



Study Guide

Junie B. Jones The Musical

Based on the beloved books by Barbara Park

Thank you for downloading the Study Guide to go along with the performance of

Junie B Jones The Musical presented by Enrichment Through the Arts.

Please direct any questions or correspondence (letters to performers from staff and/or students) to Enrichment Through the Arts. Make sure you note what performance and we will make sure they get into the right hands.

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Show Overview

It's Junie B. Jones's first day in first grade, and things aren't exactly going as planned! Her best friend Lucille has new best friends, she has to ride the bus alone, and the letters on the blackboard look fuzzy. But with the help of a brand-new friend named Herb, her hilarious Top-Secret Personal Beeswax Journal, and a lot of determination, Junie is ready to face the adventures—and challenges—of her new classroom.

From silly cafeteria moments to a big kickball game, Junie learns about friendship, feelings, confidence, and the joy of being herself. With catchy songs, laugh-out-loud humor, and a big heart, this musical celebrates growing up and finding your place.

Learning Objectives

After experiencing the show, students will be able to:

- Describe Junie B.'s challenges and how she overcomes them.
 - Recognize the importance of friendship and kindness.
 - Understand that change can be hard but also exciting.
 - Explore feelings through writing or drawing, like Junie's journal.
 - Discuss the value of confidence and trying new things.
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Key Vocabulary

- **First Grade** – The first year of elementary school after kindergarten.
- **Friendship** – A caring and supportive relationship between people.
- **Confidence** – Believing in yourself and your abilities.
- **Change** – When something becomes different, sometimes making us feel nervous or excited.

- **Self-Expression** – Sharing your thoughts, ideas, and feelings in your own way.

Pre-Show Activities

a. Journal Time

Give students a notebook page to write or draw what they are most excited (or nervous) about in a new school year.

b. Friendship Web

In a circle, have students share one way they can be a good friend. As each person speaks, pass a ball of yarn and connect it to the next person, creating a web of friendship.

c. “Change is an Adventure” Brainstorm

List ways change can be a good thing (making new friends, learning new skills, discovering new places).

During the Show

Students should look for:

- How Junie feels about starting first grade.
 - How she solves problems with friends.
 - Times when she learns something new about herself.
 - How she uses her journal to work through her feelings.
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Post-Show Discussion Questions

1. What was Junie’s biggest challenge in first grade?
2. How did she handle feeling nervous or left out?
3. Who helped Junie during the story, and how?
4. Have you ever been nervous to try something new? What helped you?

5. Why is it important to have confidence in yourself?

Extension Activities

Create Your Own Top-Secret Journal

Students decorate a cover and write about a fun (or funny) school memory.

Act It Out

In small groups, students act out a short scene showing a problem in school and how they could solve it kindly.

Kickball Math *(for younger grades)*

Use kickball scoring to practice adding points.

Curriculum Connections

Language Arts: Journaling, character study, problem/solution writing.

Social Studies: Friendship, community building.

SEL (Social-Emotional Learning): Self-confidence, handling change, empathy.

Reflection Worksheet (*Printable*)

Name: _____

My favorite part of the show was:

A problem Junie faced was:

She solved it by:

One way I can be a good friend is:

A change I am excited (or nervous) about is:

Draw a line from the word to its meaning.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. First Grade | A. When something becomes different |
| 2. Friendship | B. The first year of school after kindergarten |
| 3. Confidence | C. A caring and supportive relationship between people |
| 4. Change | D. Believing in yourself and your abilities |
| 5. Self-Expression | E. Sharing your thoughts, ideas, and feelings in your own way |
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2. Character Match

Match the character to their description.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Junie B. Jones | A. Junie's teacher who notices she might need glasses |
| • Lucille | B. Junie's new friend on the school bus |
| • Herb | C. Junie's former best friend with two new friends |
| • Mr. Scary | D. A first grader ready to tackle a brand-new school year |
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My Top-Secret Personal Beeswax Journal

Draw or write about one of these:

- A funny thing that happened at school
- A time you made a new friend
- A challenge you faced and how you solved it

(Add a “CONFIDENTIAL” stamp graphic for fun.)