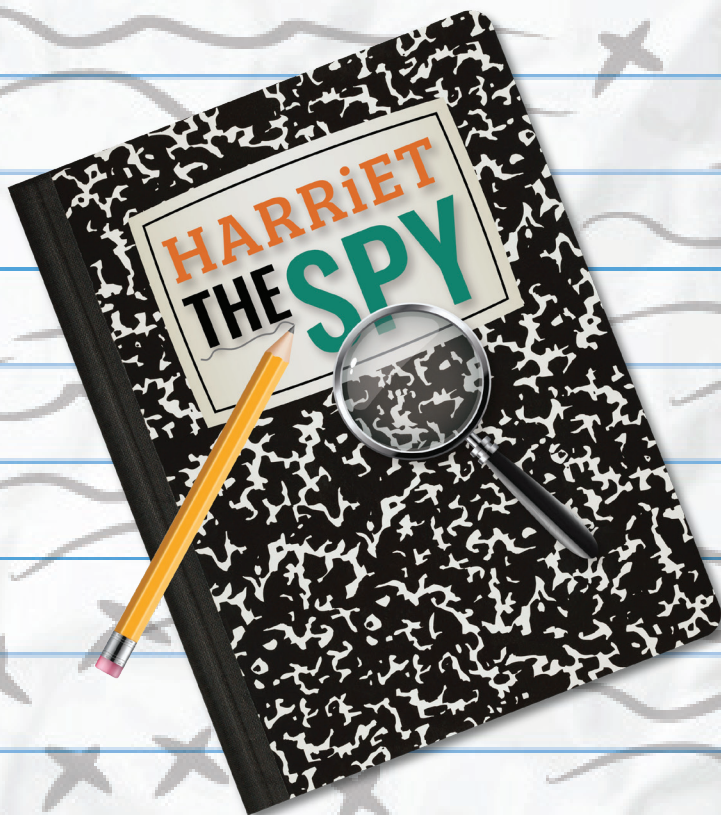




THIS PRODUCTION IS
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Spotlight: Literacy is a Playhouse program supported by

**Cole-Belin Education
Foundation**



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Meet the Cast!

In *Harriet the Spy*, Harriet and her friends Janie and Sport all dream of what they want to do when they are adults (a famous writer, a chemist, a professional ball player). We asked the cast what they want to be when they grow up (or what they wanted to be if they are now grown up).



William Beebe (*The Boy with Purple Socks*) I want to be an architect. When I look at unique buildings I want to learn how to design them.



Colin Boyd (*Sport - Simon*) I want to be a professional actor in plays because I like to make people happy and laugh. It would be nice to make a little bit of money doing it, too!



Vivian Rosalie Coleman (*Harriet*) I want to be an actress when I grow up because it has been my dream since I was little!



Michaela Cross (*Mother/ Nadine*) When I was a kid I wanted to be an astronaut.



Ella Frost (*Janie*) I want to be an actress because it is one of my biggest hobbies. It is very fun!



Henry Goerend (*Pinky Whitehead*) I want to be a videogame programmer or an actor in a movie.



Madelyn Hammond (*Carrie Andrews*) I want to become a marine biologist because I love sea animals. I can join the fight to help solve climate change and coral bleaching.



Julie Howland (*Mrs. Agatha K. Plummer*) I wanted to be a teacher because I wanted to make a difference. I love to help kids, especially the ones who struggle to learn.



Susan Irish (*Mama DeSanti/ Miss Berry*) I wanted to be a marine biologist because I loved the ocean but I was afraid to learn scuba diving. I wish I had become a zookeeper or animal trainer!



Genevieve Koenigs (*Laura Peters*) I want to be a therapist because I want to help people become the best version of themselves.



Cid McMillan (*Harrison Withers/ Mr. Waldenstein*) I wanted to be an actor or comedian when I was young. I didn't pursue either professionally but I do act like I know what I'm doing at work and I made somebody laugh that one time.



Tamera Peake (*Miss Elson*) I couldn't decide if I wanted to be an astronaut, an actress, or the President of the United States!



Hudson Pulver (*Little Joe Curry*) I would love to work in a theatre someday because I love telling stories for an audience.



Eisley Saldanha (*Marion Hawthorne*) I want to be an elementary school teacher.



Katie Saldanha (*Cook*) As a little girl, I really wanted to be a mom AND be in plays. And guess what? I get to do both!



Nora Satterstrom (*Beth Ellen Hansen*) I want to be a teacher when I grow up because I think kids can change the world.



