

Little

# Ruby Red

## Tells Tales

**Ella** - Hannah McPake

**Ruby** - Shekira Johnson

Created & Directed by

Designed by

Music Composed by

Stage Manager

Creative Resources

Photographs

Sarah Argent

Charlotte Neville

Dan Lawrence

Natasha Nicholls

Kevin Lewis

Kirsten McTernan

**With special thanks** to the children of Ninian Park Nursery, Cardiff and St Andrew's Church in Wales School, Vale of Glamorgan for providing all the words in the play.

For Theatr Iolo:

Artistic Director - Kevin Lewis

Admin. Director - John Williams

Tour Administrator - Kerry Shelly

Education Officer - Glenys Evans

Communications Officer - Tania Lucas



## Creating LITTLE RUBY RED TELLS TALES

In January 2011 Sarah Argent, the Director of the play, visited Ninian Park Nursery in Cardiff and St Andrew's Church in Wales Primary school in the Vale of Glamorgan with her special suitcase.

When the children looked inside they found puppets, toys and objects that were related to popular fairy stories or folk tales. Sarah encouraged the individual children to choose something from the suitcase and then to tell her a story inspired by it. She then wrote the story down using the exact words that the child used. A few days later each child was given a printed version of their story with a photograph of the object that they had chosen.

Sarah, Hannah, Shekira, Charlotte and Dan read all the stories and acted them out in our rehearsal room in Cardiff. Someone found a pair of scissors and everyone took turns to cut up the stories. We then had lots of different sentences, phrases and words which we could choose from to make our play - "RUBY RED TELLS TALES".

Once again -many many thanks to the children of Ninian Park and St Andrews whose words, phrases, sentences and stories we are using!



## OTHER SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

The Stupid Tiger and other Tales by Upendrakishore Raychaudhuri - a collection of Bengali Tales published by Andre Deutsch 1981

Indian Tales by Shenaaz Nanji and Christopher Corr - Barefoot Books 2007

The Rainbow Book of Nursery Tales by Sam Childs - Hutchinson 2003

A rich resource of ideas can be found at [www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com](http://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com) and then clicking "education".



## THE WAITING GAME

*Ella and Ruby wait very patiently for the Egg to hatch.*

How long can you wait for?

Find a comfortable position - standing or sitting.

Hold yourself as still as possible - like a statue.

Be as quite as possible - like a mouse.

After some time has passed, someone (maybe the teacher) claps.

Now everyone can change to a different position. Once again be as still and as quiet as possible.

Wait for even longer. Then someone claps again.

Everyone can change to a different position.

And the waiting starts again.

How long can you stay being still and quiet?



## COPY CAT

*Ella and Ruby are sitting by the cupboard waiting for the Egg to hatch .*

*They pass the time by copying one another.*



Stand or sit opposite a partner.

One person slowly starts to do things: e.g.

- Crosses and uncrosses legs
- Lifts an arm
- Turns their head
- Waves a hand
- Wiggles a foot
- Bends an elbow

Anything at all but very important - DO IT SLOWLY !

The other person copies as best they can.

Then swap over so you both get a chance to copy.

## HUNTING for CHIPMUNKS

*Ella imagines there are chipmunks in her kitchen.*

*She says they are being very naughty.*

What do you think they have been doing?

*Both Ella and Ruby hunt for chipmunks.*



Can you help them?

Stand very still and very quiet.

Listen really really hard.

Can you hear any chipmunks?

Where's the sound coming from?

Creep very quietly towards where the sound is coming from.

Look very carefully.

Can you see the chipmunk?

Creep a bit closer.

Be careful not to frighten it off.

Put out both hands .

Then very quickly pick it up before it has a chance to escape.

Now tell off the chipmunk and put it outside.

*"I got you! Naughty chipmunk! Now get out and stay out!"*

Are there any more chipmunks hiding anywhere?

Listen again.

Can you hear anything?

You may have to creep quietly again and catch another one!

## ONCE UPON A TIME

*While they are waiting for The Egg to hatch, Ella and Ruby make up their own versions of stories.*

*Ella makes up her version of Cinderella.*

*Ruby makes up her version of Little Red Riding Hood.*

Make up your own versions of a story.

Decide on the story.

Start with - "Once upon a time"

Someone add a bit to the story.

Someone else add the next bit.

Someone else add the next bit.

Keep adding bits until you get to the end.

If you get stuck maybe the teacher can help by asking some questions!



## THE EGG

*Ruby has found an egg.*

*Ruby and Ella listen very carefully.*

*They can hear a scratching sound coming from inside The Egg.*

*Maybe a baby bird will hatch out and fly up into the sky.*



*Or maybe a chicken will come out of The Egg.*

*But they will have to keep The Egg safe and wait for it to hatch.*

*They decide to put it in the cupboard.*

Pick up an egg very carefully.

Hold it close to your ear.

Listen very carefully.

Can you hear anything?

Give it very gently to someone else.

Can anyone hear any sounds coming from inside the egg?

What sort of sound?

- A tiny scratching sound?
- A rustling sound?
- A cracking sound?

What could be inside the egg?

What sort of bird could it be?

- A baby bird?
- A baby chicken?
- A duckling?
- A gosling?

