

Alliance Theatre for Youth and Families presents
AUDIENCE GUIDE

Grades 4-8



Based on the story by E.B. White

Dramatized by Joseph Robinette

Dramatic Publishing

Directed by Rosemary Newcott

Created by students and teachers participating in the

Dramaturgy by Students Program

Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists:

Friends School of Atlanta, Sixth Grade

Introduction

This Audience/Study Guide has been prepared by Johnny Pride's Sixth Grade Language Arts classes at the Friends School of Atlanta, in Decatur, GA. These students and their teacher participated in the Alliance Theatre Institute for Educators and Teaching Artists **Dramaturgy by Students Program** under the guidance of Teaching Artist Barry Stewart Mann.

The intent of this guide is to provide background information as well as a starting point for further research and reading, both in preparation for and reflection on the Alliance Theatre for Youth and Families' series production of *Charlotte's Web*.

The questions, information and activities have been created with the student audience in mind. Please feel free to use/copy any or all of the pages as you reflect with your students and families about the *Charlotte's Web* at the Alliance Theatre.

Bringing *Charlotte's Web* into the classroom: Curriculum Connections

This Audience Guide is targeted for students in grades 4-8 with activities which extend knowledge in the core subject of Language Arts and additional knowledge in Life Science, Social Studies, and Character Education. It also provides experiences in the strands of creative thinking, critical thinking, communication and research as well as all levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. Suggested curriculum areas of study the play covers: standards in Theatre, Language Arts (Vocabulary Development, Grammar), Social Studies (U.S. Geography), and Science (animals, arachnids and lifecycles).

Core Curriculum Anchor Standards for Language Arts:

CCRR2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

CCRR7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

CCRS1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

CCRS2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Theatre Standards:

TAES4/5.1 & TAMS6-8.1: Analyzing and constructing meaning from theatrical experiences, dramatic literature, and electronic media

TAES4/5.10 & TAMS6-8.10: Critiquing various aspects of theatre and other media using appropriate supporting evidence

TAES4/5.11 & TAMS6-8.11: Engaging actively and appropriately as an audience member in Theatre or other media experiences.

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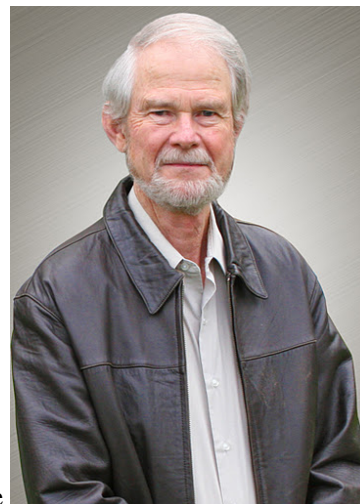
Definitions and Answers

About the Author and the Playwright

E.B. White (Elwyn Brooks White) was born in Mt. Vernon, NY, on July 11, 1899. Shortly after *The New Yorker* was founded in 1925, White began submitting articles, and was soon a member of the staff. In 1929, he married Katharine Angell, the Literary Editor at the magazine. They had one son, Joel White, born in 1930. In addition to *Charlotte's Web*, he wrote *Stuart Little*, and *The Trumpet of the Swan* (1970). He was a columnist for *Harper's Magazine* from 1938 to 1943. In the late 1930's, he decided to write children's books, on behalf of his niece, Janice Hart White. His first, *Stuart Little* (1945), was well-received. In 1948, he published a piece in the *Atlantic Monthly* entitled "Death of a Pig," about his failed attempts to save a sick pig. It likely lingered in his imagination, and helped in his composition of *Charlotte's Web*, which appeared in 1953. A third beloved children's novel, *The Trumpet of the Swan*, came in 1970. White is also well-known as the co-author of the English Language style guide, *The Elements of Style*, which is commonly known as Strunk and White and has been used by students and writers for generations. William Strunk, Jr., one of White's professors at Cornell University, had written the original guide in 1918; together they updated the guide in 1959. In 1963, White was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom; in 1970, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award; and in 1978, an honorary Pulitzer Prize for his body of work. Since its publication, *Charlotte's Web* has sold more than 40 million copies, and has been translated into over 20 languages. White died on October 1, 1985, at his home in Maine.



