



Notes for teachers

About the Story

Snow Child is based on an old Russian folk tale. There are various versions of this story, including the one collected by Arthur Ransome as “The Little Daughter of the Snow”. Some end happily, some unhappily, but they all share the same basic premise; a childless couple build a little girl out of snow, and, miraculously, she comes to life...

But this defining moment of magic happens near the beginning of the story. So, what comes after the happy ending?

In most versions I read, I felt that the tale was largely told from the parents’ point of view. Reworking the story for tutti frutti, I was keen that it should be the Snow Child’s story, too. She’s the “daughter of the snow” a wild, free creature - and yet, something draws her to this couple and she chooses to become their daughter. All three of them willingly embark together on the journey of becoming a family; inevitably, they discover it’s not as easy as they’d hoped it would be.

At its heart, this Snow Child is about the challenges faced by both parents and children when a child is “different”. And after all, every child is “different” in his or her own way...

Emma Reeves

Themes and Resources

Key Themes: Being different and identity, Family and what makes a family, Environment - where you live and where you feel you belong, Following rules and conforming and seasons (in particular winter.)

Resources: In addition to the 55 minute performance, our online resources give an opportunity for teachers to further explore the ideas in the production encouraging creativity, enhancing emotional literacy, communication skills, storytelling, recalling and analysing the material they have seen. More pictures as well as set and costume designs can be found in the Images and Media pages of the website.

We'd love to see the results of your time please send us your pictures to: hello@tutti-frutti.org.uk

