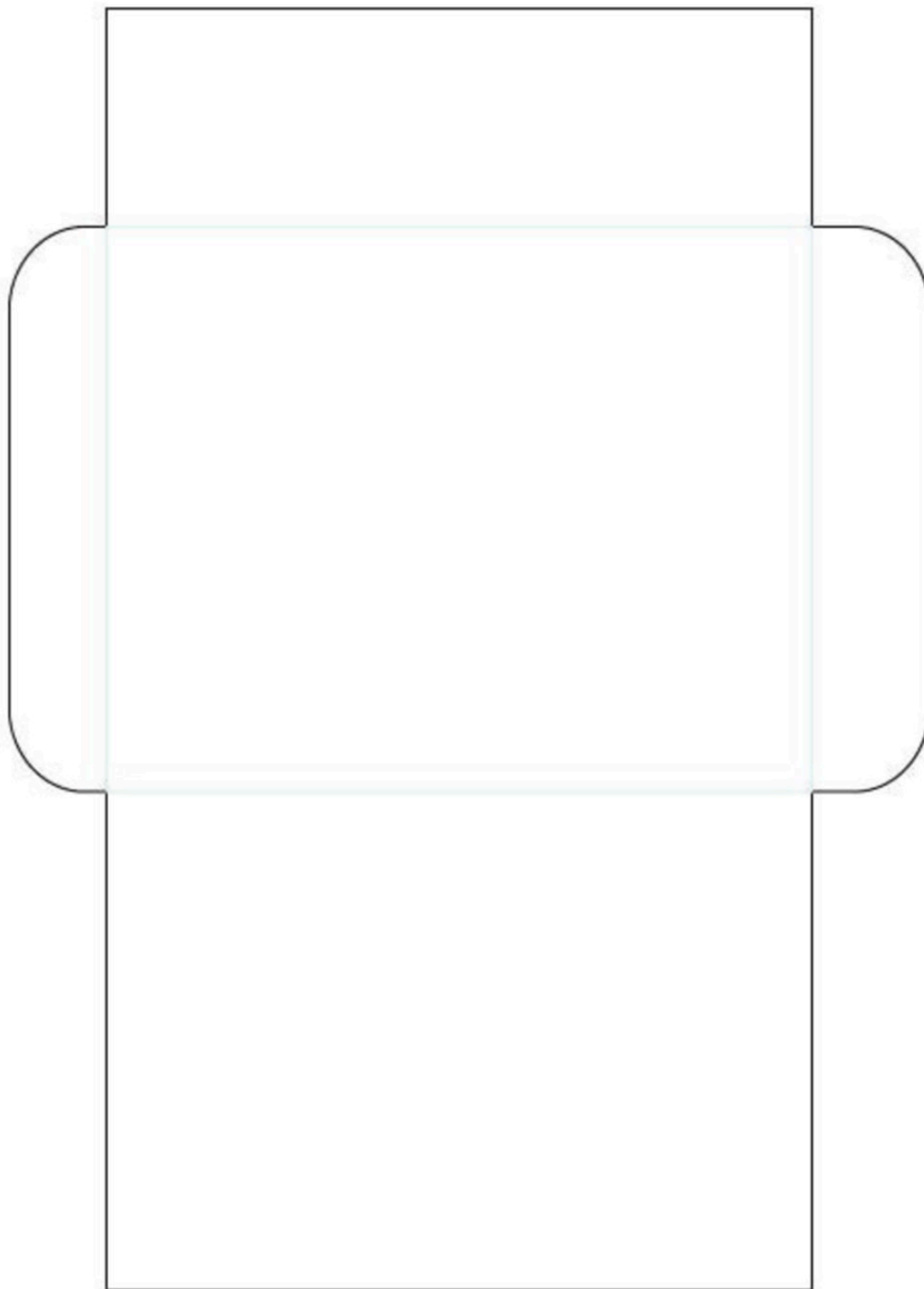
This video from the postal service shows you how to [mail a letter](#).

When mailing a letter, it’s fun to decorate the envelope and make it special and unique! You can use crayons, markers, stickers, stencils, or any other art supplies to create a beautiful envelope. Maybe you have a family member or friend who would love to receive a special letter from you!