Becky Scholtec (*Ole Golly*) I changed my mind a lot over the years. Some of my ideas were teacher, veterinarian, marine biologist, translator, and actor.



Amaya Veldkamp (*Rachel Hennessey*) I think I want to be an actor and an author.



Oliver Thrun (*Father/Papa DeSanti*) I wanted to be a baker so I could make cookies and cakes all day and wear one of those poofy chef's hats.

What about YOU? Draw a self-portrait and write down what YOU want to be when you grow up!

When I grow up, I want to be



About the Author

Louise Fitzhugh (1928–1974)

Louise Fitzhugh was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1928. Raised primarily by her wealthy father and stepmother, she attended an exclusive girls' school, Miss Hutchinson's. After graduating, she attended several different colleges and traveled extensively in Europe. An accomplished painter, she considered herself an artist first

and had numerous exhibits in New York galleries. Louise believed that both artists and children needed to be recognized and permitted to be themselves, which was her inspiration to write *Harriet the Spy*. The book was recognized for its childhood realism. As Louise told her publisher, "Children can handle adult issues." She believed that differences should be celebrated in children, particularly in young girls.



About the Playwright

Leslie Brody (born 1952)

Leslie Brody is an author, playwright, and writing professor who was born and raised in New York City. After adapting *Harriet the Spy* for Minneapolis Children's Theatre in

1988, she became interested in the life of Louise Fitzhugh and published a biography about Louise, *Sometimes You Have to Lie*, in 2020. In 1963, the year in which the play is set, Leslie and Harriet were both 11!

Sixties Slang

It's not surprising that kids talked a little differently in 1963, although some of these words and phrases are still used today. Here is some slang that you'll hear in the play. Match the dialogue from the play with their definitions.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. You'd think the teachers would <i>smell a rat</i> . | a. Be beside oneself with frustration or another strong emotion |
| 2. What you want is maybe stupid and that Doctors are <i>finks</i> . | b. Suspect trickery or deception |
| 3. People will bow in the street when I go past and Rachel Hennessey will <i>plotz</i> . | c. A weak person |
| 4. This movie is a <i>gas</i> . | d. Something that gives pleasure |
| 5. Don't be such a <i>drip</i> . | e. A tattletale, a traitor, or sneak. |

Answers: 1: b, 2: e, 3: a, 4: d, 5: c

A Clowder of Cats*

Harrison Withers has 26 cats! Find all of his cats' names in the word search below. Louise Fitzhugh named some of the cats after her friends while others are named after literary characters, authors, baseball players, and other historical figures.

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

Alex	Sebastian	Mickey Mantle	Goethe
Circe	Willy Mays	Rasputin	Koufax
Dostoyevsky	Barnaby	Swam	Pat
Fred	David	Yvonne	Sandra
Jerusalem	Faulkner	Cassandra	Thomas Wolfe
Marijane	Gloria	Donna	
Puck	Kokosdlka	Francis	

*** Did you know a group of cats is called a clowder?** You might also call them a glaring if they don't know each other very well. A group of kittens is a kindle, and a group of wild cats is a destruction.

See if you can match the following animals with their group names. Some are very closely related to the animal's appearance or behavior while others are a bit trickier!

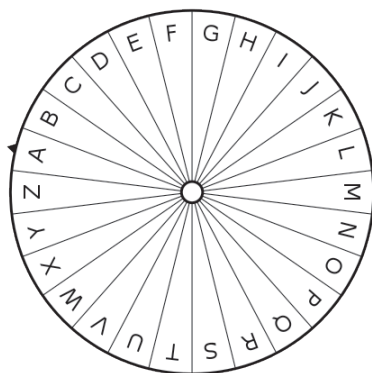
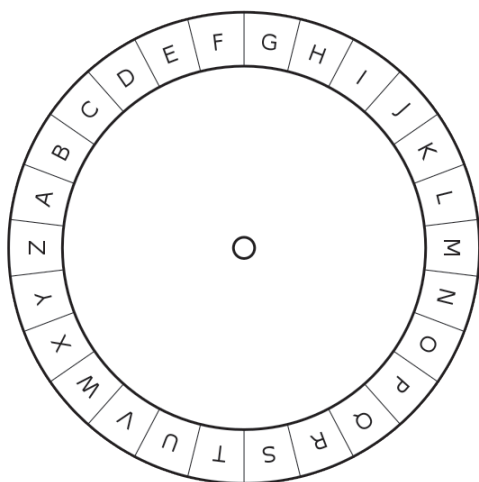
- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Otters | a. A rhumba |
| 2. Rattlesnakes | b. A zeal |
| 3. Foxes | c. A stench |
| 4. Rhinoceroses | d. A skulk |
| 5. Hyenas | e. A paddling |
| 6. Ducks | f. A crash |
| 7. Porcupines | g. A tower |
| 8. Skunks | h. A prickle |
| 9. Giraffes | i. A raft |
| 10. Zebras | j. A cackle |

