

Synopsis for Young Readers

The Story of the Ballet

Act I

Alice is playing outside while her sister reads a book. Alice gets bored and soon falls asleep. Alice opens her eyes and sees a White Rabbit who is wearing gloves and carrying a fan. She follows him into a rabbit hole. When she lands at the bottom of the hole, the White Rabbit seems to be gone. As she is looking for the White Rabbit, she finds a gold key, a bottle filled with something dark, and a piece of cake. When she drinks from the bottle, she shrinks to the size of a mouse, and when she eats the cake she becomes as big as a giant.

She finds the White Rabbit's gloves and fan and begins to play with them. Soon Alice feels lost and lonely and she starts to cry. Her large tears form a lake. Alice shrinks back to her normal size and has to swim through her lake of tears! All kinds of unusual animals are in the water with her. When they get out of the water, the White Rabbit comes back to get his gloves and fan, and invites Alice to walk with him. While walking, they meet a big caterpillar on a giant mushroom. The caterpillar makes the flowers dance for Alice. Then a frog and a fish who are servants of the Queen come to Alice to tell her that the Queen wants to play croquet with her. On the way to see queen, Alice stops at a house where a Duchess and her cook are making lunch. The Duchess is carrying a baby and she passes it to Alice. Alice looks at the baby and discovers it's a pig! She drops the pig and runs away. She then sees a big orange cat that smiles a huge grin at her. They dance together. After they dance, the White Rabbit finds Alice and takes her to an unusual tea party where animals sit at a table together, drink tea, and eat cookies. The man in charge wears a giant hat and tells silly jokes.

Act II

After tea, it's time for the Queen's croquet game! The Duchess starts to whisper mean things about the Queen. The Queen notices and yells to her servants to chop off her head! Everyone runs away except for Alice and a strange animal with wings like an eagle and a tail like a lion. Alice walks to the beach with him and meets a talking turtle and dancing lobsters.

Alice soon falls asleep on the warm sand. She dreams about a card servant. The White Rabbit wakes Alice up and tells her that the Queen believes the card servant from Alice's dream stole her cookies and they all have to go to court. At court, Alice sees the Mad Hatter and the Duchess. The Queen is so upset that she tells her servants to chop everyone's head off! Alice is scared but remembers that all the servants look like playing cards. When she calms down, all the craziness goes away. Alice is back in the grass with her sister! What happened? Was it all just a dream?

Produced by PBT Education Department, 2017

ALICE IN WONDERLAND



Activity Guide to the Ballet!

PITTSBURGH
BALLET
THEATRE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
TERRENCE S. ORR

The Music

The Duchess' House music was originally composed for the ballet

The _____.



However, it was not used and is now a part of the *Alice in Wonderland* score.

Who does this belong to?

Draw a line from each object to the character it belongs to!

Alice



The Mad Hatter

Alice's Sister



The Caterpillar

The Gryphon



The White Rabbit

Queen of Hearts



The Cheshire Cat

Ballet Term of the Day!

Cambrè (*Combrey*) - a ballet term that means “arched.”

When a dancer is doing cambré, their body is bent from the waist and stretching backward or sideways with the head following the movement of the upper body and arms. The Queen of Hearts cambrès at the croquet game.



Ballet Scavenger Hunt

Watch the ballet closely to find the answers to these questions!

- * How many red doors are in the hallway with Alice?
- * Who does Alice first meet after falling asleep?
- * How many lobsters dance together in the second act?

Do the Numbers!

There are 20 ballerinas in the Card scene. Each ballerina does 4 bourrées. How many bourrées are done in total?

____ (# of ballerinas) X ____ (# of bourrées) =

Alice's Word Search

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

Alice, card servants, caterpillar, cook, croquet, flowers, lady, lake, Wonderland, Mad Hatter, pig, queen, sister, White Rabbit, mysterious

Do the numbers answer: 80
Scavenger Hunt answer: 9; The White Rabbit: 4