White

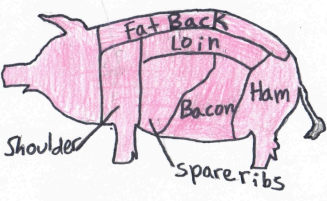


Robinette

Joseph Robinette is the co-author of 55 published plays and musicals. His works have been produced in all 50 states and in 17 foreign countries, and a dozen have been translated into foreign languages. Robinette's plays are generally educational and youth-oriented, and include titles like *The Adventures of Beatrix Potter and Her Friends*, *Get Bill Shakespeare Off the Stage!*, *The Planet of Perfectly Awful People*, and *The Trial of Goldilocks*. He collaborated with E.B. White on the authorized stage version of *Charlotte's Web*, and also wrote a musical version with Charles Strouse. Robinette has also developed stage adaptations of White's two other popular children's novels, *Stuart Little* and *The Trumpet of the Swan*. In 2006, Robinette received the Children's Theatre Foundation of America Medallion for his "body of dramatic works for family audiences."

The Zoology of Charlotte's Web

Zoology is the study of animals. In this 'zoology', the three animals at the heart of the story can be considered from three points of view: as they are in nature/science; as they relate to humans and play a role in human life; and as they have been shaped and transformed by the human imagination. Here are three views of these three species:

Animal	Science	Human Life	Human Imagination
Pig	<p>300 breeds</p> <p>Males are <i>boars</i>, and have horns for digging and fighting</p> <p>Poor eyesight, and can't look up (Wilbur wouldn't have been able to see the web!)</p> <p>Neat and smart</p> <p>Can live 15 years, and can run 30 miles an hour</p>	<p>Grow faster than other farm animals</p> <p>Domestication began 8,000 years ago.</p> <p>Emotional and loyal, and make great pet</p> <p>Brought to America in 1493</p> <p>Pork is the most widely eaten meat in the world</p> <p>Usually slaughtered at 250 pounds</p> 	<p>Dirty, messy, lazy . . . but cute</p> <p>A person who eats a lot of food</p> <p>Famous pigs in literature and lore:</p> <p>Porky Pig</p> <p>Babe</p> <p>Piglet</p> <p>Olivia</p> <p>Miss Piggy</p> <p>Pumbaa</p> <p>Three Little Pigs</p>
Spider	<p>Over 40,000 kinds</p> <p>Some web silk is 3x stronger than steel; can be thinner than a human hair</p> <p>May use up to 330 feet of silk in a web</p> <p>Horrible eyes, rely on touch, feel vibrations of struggling insects</p> <p>Webs are full of nutrients, and spiders can eat them</p> <p>Hard exoskeleton</p> <p>Can live a year without food</p>	<p>Kept as pets</p> <p>Help with insect control</p> <p>In New Guinea, people use strong, large webs of wood spiders as fishing nets</p>	<p>Creepy, scary, dark, devious, dangerous</p> <p>Famous Spiders in literature and lore:</p> <p>Spiderman</p> <p>Anansi</p> <p>Miss Spider</p> <p>Miss Muffet's spider</p> <p>Arachne</p> <p>Itsy Bitsy</p> <p>Spiderman</p> <p>Shelob</p> <p>Aragog</p>

Rat	<p>Very social, with a powerful chain of command determined by size and strength.</p> <p>Sleep curled up together</p> <p>Take care of their ill</p> <p>Build nests</p> <p>Great communicators</p> <p>Hold tails up for balance when holding baby rats</p> <p>300 different types</p> <p>Good memory</p> <p>Poor eyesight and colorblind</p> <p>Most only live a year, but some live 18 months</p> <p>Teeth can chew through glass, cinder block, wire, aluminum and lead.</p> <p>Clean – spend several hours a day grooming.</p>	<p>Used in scientific research</p> <p>Carry disease</p> <p>Live and scavenge in sewers and subways</p> <p>Considered by ancient Romans to be a sign of good luck</p> <p>Can enter a home through a hole the size of a quarter</p>	<p>Dirty, crafty, dishonest loners</p> <p>A treacherous person</p> <p>A snitch or tattletale</p> <p>Famous rats in literature and lore:</p> <p>Remi</p> <p>Scabbers</p> <p>Ben</p> <p>Mrs. Frisby</p> <p>Rizzo</p> <p>Samuel Whiskers</p> <p>Ratbert</p> <p>Rats in The Pied Piper of Hamelin</p>
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Questions to ponder

How do animals play a role in your life? How are you dependent on them? How are they dependent on you?

What beliefs and/or misconceptions do you hold about animals – these or others?

What else would you like to know about pigs, spiders or rats?

Animals: Did You Know?

