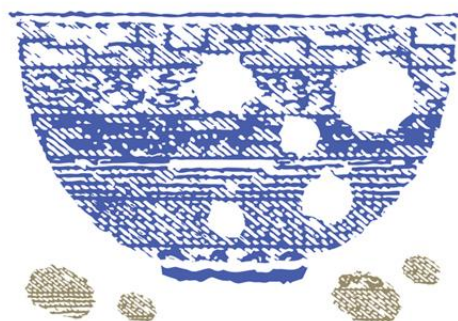


HANDBOOK

MAGIE
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Slow Magic

Des mots d'la dynamite

For children 18 months to 5 years of age
Length: 35 minutes

Through clay-based transformations, *Slow Magic* addresses the origins of the world and its evolution. On stage, a sound artist allows the secrets of playful mechanical objects to resonate while two characters come to life. Slowly, exploring sounds, space and movement, they harness and discover material. Slowly, they explore and build their universe. They are fun-loving people who aren't afraid of getting wet or dirty in order to share their attachment to the Earth, its mysteries and its endless transformations. In *Slow Magic*, all of the senses are called upon to celebrate the cycles of life.



Welcome to the theatre

When the children arrive to see the show, the actors are already onstage. They are moving around and making the space their own while the audience members arrive. Little by little, like slow magic, sounds gently emanate, a song is heard, material, clay, a prelude to the discoveries that will follow. But in the meantime, we are surrounded by a kind of magic, in which shapes slowly come to life.

During the show

The artists onstage are thrilled to have the young children's attention and to experience their liveliness. The show was made for them. So, you can let them express themselves freely. Just make sure they don't bother the others or come into the acting space. We invite you to also enjoy the show!

About the show

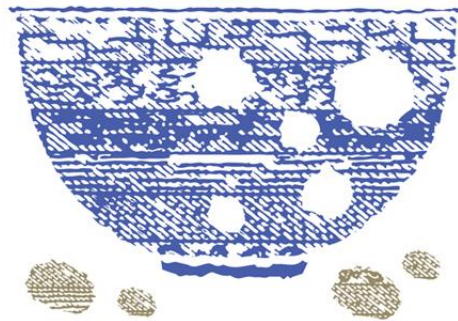
For children aged three years or younger, it isn't necessary to address anything other than the outing to the theatre, which is already very exciting!

For the older kids, you can suggest discussions and activities inspired by the show's themes. You can ask them to imagine how days, nights, the Earth, the sky and the stars were born. Their answers may surprise you. You might also research and read fables on these themes.



ACTIVITIES

Here are also a few activity ideas, for before or after the show.



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Making shapes

ART-MAKING WITH CLAY

Clay is an enjoyable material to work with. Knead it well with your hands to give it a smooth consistency. Make shapes with the children while paying attention to the transformations coming about. Roll, shape, dig and assemble. Then, leave it to dry or come back to the ephemeral shape in its raw material state. Compare your experiments with those made by the artists onstage!



ART-MAKING WITH SALT DOUGH

To make it: 1 portion of salt + 1 portion of water + 2 portions of flour. Mix the salt and water well. Add water gradually. Knead it well with your hands...and it's ready!

Bake it (if desired, to harden the little works of art): in the oven at 100oF for two or three hours, according to the thickness of the piece you are baking. You can also let it dry in the open air until the next morning.

Making ambient sounds

Take a couple of bowls of different sizes and place them on the ground.

Find some wooden drumsticks and have fun producing sounds and rhythms. By alternating between loud and quiet sounds and silences, try to synchronize with each other or respond to each other, pretend to be a minimalist orchestra, incorporate speech or a song.

You can also use marbles or small, circular objects and make them turn inside the bowls to hear the nuances in the sounds produced... just like in Slow Magic!



Taking giants steps

In *Slow Magic*, the characters move on long stems, as if they were making a very long journey through the universe. They move forward while being very careful where they step their feet.

MAKING HOMEMADE STILTS

Using large empty cans, make stilts by piercing holes into both sides of the can, in order to pass a rather solid rope through it and make a knot inside. A good-sized nail and a hammer are ideal for this operation. Measure the rope according to the child's height. Make sure you cover the can's sharp edges to ensure safety. You can also decorate the stilts by sticking different shapes on them or bringing out the paints and brushes.

GAME

Trace a journey on the ground with colourful sticky tape and walk by taking giant steps!



