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## Teacher's Guide

# JUNIE B. JONES IS NOT A CROOK

By Allison Gregory  
Adapted from the book series  
by Barbara Park

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# BEFORE THE PLAY

## SYNOPSIS

Barbara Park's beloved Junie B. Jones is back at B Street with an all-new adventure! For Junie B., Kindergarten is full of new people and new things to learn. Between the mitten-thieves, future Olympic athletes, boyfriend-stealers, multi-millionaires and child celebrities, how is one quirky kid to cope? Should Finders still be Keepers even when Losers weep? Can friends compete or disagree and still stay friends? Junie B. explains it all as only she can.

**THEMES:** Language, Money Math, Character Counts: Honesty, Friendship

## THEATRE TERMS

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS  
3.0 Historical & Cultural Context

**SCRIPT:** The written play that tells actors what to say and what to do.

**ACTORS:** The people who say the words and do the actions on stage.

**CHARACTER:** The person or thing that an actor pretends to be or portrays.

**DIRECTOR:** The person who tells the actors how to say the words and how to do the actions.

**SCENERY or the SET:** The backdrops, furniture, and other pieces that show the audience where the play takes place.

**COSTUMES or WARDROBE:** The clothes and other objects an actor wears to show who they are.

**PROPS:** The things that actors use (such as a book or broom) during the play.

**SOUND:** The sound effects (like a doorbell or thunder) that help to tell the story.

**LIGHTING:** The lights that help the audience to see the actors and scenery on the stage.

**THEATER:** The place where a play is performed. It is from the Greek word *Theatron*, which means "watching place".

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Comprehension & Collaboration

K.1 1.1 2.1 3.1 4.1 5.2

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Presentation of Knowledge & Ideas

K.4,6 1.4,6 2.6 3.6 4.6 5.6

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

1.0 Artistic Perception

1. What is the difference between a play and a movie? What does it mean to adapt a story into a play or movie?
2. *Junie B. Jones is Not a Crook* is part of a book series by Barbara Park. What is a book series? When an author writes about a character in more than one book, what changes? What stays the same?
3. Introduce the terms listed in the Theatrical Terms list provided. Can you give examples of these terms from plays or movies you've seen?
4. What is a crook? How do you know when something of yours is lost and when it has been stolen? What can you do?
5. What are some good ways to make friends? What are some not so good ways? What can you do when someone is new to your class or neighborhood and has no friends?
6. What is it like to dream? How are dreams different from everyday life? How do you know when you are dreaming and when you are not?

# DURING AND AFTER THE PLAY

## DURING THE PLAY

### AUDIENCE BEHAVIOR

While watching a live theatre performance, it is important to sit quietly and listen. It does not mean that you need to be silent. Be sure to laugh at the funny parts (or cry at the sad parts), and certainly applaud at the end! Actors love it when an audience actively watches and listens.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Comprehension & Collaboration

K.2 1.2 2.2 3.1-3

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Presentation of Knowledge & Ideas

K.4,6 1.4,6 2.6 3.6

SCIENCE: Life Sciences

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

1.0 Artistic Perception

4.0 Aesthetic Valuing

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

1. What story did the play tell? The story was made up of many different events—how did you know which events were most important?
2. Refer back to the Theatrical Terms list on page 3. What examples of these terms did you find in the play?
  - a. What did you think of the scenery, costumes, and props? Did they help you understand the story being told? Why or why not?
  - b. Could you tell which actors played which roles? How did the actors change from one character to another? Could you follow the story when each actor played multiple characters? Why or why not?
  - c. How did the music, lighting, and sound effects used during the show help you understand the story being told?
- 2 Who was your favorite character from the play and why? Who was your least favorite character and why?
- 3 Junie B. and her friends learned many good lessons throughout the story. What lessons did you learn from the play? How did the play teach them to you?
- 4 Which parts of the play took place in a dream and which parts took place in everyday life? How could you tell?

# CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

## VOCABULARY & LANGUAGE

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

### Activity 1: Wacky Words

LANGUAGE: Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

2.4,6 3.4 4.4 5.4

READING (Foundational Skills): Phonics and Word Recognition

2.3 3.3 4.3 5.3

Learn how to use some of the words you heard during the play.

- |               |                 |               |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Curly      | 6. Mink         | 11. Precious  |
| 2. Tangle     | 7. Gallop       | 12. Expensive |
| 3. Reason     | 8. Handsome     | 13. Heartsick |
| 4. Attractive | 9. Possession   | 14. Personal  |
| 5. Gown       | 10. Concentrate | 15. Pushy     |

Use a DICTIONARY to do the following:

- Define each word and identify its part(s) of speech
- Divide each word into syllables and identify any prefixes or suffixes. Can you add any prefixes or suffixes to make different words?
- Do any of these words have multiple meanings? How do you know which meaning the author or speaker intends?
- Choose five of these words and see if you can use each in a sentence

### Activity 2: Bestest Friends Ever!

LANGUAGE: Conventions of Standard English

3.1

Lines or Dialogue are what is spoken by actors during a play. Review the following lines from *Junie B. Jones* and correct any grammar mistakes you find.

