Maddi’s Fridge

By Ann Negri

Based on the book by Lois Brandt

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The Cast

Maddi . Shannon Phelps
Luis . Edward Alvarado
Sophia . Osiris Cuen

The Production Team

Director: Jenny Millinger
Scenic Designer: Holly Windingstad
Costume Designer: Holly Windingstad
Lighting Designer: Kara Ramlow
Sound Designer: Christopher Neumeyer
Stage Manager: Koryn Weiman

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AFTER YOU SEE THE SHOW

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ABOUT
CHILDSPY

Childsplay is a nonprofit professional theatre company of adult actors who perform for young audiences and families.

Our Mission is to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content, or both, that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love, and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, those hallmarks of childhood that are the keys to the future.

For more information: www.childsplayaz.org

WHERE EDUCATION AND IMAGINATION TAKE FLIGHT
Review the sequence of events in the play. What was the main problem or conflict in the play? Did it get solved and if so, how?

Who was your favorite character and why?

What are the ways we know that Maddi and Sophia are best friends? What does being a best friend mean to you?

Sophia is fearful about climbing the rock wall but keeps trying and overcomes her fear. What is something you are afraid to do? What are you doing to try and overcome your fear? What is something that you used to be afraid of but no longer are?

Sophia tries to keep Maddi’s secret but ends up telling Luis. Why does she do that? When a friend tells you a secret, should you always keep it a secret? Why or why not?

What are the responsibilities that Sophia and Luis have at home while their mom is at work? What are your responsibilities at home?

If there was a sequel to this story, what would it be? What might happen next in the lives of Maddi, Sophia, Luis, and Pepito?

Our amazing volunteer librarian Sharon Ewers has put together a great list of books connected to ideas and themes in Maddi’s Fridge.

You can find it by going to

https://goo.gl/gTgUgY

and clicking on “Maddi’s Fridge Book List”
Literacy: Craft and Structure (5.RL.6) Describe how a narrator’s or speaker’s point of view influences how events are described.

How do Maddi and Sophia see situations differently? Write two separate journal entries from each character’s point of view describing the day Sophia brought fish to school in her backpack. Think about what each character wanted to happen and how they felt at the end (example: Sophia wanted to give Maddi food but she was disappointed when her plan didn’t work out due to the smelly fish). Encourage students to remember the event from each character’s point of view including humorous moments and inner thoughts. Time permitting, share with a partner or with the class the similarities and differences between the two entries.

21st Century Learning: Solve Problems (K-12)

In teams of 3-5, discuss ways to eliminate hunger and food insecurities in your community. Each group creates a plan of action that they can present to the rest of the class that includes name of plan, a one sentence slogan or catch phrase promoting the plan, and an outline of their plan and goals. Time permitting, each group creates a 30 second public service announcement for their plan. Invite a guest from your school to be one of the judges and together with the rest of the class, vote for the plan that you think would be the most effective.

Health: (3-5.S4.C3.PO1) Asking for Help

For this activity you’ll need 6 inflated balloons. Ask students to form a circle and have one (or two if the class is very large) volunteer to stand in the middle. One at a time, toss the balloons into the circle. The person in the middle needs to keep the balloons from touching the ground without help from anyone in the circle. The volunteer must ask for help if they need it. They can ask a specific person or make a general plea for help. Variations: volunteer says why they need help; volunteer taps a person for help; students in the circle can offer to help and volunteer responds with “yes, please,” and so on.

Reflection Questions:
How did it feel when no one helped you?
Why did you ask for help?
How did it feel when someone jumped in to help you?
What was it like to watch someone struggle and not be able to help them?
In Maddi’s Fridge, why did Maddi have a hard time asking for help? Why did Sophia have a hard time figuring out how to help her? What is an example of a time in your life when you needed help and didn’t ask for it? What would have changed if you had asked for help?

EXTEND THE EXPERIENCE!
Bring a professional Teaching Artist to your classroom to lead an arts-based, standards-driven lesson connected to the play:

(480) 921-5760  schools@childsplayaz.org

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We asked the cast of *Maddi’s Fridge* the following question:

In the play, Sophia overcomes her fear of climbing the rock wall.

What is one fear that you have overcome in your life?

Here’s what they said:

**Shannon:** When I was younger I had a fear of crickets, I remember when I was four years old, a cricket jumped on me and scared me. One night when I was getting ready for bed, my mom read a book to me called "Wind Says Goodnight". In the book there is a cricket that plays music outside so the moths can dance in the moonlight. While she read this to me, I started to think about how their chirps really did sound like music, and maybe they were trying to play for us, and we just didn't know how to listen. That was when I overcame my fear of crickets. I learned to love them and hear music in their chirps. Facing your fears takes great courage, and sometimes to overcome your fear, you have to look at it from a different perspective.

**Edward:** Being myself. I've always been fearful of being who I truly am and accepting myself. Life is brighter when you begin to let yourself be you.

**Osiris:** When I was younger, I was actually a really shy person! I was embarrassed to be around people and too scared to talk in front of them. I remember always wanting to be an actor, but I was very, very, very scared to do it. Then one day, I auditioned for a play but I did not get cast. The second time I auditioned for a play, I did not get cast but because I persevered and kept trying, I eventually got into a play and became an actor and that’s what I do for a living! So I’m really glad that I got over that fear of talking in front of people!