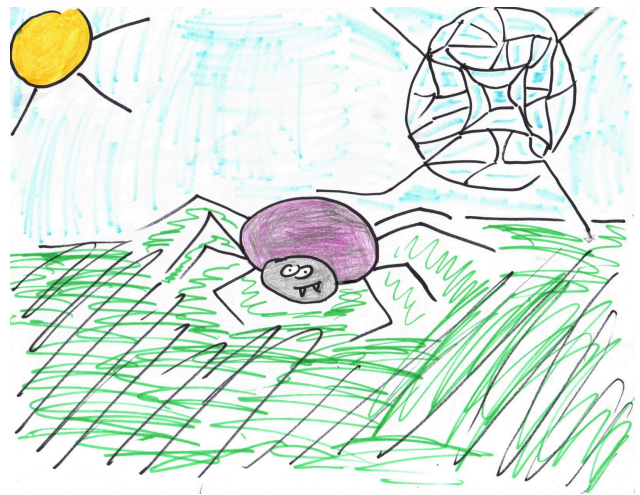
Here are some interesting bits of information relating to the animals of *Charlotte's Web*.

How does a spider start a web across open space?

A spider streams out silk, and the wind catches the silk and hooks it onto something. The spider goes across and measures the distance by counting footsteps: it goes all the way to the end, and then comes back halfway. Then the spider drops a perpendicular strand that goes to the ground from the middle of the web. The spider fixes the bottom thread. Once it has three points, it proceeds to make the web.

“... Along came a spider and sat down beside her?”: Who was the real Little Miss Muffet?

Not sure, but some believe that the rhyme is based on Thomas Muffet, a 16th Century English Puritan and Naturalist who studied and classified insects and spiders. It is conjectured that the Little Miss Muffet was his stepdaughter Patience, who was frightened at breakfast by one of his spiders.



What's the difference between rats and mice?

‘Rat’ and ‘mouse’ are actually not scientific classifications, and are sometimes used very loosely. These words are common names for rodents that look alike to the casual eye, but differ in many ways. Generally speaking, rats are medium-sized rodents with long thin tails. Mice also have long thin tails, but they are smaller than rats. Other differences are less obvious: Rats can swim over a mile in heavy choppy seas, mice cannot swim near that far. Rats can climb to the very tip of a tall tree and hold on, while mice can barely get up the trunk. Rats can chew through the steel insulation used on wire; mice can chew well too, but not through metal. Rats can carry diseases, withstanding them for a long time – this is why they spread disease so well. Mice carry diseases too, but succumb much more quickly. Finally, you can never be infested by both mice and rats at the same time. Why not? Rats eat mice!

What's the difference between, pigs, hogs, and swine?

None! The terms are interchangeable.

Farming Then and Now

The farms depicted in *Charlotte's Web* - the Arables' and the Zuckermans' - are family farms. Traditionally, such farms are run by the family patriarch, and passed down from fathers to sons, from generation to generation. They are small and depend on manual labor and fairly simple machines like tractors and plows. A family farm can consist of a single vegetable garden and a few chickens, or hundreds of acres.



Over the past century, agriculture has been transformed and 'factory farming' has become more and more common. Also called 'intensive farming' or 'intensive agriculture', it is a process of food production in large, high-volume, super-mechanized facilities in which animals are housed together densely with limited concern for health or freedom of movement. The focus is on maximum food production and profit, rather than on the land and the natural processes; the view is global rather than local. Often, sophisticated bio-technology is involved, including antibiotics and medications to treat the maladies brought on by crowded living conditions.

Factory farming began in the 1920's soon after the discovery of vitamins A and D. When these vitamins are added to feed, animals no longer need exercise and sunlight for growth. As a result, large numbers of animals could be raised indoors year-round. In the 1940's, the development of antibiotics helped to fight diseases, and allowed for further intensification. Farmers found they could increase productivity and reduce the operating costs by using mechanization and assembly-line techniques. Chickens were the first animals to be factory-farmed. In the middle of the 20th century, farmers began to factory farm pigs and cattle as well.

Factory farming offers clear benefits. Larger farms can function more effectively and competitively, in both buying supplies and equipment and selling crops. They can profit more from periods of economic prosperity, and endure economic downturns better. Farmers are vulnerable to price shifts in many things, such as fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, and fuel. Larger farms can more easily deal with these unpredictable changes. Many believe that factory farming is necessary to feed the nation's, and the world's, ever-growing populations.