- “I have two bestest friends at that place. One of them is Grace.”
- “Lucille is way beautifuller than me.”
- “Is it an evil stranger boy, Grace? And so now you and me will have to save her!”

### Activity 3: Word Finder

Use the word K I N D E R G A R T E N to spell as many words as you can.

Here are some words you can spell using only those 12 letters.

|        |        |      |       |       |
|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|
| it     | tin    | eat  | knit  | at    |
| rat    | ran    | ate  | rig   | eager |
| kind   | kin    | tank | dine  | great |
| garden | tender | rain | drain | grate |
| kit    | ran    | king | kart  | grand |
| dine   | train  | rent | tie   | grin  |
| ten    | tan    | net  | die   | grant |

# CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

## Activity 4: What a Day for a Daydream

WRITING: Text Types and Purposes

1.3 2.3 3.3

Junie B. likes to dream and use her imagination. Think of a dream that you have had and share it with the class orally or in writing.

Use the following questions to help you describe your dream:

- When did your dream take place?
- Who was in your dream?
- Where did your dream take place?
- What happened in your dream?
- How did it start? How did it end?
- What did you learn from your dream?

## SPEAKING AND LISTENING

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Comprehension and Collaboration

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

Listen carefully to your classmates' presentations and ask them questions.

## WRITING

WRITING: Production and Distribution of Writing

1.5 2.4,5 3.4,5 4.4,5 5.4,5

WRITING: Range of Writing

LANGUAGE: Conventions of Standard English

LANGUAGE: Knowledge of Language

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

Be sure to revise and edit what you write.

## Activity 5:

### Say It Again, Sam

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

2.0 Creative Expression

Playwright Allison Gregory tries to make Junie B. speak the way Kindergarteners speak in real life. In her script, she writes WHAT the characters say and sometimes tells them HOW they should say it.

Choose a simple question such as "Who are you?" and list as a class different ways someone might ask this question. Who might ask the question this way and why?

Now, brainstorm a list of adverbs, such as the ones listed below, and write them on the board (you can suggest they think of an adjective and add -ly to the end, OR think of a noun and put the word "with" before it).

happily  
angrily

hesitatingly  
mysteriously

with fear  
with confusion

Have the students take turns coming to the front of the room to select an adverb from the list and then to say the original question ("Who are you?") according to the meaning of the adverb. For example, one student might say, "Who are you?" as if they were happy to meet someone (happily), while another student would shout, "Who are you?" as if they were very upset at being bothered (angrily).

## Activity 6: Knock-Knock!

At the end of the play, Junie B. makes friends with Handsome Warren by telling him knock-knock jokes like this one:

Junie B: Knock-knock.

Warren: Who's there?

Junie B: Hatch.

Warren: Hatch who?

Junie B: Ha, made you sneeze.

Share some of your favorite knock-knock jokes with the class or write some new ones. How many jokes do you know?

# CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

## ANTI-BULLYING AND CHARACTER COUNTS

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Comprehension & Collaboration

1.2 2.2 3.2,3

SPEAKING & LISTENING: Presentation of Knowledge & Ideas

1.4,6 2.6 3.6 4.6 5.6

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

### Anti-Bullying Thematic Questions for *Junie B. Jones is Not a Crook*

1. Which characters in the story were the bullies? Which characters got bullied?
2. What did the characters do to bully each other? Why are these types of behavior unacceptable?
3. How did the bullied characters react? What did they do to stop others from mistreating them? How else could they have reacted?
4. What does it mean to forgive someone? When and how should you forgive someone?

### Character Counts Thematic Questions for *Junie B Jones is Not a Crook*

Honesty:

1. What is the difference between finding, borrowing, and stealing something?
2. Describe why the characters acted the way they did in each of these examples. Were their actions honest? Why or why not?
  - a. Pink Fluffy Girl finds Junie B's mittens and decides to wear them.
  - b. Junie B. finds a cool pen and decides to keep it.
  - c. Junie B. takes the pen to the Lost and Found. Ricardo goes to the Lost and Found and finds his lost pen.
3. Lucille, Grace, and Junie B. all try to impress Warren. What are some good, honest ways to try to impress people? What are some dishonest ways and why are they dishonest?

Friendship

4. Name some important attributes of a good friend. Which attributes are most important to you?
5. Which characters from the play had these attributes?
6. Can friends bully each other? How does this happen? How can we keep from bullying our friends?
7. How should friends treat each other? What examples of this did you see in the play?
8. Describe some things you have done to make new friends. How well did these things work and why?



# RESOURCES & ADDENDA

## MATH

MATHEMATICS

1.OA 2.OA

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

People Who Make a Difference 2.4

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

5.0 Connections, Relationships, Applications

### Activity 7: Making Cents

Solve the following math problems.