Could it be another sort of creature? What other creatures are born out of eggs?

- A baby turtle
- A baby snake
- A baby spider
- A baby crocodile
- A baby platypus
- A baby lizard.

Where shall we put the egg to keep it safe and warm?

Imagine time has passed and the egg is ready to hatch.

Make up a story about the day cracks started appearing in the egg.

What creature came out?

What did it look like?

What was the first thing it did?

Did it make a sound?



## ENTERING ANOTHER WORLD

*The table suddenly slides open.*

*Ella and Ruby climb through and find themselves in another world.*

*The look out at the new world and are delighted.*

*They explore and play in their new-found world.*



Use a plastic hoop. Look through the hoop and imagine there is a magical new world on the other side

As you look through what can you see?

Is that a forest? Is there an island with a lovely sandy beach surrounded by blue sea?

Are there mountains? Is that a field full of tall grass? Is it an icy world?

Maybe it is the same world for everyone or maybe there are lots of different worlds.

How are you feeling? Excited or a little bit scared?

Take a deep breath. One at a time climb through the hoop into your own magical new world.

Explore your new world on your own or with a friend.

Go on an adventure.

When it's time to come back, climb back through the hoop again.

It's now time to tell everyone about your adventure.



## ANANSI WINCY SPIDER

*Ruby starts to tell a story about a spider.*

*Ella is scared.*

*Ruby annoys Ella by making The Spider crawl on her.*

*Ella tries to smack The Spider.*

*"Go away. Go to your spider home!"*

*The Spider is scared and goes away.*



Imagine you have a little spider in the palm of your hand.

Imagine it starts to move around your hand.

Can you feel it tickling you with its eight legs as it explores your hand?

Follow your little spider with your finger as it crawls around your hand.

Where does it go next?

Follow your little spider your finger as it goes on a journey of exploration.

Sometimes it stops and looks around.

Things will seem very very big to it.

Sometimes your spider will have to spin some of it's web so it can climb across a big wide open space.

Where is your spider's home?

Tell the story of your spider's journey that started on your hand.

## FEELINGS/ EMOTIONS

*Ella and Ruby have many different feelings.*

Make a list of feelings/emotions

HAPPY SAD IRRITABLE ANGRY  
EXCITED BORED DELIGHTED

SCARED GRUMPY SULKY  
DISAPPOINTED BRAVE UPSET  
KIND AMAZED



Use your body and face to express the different feelings/emotions.

Can you recognise the feelings/emotions?

Pick one of the feelings/emotions eg. HAPPY

Can you think of a moment when Ruby and Ella felt happy?

Can you think of a moment when you felt happy?

What does it feel like?

Can you think of a moment when someone in your family felt happy?

Can you think of a moment when your teacher felt happy?

Can you think of a moment when a pet felt happy?

**What do Ruby and Ella feel?**

Ella feels sad when she is cleaning all on her own.

Ella is happy when Ruby comes to visit.

Ruby is happy when she sees Ella.

Ella is irritated by the naughty chipmunks.

Ella is angry with the chipmunk.

Ruby is excited to have found an egg.

Ella and Ruby are both very happy when they are playing together.

They can make each other laugh.

Ella and Ruby get bored and fed up waiting for The Egg to hatch.

Ella and Ruby are delighted and excited when they climb through the table into the brand new world.

Ella is scared of The Spider.

Ella is grumpy with Ruby because she scared her with The Spider.

Ruby is grumpy with Ella because she didn't want to play with The Spider.

Ruby and Ella are disappointed that there is no food for the picnic.

Ruby and Ella are excited when they realise they can pretend to eat - and what's more they can pretend to eat anything.

Ella feels ill after pretending to eat too much food.

Ruby feels brave when she meets the Tiger.

The Tiger (Ella) is very upset because Ruby scared her when she started to attack her by kick-boxing.

Ruby is kind to The Tiger when she strokes and cuddles him.

Ella and Ruby are full of wonder when their drinks magically change colour.

Ella and Ruby are full of amazement when they find the glass slippers and the red velvet coat.



## THE PRETEND PICNIC

*Ruby and Ella are disappointed that there is no food in the basket.*

*How will they be able to have a picnic?*

*They decide to pretend and what's more they can have anything they like!*

Have a pretend feast or picnic in pairs or in small groups.

Take it in turns to decide what delicious food is on the plates.

Pass the food around to one another.

Really enjoy what you are eating.

What are you going to drink?

Don't eat too much like Ruby and Ella or you will end up with stomach ache!



## The Shortest Story in the World

Ruby and Ella are waiting patiently for the egg to hatch.

To pass the time they make up a story.

Ella starts: *Once upon a time....*

Ruby finishes: *Nothing happens*

They both laugh.



**Can you make up the shortest story in the world?**

One person starts.

*Once upon a time there was a spider...*

Another person finishes.

*And the spider ran over my hand... The End!*

*Once upon a time there was a spider...*

*And the spider sang a song... The End!*

*Once upon a time there was a tiger...*

*And the tiger danced with an umbrella... The End!*

*Once upon a time there was a girl...*

*And the girl stood on one leg and laughed... The End.*

*Once upon a time there was a boy...*

*And he fell over and cried... The End.*

***Try it yourself with a friend.***

***Warning! ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!***