Factory farming raises economic and ethical questions. Many people oppose factory farms as inhumane to animals, and unhealthy for both the consuming population and the environment. Factory farming contributes to pollution and deforestation. In some cases, factory farms use more food than they produce – that is, more people could be sustained by the corn that is used as feed than by the beef or pork that it produces.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 98% of farms in the U.S. are family farms. However, the 2 percent that are not family farms make up 14 percent of the agricultural output of the US. About 9 in 10 farms in the U.S. are considered small family farms, with sales of less than \$250,000 per year, and they produce 27% of the food in this country. Farming overall has become more efficient over the past century. An average American farm a hundred years ago produced much less food per acre than a comparable farm today.

Questions to ponder

Where does your food come from? Do you eat food from local farms? Family farms?

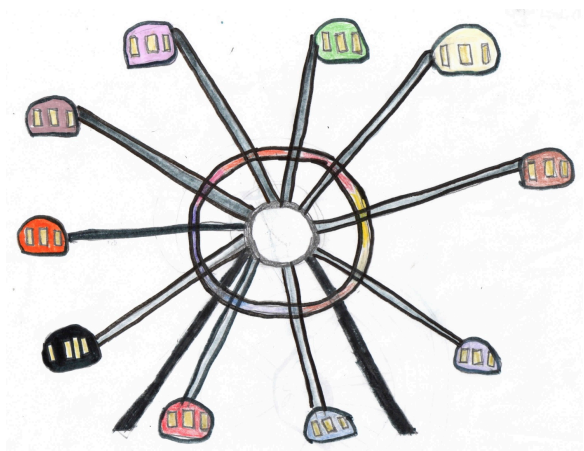
How can society best balance health and environmental concerns with the need to produce large quantities of food to feed growing populations?

“We Love Factory Farms!”: Check out the Student Dramaturgs’ original song and video at: *[link to come – check back soon]*

At the County Fair and the Circus

In Charlotte's Web, the action moves from the farm to the county fair. In the Alliance Children's Theatre production, we are also incorporating traditional circus skills into the design of the production. In developing the production, Director Rosemary Newcott said, "Because the life of the animal characters is a world different than those of the humans, I am imagining them all as circus performers."

County Fairs evolved from old English 'fayres'-- temporary markets, often set up in churchyards and connected with religious festivals. In the U.S., fairs became popular in the early 19th century when agricultural reformers wanted to promote modern farming. The Golden Age of agricultural fairs was from 1870 to 1910. To attract wider crowds, fairs began to include, in addition to market and exhibition facilities, entertainment as well. These were gathered along an area that came to be known as the midway.



George Washington Gale Ferris designed and built the first Ferris wheel for the 1893 World Columbian Exposition in Chicago. It was 264 feet tall, and intended to rival the 1,063 foot tall Eiffel Tower, which was, the centerpiece of Paris Exposition in 1889. Since then, any such structure came to be called a Ferris wheel. Currently, at 541 feet, the world's tallest Ferris wheel is the Singapore Flyer, in the southeast Asian nation of Singapore. It opened in March of 2008

4-H Clubs have been a strong presence at fairs in the United States. 4-H is a program for youth administered by the United States Department of Agriculture. Its mission is to engage "youth to reach their fullest potential while advancing the field of youth development." The name 4-H comes from four areas of personal development promoted by the organization: head, heart, hands, and health.

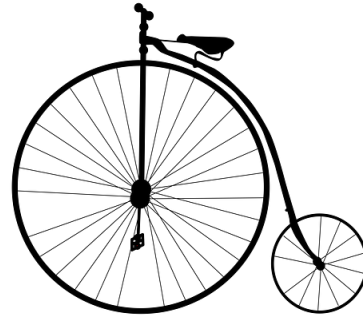
Traditionally, fairs have featured games of skill and chance, including "Shoot the Hoop," in which a well-tossed ball can win the player a goldfish, or "Fat Albert", in which a rat is released on a spinning wheel with colored holes and players, chanting "Hey, Hey, hey, Fat Albert," guess into which hole the rat will escape. Amusement rides include such evocative names as Pink Panther, Sky Diver, Loopoplane, and Swinger.

Fairs are also know for their innovative food choices, including steak-on-a-stick, snow cones, funnel cakes, curly fries, elephant ears, chili dogs, buffalo burgers, caramel corn, and fried Oreos.

In many rural communities, the County Fair is still one of the most important social and commercial events of the year. People take the quest for a blue ribbon – be it for a steer or a strudel – very seriously. People even put shoe polish on goats' and sheep's horns for competition!