1. Junie B. and Ricardo go to the school store. If Junie B. buys 9 pens and Ricardo buys 7 pens, how many pens do they have altogether?
2. Junie B. and Ricardo now have 16 pens to sell. If they sell 8 pens to Warren and 5 pens to Meanie Jim, how many pens do they have left?
3. Lucille's Nanna paid \$5.50 for a hair ribbon that was \$5.00 before tax. How much tax did she pay to buy the hair ribbon?
4. Grandpa Frank Miller paid \$10.00 for two pairs of mittens that cost \$8.00 each. How much tax did he pay?
5. Junie B. wants to buy a pack of gum for \$1.25 (including tax). If she has 2 quarters, how many more quarters does she need?

Connections: Answer the following questions

1. Who is the buyer and who is the seller in questions 1 & 2?
2. Describe the relationships between the characters in questions 1 & 2. Could Junie B. and Ricardo sell any pens to Warren and Meanie Jim without buying them from the school store?

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Production and Distribution of Writing: 6

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5.0 Connections, Relationships,  
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# Wacky Words

## Word Search

Find these words in the word search.

- |               |                 |               |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Curly      | 6. Mink         | 11. Precious  |
| 2. Tangle     | 7. Gallop       | 12. Expensive |
| 3. Reason     | 8. Handsome     | 13. Heartsick |
| 4. Attractive | 9. Possession   | 14. Personal  |
| 5. Gown       | 10. Concentrate | 15. Pushy     |

W E K N G I N O N O G H A O C  
V K W F Z R O E L N E T O X O  
A O K E E D M Q R W T T B C N  
G C X A V O J W O R F T J P C  
P Z S O S I Q C A A G K L K E  
Y O H D Q I S C P Y G Q C C N  
N L N I U C T N N D R Z R I T  
P A R N O I S S E S S O P S R  
H E J U V D J I H P P G T T A  
Y P R E C I O U S E X Q A R T  
H M I S P O L L A G Z E N A E  
S K V R O G S R Y Z F I G E P  
U O H D M N C Z C U B S L H J  
P Z V T H D A W L K Q W E B Y  
Y J P L P N F L N M I N K P Z

## SCHOOL MATINEES

### You come to us!



**"My kids absolutely loved it, as did the adults!"**

- 8th Grade Teacher, Arcadia Fundamental Middle School

#### THE GARDEN OF RIKKI TIKKI TAVI

September 29 - November 4, 2016

In this wild comic adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's famous book, the lovable mongoose Rikki Tikki Tavi squares off against Nag, the fearsome cobra. Ages 6 and up.

#### ROBIN HOOD

November 17 - December 23, 2016

This action packed adventure brings to life the story of Robin Hood and his merry men as they steal from the rich to give to the poor. Featuring sword play, chivalry and lots of laughs! Ages 6 and up.

#### GOING WEST: THE STORY OF

#### THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

February 23 - March 31, 2017

This original work celebrates the men and women who made history by joining our vast nation together - from sea to shining sea! Ages 10 and up.

#### JUNIE B. JONES IS NOT A CROOK

April 20 - May 26, 2017

B Street Family Series beloved favorite Junie B. Jones is back with an all new adventure. Join us for this delightful adaptation of Barbara Park's endearing book. Ages 5 and up.

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## WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES

### We come to you!

**"We've enjoyed the B Street Playwriting experience tremendously!"**

- 6th Grade Teacher, Encina Preparatory High School

#### Introduction to Playwriting

Single interactive 90-Minute Playwriting Workshop designed to inspire and empower students to write their own plays.

#### Playwriting Towards Production

Three interactive 90-Minute Playwriting Workshops designed to lead students from inspired ideas to completed drafts of original plays.

#### After-School Workshops & Residencies

Our Teaching Artists will tailor your after-school program to suit your organization's needs. Participants:

- Learn theatre games and exercises!
- Develop communication and performance skills!
- Perform plays either from their own writing or from B Street's own catalog of scripts!



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## SCHOOL TOUR

### We come to you!

**"Our students laughed and were completely engaged the moment we were seated!"**

- 2nd Grade Teacher, St. James School

#### FANTASY AMERICANAI

October 24 - November 23, 2016

A celebration of American Folk Tales & Legends! From the Little Big Horn, to the Top of Old Smoky, to the Legend of Blackbeard The Pirate - these tried and true tales are guaranteed to keep you engaged and in stitches!

#### FANTASY AMERICANANA - WITH A TWIST!

November 28 - December 23, 2016

The B Street School Tour performers add our traditional holiday twist to these classic tales!

#### HISTORY EXTRAVAGANZA 3

January 16 - March 10, 2017

From Ancient Greece to the California Gold Rush, from Medieval Europe to the Making of a New Nation, and onto the Industrial Revolution! Enjoy this veritable buffet of select plays written by students of ALL grade levels based on topics tied directly to curriculum.

#### FANTASY FESTIVAL 31

March 27 - June 2, 2017

Now in our 31st year! The winning plays of our annual playwriting contest for kids. Behold the extraordinary results of putting a professional theatre's staff at the service of young writers' talents.

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