

Introduction

This visual guide is designed for any audience members who would benefit from familiarising themselves with what to expect from *Bear Snores On* before they get to the theatre. It contains images and information about the characters, story and the production in general. We hope this resource makes your visit more enjoyable.

As a play with music, there are songs throughout the show.

Show Notes

Themes within the show:

Family, Home, Friendship, Loneliness and Nature

Please be aware:

- ❖ The play starts on the Theatre Lawn
- ❖ You will be given a wristband to wear or hold. During the show your wristband will light up with different colours.
- ❖ The first character to appear is the Gardener. Sometimes he can be grumpy.
- ❖ Later we all follow Mouse into an indoor space, like a cave.
- ❖ Before we go into the cave Mouse's tail lights up and your wristband will light up too.
- ❖ When we go indoors, it is through a tunnel. The tunnel is darker than outdoors but, don't worry, inside the cave is warm and cosy.

- ❖ There will be some sound effects during the show of Bear snoring.
- ❖ When Bear appears he is tall and might give out a roar. But don't worry, Bear is kind and fluffy.
- ❖ Some of the actors play more than one character. You can tell what part they are playing by the costume they are wearing.
- ❖ There will be loud clapping at the end of the show. People might stand up to clap at the end, and there may be some whistling or shouting.

Meet the characters



Gardener/Bear

Gardener is a man who looks after the trees and flowers in the Park.

He is sometimes grumpy and doesn't like animals

Bear is a big grizzly Bear. He seems scary but is really kind and fluffy

The same actor who plays Gardener, also plays Bear





Mouse

Mouse lives in The Regent's Park and is looking for a Home.

She escapes from the Gardener and his cat and leads us through the tunnel

into Bear's cave.



Hare

Hare is on an expedition to Bear's cave.

Hare is very organised and likes exploring.



Badger

Badger is friends with Hare and follows them into Bear's cave.

Badger likes to cook and makes a stew



Raven/Wren

Raven and Wren are best friends. Wren sits on Raven's shoulder

Raven and Wren like music and a party.



Mrs Mole

Mrs Mole is a Mole who is looking for her husband.

She appears through the raised beds on the lawn and through a hole in the walls of the cave.

The story

If you don't want to know what happens in the show, stop reading now!



This is what the set looks like for the first part of the show.



**The wristband you will be given looks like this
It will light up at different points in the show.
You can wear it on your wrist or hold it.
If you don't want to use the wristband you
don't have to.**

When we go through the tunnel, this is what it will look like:



And inside the Bear's cave looks like this:



The story starts in The Regent's Park.

The Gardener will ask the audience why they are here, as he thinks the theatre is closed.

An usher will show him the poster for Bear Snores On. Gardener will sing a song.



Gardener will tell us that he doesn't like animals.

Animals will appear in the raised beds and behind the fence.



They will steal the Gardener's lunch and run around the beds and through the shed.



Mouse will appear and the Gardener will bring out a No Animals sign.



Mouse will run into the shed.



Gardener will ask someone from the audience to guard the shed.

Don't worry, only audience members who want to take part will be asked, you don't have to.

Gardener will leave to go and find his boss.

Mouse will come back and then there will be a snow storm.

Mouse and the animals will throw white paper to show the storm.

Mouse's tail will light up and then all the audience wrist bands will also light up.
The song 'Winter is coming' will be heard.



Everyone will follow Mouse into the tunnel.





Mouse will enter the cave and start to build a fire. She will sing 'Make Myself a Home.'



Mouse will ask the audience to help her build a fire. If there are sticks near to you, you can give them to Mouse, but you don't have to.

After the song, Mouse will find Bear under his blanket and hear him snore.

Mouse will be surprised and a bit scared, but Bear will keep snoring so you don't have to worry.



We will hear voices from a radio receiver.

Hare will enter through the floor at one end of the cave.

Hare will flip open a hatch door and climb out of a hole in the floor.



Hare will meet Mouse and discover the Bear. And the Bear will Snore on.

Hare and Mouse will sing 'Don't Wake the Bear'



A voice will speak through the radio receiver. Hare will answer and soon after Badger will appear through the tunnel in a flurry of snow.



Badger will bring food and start to make a stew.

Badger, Hare and Mouse will sing 'Making a Stew'



During the song, Raven will appear through the hatch playing the saxophone.



A siren will sound. Mouse, Hare and Badger will hide under Bear's blanket.
Raven and Wren will enter as music plays. They will sing 'Raven's Theme.'



Raven and Wren will realise there's no party. They will meet Hare, Badger and Mouse. Badger will invite Wren to eat some stew. They won't like it as it's too bland.



Raven and Wren will sing 'Spice it Up.' Mouse, Hare and Badger will join in. The animals will add spices to the stew.



Mouse will sneeze. Hare, Badger, Raven, Wren and Mole will all sneeze, one after the other.

Bear will sneeze and wake up.

Bear will walk down the steps and onto the stage. The lights will flash and the cave will become hazy with a smoke effect. There will be a roaring sound.



Mouse, Hare, Badger, Raven and Wren will run to the other side of the cave.



Mouse will face Bear and roar back at him.



Bear will start to cry and ask why everyone thinks he wants to eat them. He will say that he would never eat any of the animal friends. Bear and Mouse will hug.



None of the animals will be scared of Bear any more. Bear will sniff the audience and then he will eat the rest of the stew.

Bear will be sad as he was asleep when the other animals had their party.

Raven will start the music and Bear will start to dance.

The animals will teach the audience the dance steps to 'Bear, Bear, Bear.'

The audience is invited to dance and sing along. You don't have to if you don't want to.



The animals will sing 'Bear, Bear, Bear' as they dance. Mouse and Hare will release streamers and the lights will change.



Bear will be tired and all the animals will snuggle together and go to sleep.

A cuckoo will sound and Bear will start to wake up. It's spring and hibernation is over.

All the animals will wake up and sing 'Wake Up, it's Spring.'

The audience will be invited on to the stage to have a party with Bear. Bubbles and soft balls will be released. You can join the party, but you don't have to.



The animals will say goodbye and leave the cave.

The end