

Your Family Arts Center
DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATER

DIARY OF A WORM, A SPIDER & A FLY

Based on the books by Doreen Cronin

SYNOPSIS

Act I (35 minutes)

Join Worm, Spider, Fly, and all their buggy friends as they survive another year of school!

Summer is over and school is about to begin. The bugs write in their diaries: Worm says he's nervous, Fly can't wait to see her friends, and Spider is dreading homework. The bugs get ready, try to look cool, and head out to start their first day at school.

Their new teacher, Mrs. McBee, asks for all the students to introduce themselves. But, when it's Worm's turn he can't think of anything to say about himself. Before the day ends, Mrs. McBee's announces the first assignment for her class: an *All About Me* report due in just one week.

While on a playdate, Spider tries to teach Worm some cool tricks. But, without legs or feet, Worm just can't do them. Spider sings about the joys of legs and, when she joins the playdate, Fly talks about how fun it is to have wings. Worm doesn't know what *he* has that's special.

It's National Safety Day at school. Time to practice the safety drill: "Stop! Drop! And Run!" First the class discusses what they fear: vacuums, flypaper, boys with jars, becoming bait, etc. When Worm asks Mrs. McBee what's she afraid of, the other students give examples and, terrified, they all go running and screaming out of class.

Worm sees Fly practicing flying. He wishes he could fly, too, and Fly says he just needs to practice. But, every time he does, Worm falls on his butt.

Back in class, it's time to present the *All About Me* reports. The bugs are excited to share, except for Worm. He says he ate his paper and he has to write "I will not eat my homework" 100 times.

Fly and Spider are hanging out at Worm's house. Fly is so jealous Worm has his own bedroom. She doesn't know how she'll ever become a superhero without a little privacy. Spider thinks that she'll never be a superhero because she's small and a girl. After their spat, all the bugs decide to dig a tunnel that can be their secret club. Worm tries to teach them how to dig (his specialty). But, it's time for Spider and Fly to go home and Worm promises to keep digging their club.

Another day at school and another assignment is due. This time, the bugs have to present *When I Grow Up* reports. Spider wants to molt, Butterfly wants to move to Mexico. Ant wants to be a worker ant. And, once again, Fly says she wants to be a superhero. It's time for Worm to present. He wants to be a Secret Service Agent!

It's the night of the school dance, and the bugs are ready to party. Well, everyone except Worm. He doesn't know how he will dance without legs. But, Mrs. McBee shows him that with a little wiggle he

can dance, too. Suddenly, the bugs hear a cry for help. It's Fly's Aunt Rita stuck between a window and a screen. Fly realizes that this is her moment to prove herself a superhero!

Intermission (15 minutes)

Act II (30 minutes)

Back at school, it's time for *Show and Tell*. Fly is particularly excited to present hers: it's Aunt Rita! Fly saved her with the help of her friends. Spider apologizes for not believing in her and Fly forgives him.

Back at their respective homes, the bugs are getting in trouble and getting sent to jail for kids: time-out! Fly argues with her mom about having her own room, Worm gets in trouble for eating his dad's newspaper, and Spider is punished for hitting his brother.

The bugs are worried because Spider hasn't been to school in days. Fly and Worm decide to go check on him. When they get to his house, they find out that he's been molting. Spider is growing up!

Worm is still not sure what makes him special. Fly tells him how important he is to the earth. The tunnels that worm's dig allow the earth to breathe, flowers to grow, and trees to thrive. Worm is relieved and excited to know what makes him special. And, finally, he can confidently present his *All About Me* report to his class.

The secret club tunnel is done. Spider thinks he's now too big to join in the fun, but, after seeing all the other bugs, he heads in to the club.

The school year is over. Another summer is about to begin. The bugs have big summer plans and soon it will be time for another first day of school!

Notes:

- This is a musical filled with singing and dancing.