Answers: 1: i, 2: a, 3: d, 4: f, 5: j, 6: e, 7: h, 8: c, 9: g, 10: b

SPY GEAR: Cipher Wheel

Many spies write their messages in code, so that no one can read them without the decoder key. If Harriet had used a code, no one would have been able to read what was in her notebook! Follow the directions below to learn how to write a message in code using a cipher wheel.

1. Carefully cut out both circles below.
2. Glue them on cardstock and cut both circles out.
3. Use a sharp pencil to poke through the circle in the middle.
4. Use a brad (paper fastener) to connect the two circles together, with the smaller circle on top.
5. Place both wheels so the A on each wheel is pointing up. Now choose two letters (one from each wheel) as your "secret letters". Don't forget which letters you chose!
6. Turn the smaller circle so that your two letters line up.
7. Now you can write secret messages! For each letter in your message, write down the letter on the smaller wheel that is directly under it.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I never thought of it that way

The picture on the front of the playbill is the show's logo. A logo is a picture or a symbol meant to represent a show so that it is easily recognized.

When you look at the logo for *Harriet the Spy* what do you think the show might be about? Why?

If you went to school with Harriet, do you think you would be friends? Why or why not?

What do you think Harriet is going to do with all of the information she has gathered in her notebooks? **What would you do?**

Harriet eats a tomato sandwich every day. You could say she is a "creature of habit". **Is there something you like to eat or do every day? Why?**

Harriet wears a belt which holds everything she needs for her spy route. **What would you put on your spy belt?**

Do you think Harriet meant to hurt peoples' feelings with she wrote in her notebook, or was she just being honest? Does it matter?

Ole Golly tells Harriet "Sometimes you have to lie". Do you think that's true? Why or why not? **Have you ever lied to avoid hurting someone's feelings?**

Take a walk around your neighborhood and take notes about who and what you see. Then, write a short story or poem about your observations. **What do you think you will write about?** People? Nature?

HARRIET'S TREATS

Tomato Sandwich

Tomato sandwiches are particularly popular in the South, where Louise Fitzhugh grew up. They are also really easy to make with just a few simple ingredients.

Here's what you need to make two sandwiches:

- 1 large, ripe tomato, sliced ½ inch thick
- 4 slices of white bread
- Mayonnaise
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cut the tomato in thick slices (you may need an adult's help) and season with salt and pepper. Spread mayonnaise on each slice of bread. (You can decide how much you'd like.) Add your seasoned tomato slices, and voila! You have a tomato sandwich for you and a friend!

New York Egg Cream*

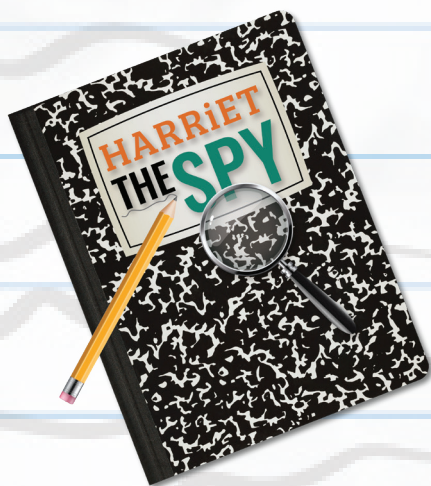
Despite its name, a traditional New York egg cream contains neither eggs nor cream. Legend says it was invented by Louis Auster, a Jewish candy shop owner in Brooklyn, New York. Here is a recipe we found for an "authentic" New York Egg Cream!

- ½ cup whole milk, ice cold
- ½ cup seltzer water or club soda, ice cold
- 2 tablespoons chocolate syrup**

Pour syrup into tall, chilled 12–16-ounce glasses. Add milk and stir well with a long-handled spoon. Pour seltzer water over the back of the spoon to create foam on top. Drink immediately while cold and foamy!

**To sound like an authentic New Yorker, say "eggcream" as if it is one word, with the accent on the first syllable.*

***The amount of syrup can be adjusted to taste. You can also try a different flavored syrup, such as vanilla or strawberry. Just make sure your glass is tall enough to leave room for the foam to rise when you mix!*



AUTOGRAPHS