Circuses have been around for centuries as well. Philip Astley, a British equestrian and inventor who lived in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, is considered the ‘father of the modern circus’. He rode in a circle rather than a straight line like other equestrians; this arrangement was later a ‘circus’, the Latin word for ‘ring.’ The circular ring helped riders use centrifugal force to maintain balance while standing on the backs of their galloping horses. Astley’s shows at first consisted exclusively of trick riding, but eventually he added musicians, jugglers, clowns, acrobats, tightrope walkers, and even dancing dogs.

Acrobatics and tumbling date back to the ancient world; in medieval times, troupes of acrobats performed throughout Europe, but on their own, not together with other performers. The **unicycle** was born from the popularity of the penny-farthing, a high-wheeler bicycle with a large front wheel and a much smaller wheel in back. Like a tightrope walker and an acrobat, a unicycle rider must have excellent balance.



The art of **aerial silk**, also known as aerial *tissu*, fabric, ribbon, or curtain, was created by André Simard, an acrobatic research and development specialist for the world famous Cirque du Soleil. Simard’s job was to find new and innovative ways to lure and awe spectators in the field of acrobatics and aerial performance. By merging his passions for fine arts and gymnastics, He taught acrobats to not only to be incredible athletes, but to be moving performers as well. His most notable achievement came in 1995, when Simard invented the discipline of aerial silk.

Aerial silk involves a performer who climbs up a suspended fabric anywhere from 20-50 feet high, and uses the fabric to wrap, fall, spiral, swing, and contort his or her body. There are various tricks, such as drops, upside-down splits. Contrary to its name, the fabrics most commonly used for the sport include chiffon, polyester, and other synthetic nylons. The fabrics are chosen for their strength and flexibility.

Finally, **clowns** have been a staple of entertainment across many cultures, and throughout history. Vaudeville, a style of variety entertainment that thrived between the 1880’s and 1930’s, featured clowns, often breed of fool and trickster who did not wear traditional clown makeup.

Questions to ponder

Where do you go for entertainment? Where does your community gather to celebrate its members’ achievements?

What circus skills do you think you have the potential to develop? How do you keep your balance in life? Who are the clowns in your life – in your real life, or in your favorite movies and television shows?

Charlotte's Web Timeline

When the action of the story begins, it is springtime, and school is still in session.

- \ Week 1, Day 1, early morning, a litter of piglets is born.
- \ Week 1, Day 1 morning, Fern saves Wilbur from the ax.
- \ Week 5, Wilbur moves to Homer's farm and meets the others.
- \ That night, meets Charlotte
- \ Week 5, Day 2, goslings are born. Wilbur learns about his fate.
- \ Week 5, Day 3, Charlotte creates her first message – 'some pig'
- \ Week 5, Day 4, Charlotte's second message – 'terrific'
- \ Week 5, Day 5, Charlotte's third message – 'radiant'
- \ Week 10, Wilbur is taken to the County Fair
- \ Week 10, Day 2, Charlotte's final message – 'humble'
- \ Wilbur wins second prize. Charlotte lays her eggs.
Charlotte dies
- \ Week 10, Day 5, Charlotte's baby spiders are born.

Questions to ponder

How does the story play out over time? How do the author and playwright keep the sequence of events clear?

In what ways does the timeline of the story depend on the natural life cycles of the animals? In what ways does it depend on the traditional agricultural calendar, the seasons, and the cycles of nature?

Dramatic Tension in *Charlotte's Web*

There are several oppositions in the story that provide continual dramatic tension. They might be called themes as well. Here are some of our thoughts on them.

Friendship and Loyalty

Friendship and loyalty are at the center of *Charlotte's Web* – they form the theme that drives the story. As we all know, friends are cool, sweet, kind, understanding, awesome, loyal, and funny. They listen, care about us, and make us smile. Wilbur and Charlotte are best of friends, and they try to help each other through any danger. Because of her loyalty, Charlotte steadfastly helps Wilbur to survive, and cleverly saves him from becoming a few packs of bacon at the grocery store, or on the Zuckermans' breakfast table. Wilbur is also a great friend to Charlotte, as indicated by how concerned Wilbur is when Charlotte reveals that she is going to die. Though Wilbur is saved by the end, the continuing importance of friendship and loyalty is seen in Wilbur's concern for Charlotte's eggs, and his delight that some of her children will stay on the farm.

