

# Theatre for Hospitals initiative

## Evaluation summary



Children in hospital have limited access to the arts and the magic of theatre. The Theatre for Hospitals initiative provides children in hospital and their families with a transformative experience, enabling them to experience a high-quality arts performance, where an emphasis upon the imaginative art of narrative and storytelling, can re-invent a clinical space.

100%  
distracted  
from being in  
hospital

96% had  
their boredom  
alleviated

100% of  
patients  
relaxed

Being in hospital can be a scary and lonely time for a child. The performances aim to make that difficult time a little easier. Our artistic mission is to ensure that all hospitalised children, their families and medical staff can engage in an uplifting and inclusive theatrical experience. We can provide a sense of relief and a feeling of precious normality for children who are often unable to access any stimulating or fun activities. To some, the performances will be their first experience of theatre.



"I just wanted to say thank you for the lovely performance of Rhyming Capers at Great Ormond Street hospital last week. My son was an inpatient and the show really cheered him up and brought him some entertainment from the "outside world". The actors were so engaging and funny, and it was wonderful to see my son laugh! I wish you all the best for your future plans and hope the hospital scheme will be a success." Rohani (Parent)

"I liked the rhymes best, the show was really nice" Yara, 5 years

"One little girl came in for an op this morning. She won't remember this morning now, she'll only remember how fun this was. I suppose that's the idea." "One little girl came in for an op this morning. She won't remember this morning now, she'll only remember how fun this was. I suppose that's the idea." Joanne (Senior play specialist)

"I really liked the snail. He's my favourite. He made me smile." Abby, 6 years



# Show just the tonic for child patients



CHARACTERS... Incy Wincy Spider, Snail and Miss Muffet

AN uplifting theatre show aims to put a smile on the faces of local poorly children at the Royal Oldham Hospital this afternoon.

Part of Peaceful Lion Productions Theatre for Hospitals Initiative, the performance will take place in the children's ward of the hospital. The heart-warming show, "Rhyming Capers", tells the adventure of a young snail who searches Nursery Rhyme Land seeking a rhyme to call his own.

Designed for children aged three to eight, the afternoon performance, which starts at 2.30pm, features a variety of songs, colourful characters and an inventive storyline. Royton-born Olle Fielding, artistic director of Peaceful Lion Productions, said: "Being in hospital can be a scary and lonely time for a child. Our performances aim to make that difficult time a little easier."

"Peaceful Lion's artistic mission is to ensure that all hospitalised children, their families and medical staff can engage in an uplifting and inclusive theatrical experience."

"To some, the performances will be their first experience of theatre." To support the project, Peaceful Lion Productions has launched a charitable giving campaign seeking £500 to allow it to continue its work without charging families or hospital trusts. Donations can be made at [www.givev.com/theatreforhospitals](http://www.givev.com/theatreforhospitals)

## In the press

"The youngsters were delighted with the performance, which featured songs, colourful characters and an inventive storyline"

Oldham Chronicle, May 2015



## Drama on the children's ward

INCY Wincy spider, Miss Muffet and even a snail stopped by The Royal Oldham Hospital's children's ward to put a smile on the faces of poorly children.

Peaceful Lion Productions brought its touring show "Rhyming Capers" to the ward as part of their Theatre for Hospitals Initiative.

The youngsters were delighted with the performance, which featured songs, colourful characters and an inventive storyline about a snail searching Nursery Rhyme land for a rhyme of his own.

To support the campaign and allow the group to continue performing in hospitals, visit [www.givev.com/theatreforhospitals](http://www.givev.com/theatreforhospitals)

INCY to meet you... Adam Bissa (15) is surprised by actors Alice Fankum, Nicola Rainford and Emma Bistock on the ward.

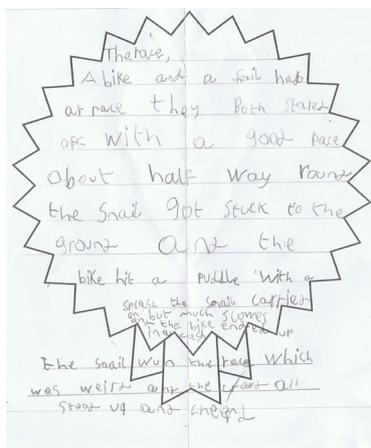
Our production of Rhyming Capers is designed to be staged within a limited space, with emphasis on character and song. It has been performed in, in patient play rooms, out patient waiting rooms, at the bed side, in side bays and on a dialysis unit. The plot is driven by a snail who is lost and confused in new surroundings, taking the audience on a journey to meet a range of different nursery rhyme characters. The aim is to build empathy with the audience and for children to identify with the individual situations.

10 hospitals visited

20 performances given

150 patients have seen a show

As part of the initiative we asked the children to respond to the performance by drawing a picture of writing a poem on a template of a medal. Here are some examples of the medals we received back.



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Peaceful Lion Productions is a registered charity in England and Wales. Charity Number 1161034.