Imagining steps

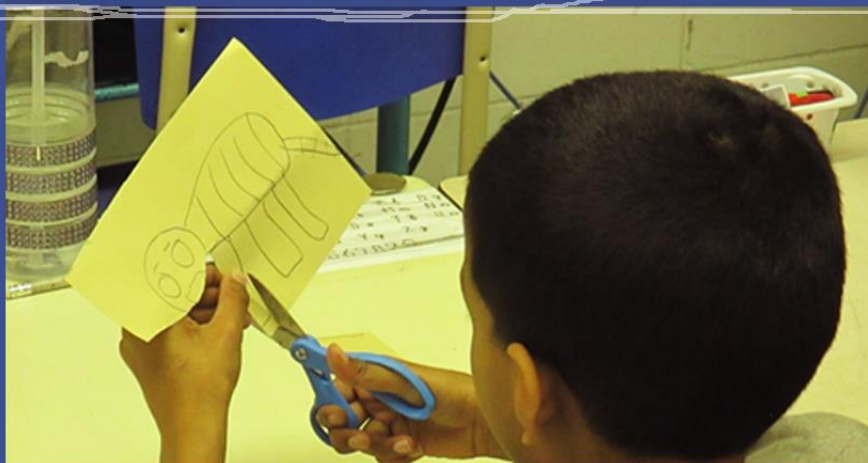
In *Slow Magic*, the actors make shapes and landscapes appear, amplified by light.

MAKING SHADOW PUPPETS

Draw a shape on a thick piece of cardboard and then cut it out carefully. Then glue it onto a stick and project it using lighting (a desk lamp, a flashlight) set at a distance. The shape becomes a shadow or projection, which can be amplified or diminished.

GAME

After having projected shadows directly onto a wall, you can create a surprise effect by making shapes appear behind a piece of paper or tissue, thanks to the lighting set behind it. Guaranteed magic!



Inventing a turtle shell

The turtle is a symbol of perseverance and wisdom.

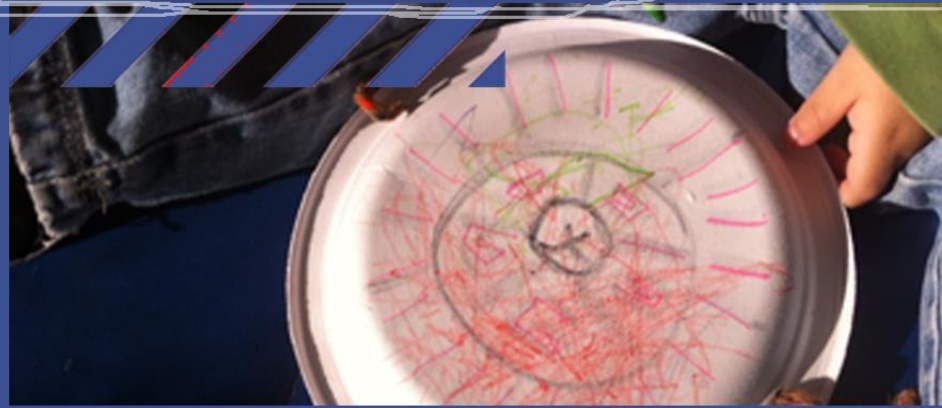
Her shell is protection. What an important notion for a child! We protect ourselves against wounds, against bad weather, against fear.

MAKING IT

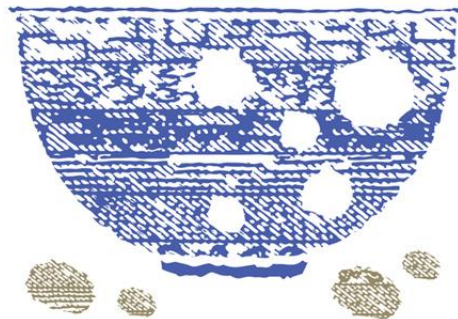
To make a turtle shell, all you need are cardboard plates, crayons or paint and string. Start by drawing or painting designs on the outside of the plate. Once this is done, pierce two holes in it, allowing a string to pass through and attaching it to the child's back.

GAME

Invite the children to move around like well-sheltered turtles! Let them express themselves freely and see if the turtles go and meet each other, play together or hide.



A production of Des mots d'la dynamite compagny
Design: Céline Lapointe
Revision: Anne Nadeau
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