The Two Worlds of *Charlotte's Web*

In *Charlotte's Web*, two worlds interconnect: the world of the humans, and that of the farm animals. They both help and menace each other, and this provides an ongoing sense of dramatic tension. Fern saves Wilbur's life because her father is about to kill him. Wilbur's doesn't save Fern's life, but he gives her loyalty and love, and something to care for. People and animals look at each other very differently. When people look at pigs, they see ham and pork chops. When pigs look at people, they might see murder machines. Wilbur sees the farmers as friendly at first, but comes to realize they're fattening him up for slaughter. Farm animals depend on farmers for safety and food. Farmers depend on farm animals to be part of their livelihood. Farm animals have a sense of community just like we do. All have survival instincts. In the play, the two worlds connect; in this production, the directors and designers have chosen to focus on the animal world, and the human world inhabits the shadows of the background.

Life and Death in *Charlotte's Web*

In *Charlotte's Web*, life and death is a big theme. Though unspoken, the prospect of death hangs over all the farm animals, and even Templeton too. They are at the mercy of the humans. Living with such a threat can be sad, but it reminds us that death is part of life. At first, life is pretty easy for Wilbur. He gets his slops and is taken care of, but, inevitably, he realizes that he is going to be killed. Charlotte keeps him away from the track of death, but soon enough she faces her own death. Charlotte dies and she knows that, but before she dies she helps Wilbur not to die. Wilbur is devastated at Charlotte's passing, more than she is. Death can be a horrible thing for those who go on living. But Wilbur finds comfort in Charlotte's children, who represent the endless cycle of life.

"We are born, we spin webs, whether small or large, and we die. That is life."

Vocabulary

Here are some potentially unfamiliar words. What context clues tell you what they might mean? Possibilities for further engagement: write down what you think the words mean; discuss with classmates to share knowledge; look up the words and find the definition that fits; consult the definition list at the end of the Audience Guide.

Charlotte: You'll probably have an attack of **acute** indigestion.

Templeton: I'm sure you'll find it in your **charitable** little heart to share your food with dear old Templeton.

Sheep: What's all the **commotion** in here?

Templeton: What feasting and **carousing**. I must have eaten the remains of thirty lunches.

Narrator: The Fair Grounds were soon deserted. The sheds and buildings were empty and **forlorn**.

President: You can get that pig of yours up to the **grandstand** as soon as possible.

Templeton: Wait till Zuckerman gets **hankering** for some fresh pork and smoked ham.

Fern: I can't wait to go to the **midway** and ride everything.

Narrator: No longer was Wilbur a runt. He was growing each day. In fact, he was becoming quite a **specimen** of a pig.

Homer: Come on, boy. This is **sulphur** and molasses. It'll cure what ails you.

Wilbur: I'm a **trifle** concerned about the old sheep's remark.

Charlotte: By helping you, perhaps I was lifting up my life a **trifle**.