Here is a template of an envelope to get you started!

Printable Envelope Template

Instructions: 1. Cut around perimeter. 2. Fold both small side flaps along light gray fold line. 3. Fold large flap up along fold line to meet side flaps. 4. Use preferred adhesive to stick back flap against side flaps. 5. Fold top flap down along fold line.



A Place to Visit

There is a Peter and Willie sculpture in Prospect Park in Brooklyn, NY! It is located at Imagination Playground, Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Road.

Dedicated in 1997, Peter and Willie was commissioned as part of the design for this playground by the Prospect Park Alliance to inspire imaginative play and was funded by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. It was a recipient of a New York City Art Commission Award for Design Excellence, and in 2016 was named an honorary Literary Landmark by United for Libraries.

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/prospect-park/monuments/1915>

Show Time!

Before the Show:

- Please do not bring food or beverages into the theater (bottled water is permitted).
- Please turn off or silence cell phones when entering the theater.

During the Show:

- LICM Theater is a place that encourages audience interaction in most of our shows. However, we ask that the audience remain seated until prompted by the actors to respond to questions.
- The use of recording and/or photographic equipment is strictly prohibited.

After the Show:

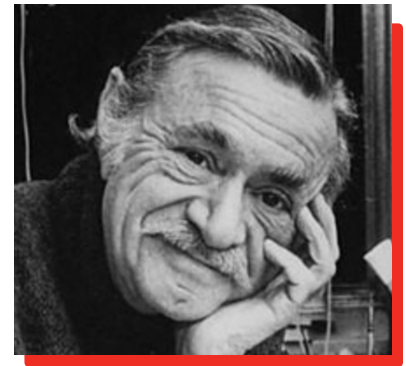
- Stay and meet the performers!

About Ezra Jack Keats

Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983) was a pioneer in American children's literature. He based the lives of his multiracial characters on his childhood but added loving parents, friends, and pets. He wanted no child to be an outsider.

More at www.ezra-jack-keats.org

Some excellent info for kids, from the [Ezra Jack Keats Foundation](http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org).



Making Connections

Sock Skating

There's a nip in the air and the hint of frost on the windows. Get ready to enjoy all the thrills of the snowy season while staying warm and cozy as LICM's popular winter season exhibit returns.

Slip on "sock skates" and take a spin on our indoor rink. Enjoy all the fun of this winter sport without the runny noses or cold hands. Our indoor rink is made from a high-tech synthetic polymer surface that lets kids slide around without blades.

This exhibit offers plenty of opportunities for active play as kids stretch, twirl and glide at LICM. As visitors step off the "ice" they can jump into winter dramatic play in our Snowflake Village. Become a baker in our holiday sweet shop, step inside a giant snowman and serve up some hot cocoa, take a turn in our rink "ticket booth" and "warm up" around our rink side "fire" pit as the whole family enjoys cozy winter fun.

Snowflake Sock Skating will be open when the Museum is open, free with general admission.

Your House My House

Peter and his friends live in the city. Check out how many people in different parts of the world live!

People live in all kinds of houses around the world; big houses, small houses, ones that float or pack up and go! Geography, weather, culture, available materials and much, much more influence the house we live in.

We will step inside walk-in versions of a Mongolian herder's ger, a stilt house from a Malaysian fishing village and an m'bure from the tropics of Fiji in this bilingual exhibit. In each house, we will explore furniture, cooking utensils, games and musical instruments to learn about the lifestyle and culture of the people who live in these houses.

After exploring these three unique houses, sit down at a computer and design your own "dream house" - choose furniture, colors and patterns to make it perfect for you! You can also "Build Your Own" as you design your own log house. World maps, globes and photographs are found throughout the exhibit to serve as reference points.



TotSpot

Explore a community, just like Peter and his friends do! Perfect for crawlers, cruisers and toddlers, our little town celebrates the work people do in our communities. A lighthouse, farmer's market, post office, train station and more spark the youngest imaginations.

The LICM Theater is supported by the generosity of these foundations and corporations:

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The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation

