



PINOCCHIO



Synopsis

A marionette named Pinocchio must prove himself worthy of becoming a real boy. His creator, Gepetto, warns Pinocchio of the snares and evils of the world. Pinocchio is granted a helper, a cricket named Jiminy, who serves as his conscience. Despite the admonitions of Jiminy, however, Pinocchio strays. He joins a puppet show, visits Pleasure Island, refuses to be obedient and lies -- with undeniable consequences. When Gepetto is swallowed by a whale, Pinocchio sees his last chance at redemption and selflessness.

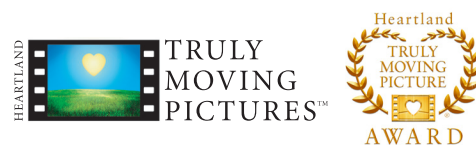
Discussion Questions

- After Gepetto creates Pinocchio, he wishes upon the wishing star that Pinocchio becomes a real boy. Have you ever wanted something so badly that you wished for it? What happened?
- Even though Gepetto gets his wish for Pinocchio to become a real boy, he goes through many struggles which demonstrate that getting what we wish for doesn't always make things easier. Have you ever wanted something and received it only for things to not work out like you imagined? What happened?
- In order to become a real boy, Pinocchio has to prove that he is brave, truthful and unselfish. He also has to learn the difference between right and wrong. As Pinocchio demonstrates, it's not always so easy to know the difference between right and wrong. Have you ever had a hard time determining right from wrong? What was the situation?
- How does Pinocchio prove that he is brave, truthful and unselfish? Can you give some examples of times when you were brave, truthful and unselfish? How did you feel about yourself when you demonstrated these qualities?



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- Like Jiminy Cricket, who are those people in your life who act as your conscience and help you learn right from wrong?
- Pinocchio struggles with who to listen to on Pleasure Island – his new friend or Jiminy Cricket. Have you ever had trouble picking between having fun with a friend and doing what you know is right?
- Pinocchio’s nose grows and grows with the lies he tells. Even though your nose doesn’t grow with each lie you tell, have you ever been caught in a lie? Why did you lie and what were the consequences?



Activity

- Geppetto makes lots of wonderful toys and puppets. There are lots of ways that you can also make puppets. Use popsicle sticks, construction paper, glue, markers and yarn to create stick puppets. You might also like to make sock puppets using some old, clean socks, yarn and fabric scraps for eyes and hair, and some scissors and glue to put it all together. Here is a Web site to help you with the process: www.daniellesplace.com/html/puppets.html

Get Involved

- Pinocchio needs to let his conscience be his guide and that’s where Jiminy Cricket steps in. Jiminy Cricket helps Pinocchio through some tough situations and helps him understand right from wrong in some cases. While none of us is as lucky to have Jiminy Cricket on our shoulder, helping us make decisions, we do have some important people in our life who teach us right from wrong. How can you get involved in someone’s life as a mentor, peer counselor, or coach to help impact their life and push them along the right path?

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