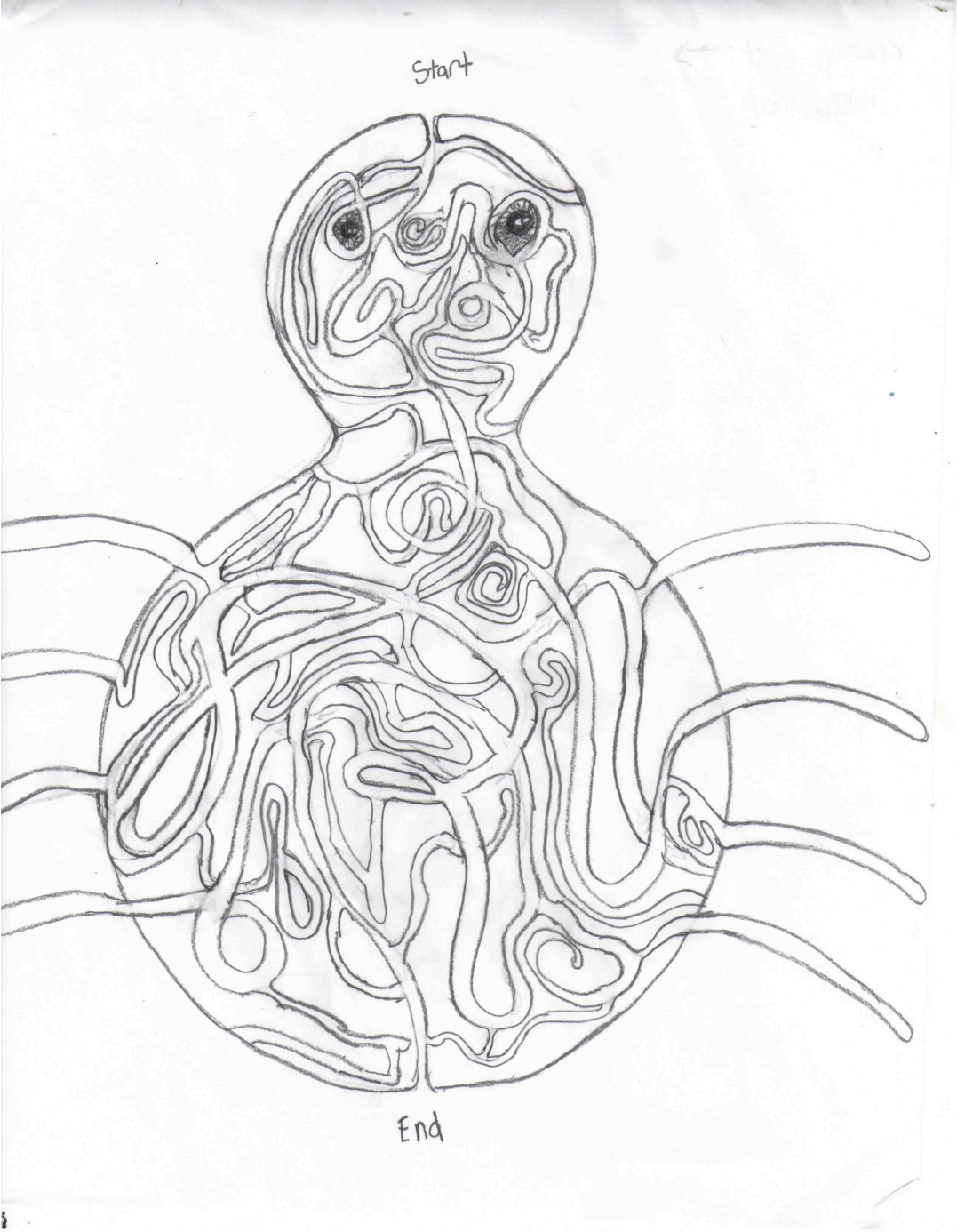


Charlotte: After four weeks of **unremitting** effort on the part of our friend the Goose, the goslings have arrived.

Activities

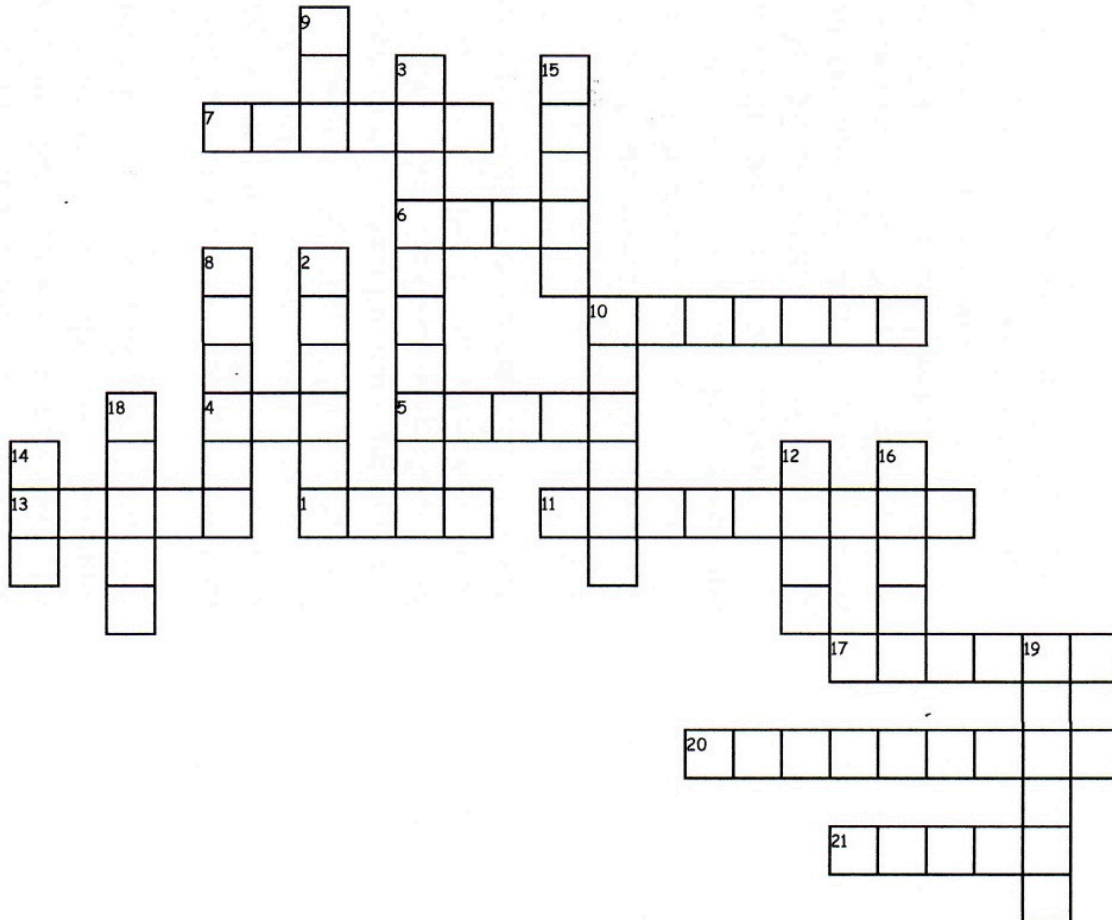
Maze

Charlotte is amazing. Spiders are amazing. Find your way through the homemade, hand-drawn maze of this spider.



Crossword Puzzle

Charlotte's Web, but not *Charlotte's Web*: The answers to the puzzle below are all words, names, or phrases from *Charlotte's Web*. The clues below, however, have nothing to do with it. (Some are alternate meanings; some are puns; some are cryptic, using parts of the words in different ways.) Good luck!



Across

1. A grunt with no beginning
4. It covers the wide world
5. Kevin of the 'six degrees'
6. Encourages, incites, or goads
7. Take down a notch
10. Dreamy Ryan
11. 2000 pounce at a synagogue?
13. An extremely, in other words
17. Fit for growing crops
20. Where you find panthers in North Carolina
21. Possessing all the wavelengths of visible light

Down

2. Mr. Wright? Well, one of them
3. Sad sash
8. Half the distance there
9. Scene-stealer
10. Glance
12. A plant with feathery leaves
14. Snitch
15. Tickle
16. Going, going, gone!
18. Female ep?
19. Garbage at the wayside

(answers can be found at the end of the Audience Guide)

Sources and Resources

Books

Outside and Inside Rats and Mice, by Sandra Markle

Spiders, by Gail Gibbons

Spiders, by Seymour Simon

Fair!, by Ted Lewin

Meet Me At the Fair, Judy Alter

Web

Author and Playwright

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/contributor/e-b-white>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E. B. White](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._B._White)

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<http://www.insectidentification.org/spiders.asp>

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County Fairs and Circuses

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/345.html>

<http://www.aerialists.org/category/aerial-silk/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fair>

<http://www.allthingsmike.com/clowns/history.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/episodes/vaudeville/about-vaudeville/721/>

<http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/en/welcome.aspx>

Definitions and Answers

Vocabulary Definitions

acute –present or experienced to a severe or intense

carouse – eat and drink without restraint, and enjoy oneself with others in a noisy, lively way

charitable – giving assistance of those in need; full of love for and goodwill toward others; generous to those in need

commotion – a state of confused and noisy disturbance

forlorn – pitifully sad and abandoned or lonely

grandstand - the main seating area, usually roofed, commanding the best view for spectators at racetracks or sports stadiums

hanker - feel a strong desire to have or do something

midway - an area of sideshows, games of chance or skill, or other amusements at a fair or exhibition

specimen – an individual animal, plant, mineral, etc., that is used as scientific display or for experiment; an individual item, or part, considered typical of a group, class, or whole

sulphur – a chemical element, with atomic number; a yellow, non-combustible metal that is an ingredient of gunpowder, and is used in making matches and as an antiseptic and fungicide

trifle — something of little substance or importance; to a small degree; **unremitting** – never relaxing or slackening, incessant.

Crossword Puzzle Answers

Across

1. A grunt with no beginning - *runt*
4. It covers the wide world - *web*
5. Kevin of the 'six degrees' - *bacon*
6. Encourages, incites, or goads - *eggs*
7. Take down a notch - *humble*
10. Dreamy Ryan - *gosling*
11. 2000 pounds at a synagogue? - *Templeton*
13. An extremely, in other words - *Avery*
17. Fit for growing crops - *Arable*
20. Where you find panthers in North Carolina - *Charlotte*
21. Possessing all the wavelengths of visible light - *white*

Down

2. Mr. Wright? Well, one of them - *Wilbur*
3. Sad sash – *blue ribbon*
8. Half the distance there - *midway*
9. Scene-stealer - *ham*
10. Glance - *Gander*
12. A plant with feathery leaves - *Fern*
14. Snitch - *rat*
15. Tickle - *Goose*
16. Going, going, gone! - *Homer*
18. Female ep? - *Sheep*
19. Garbage at the wayside - *litter*

(Crossword puzzle generated by Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net)