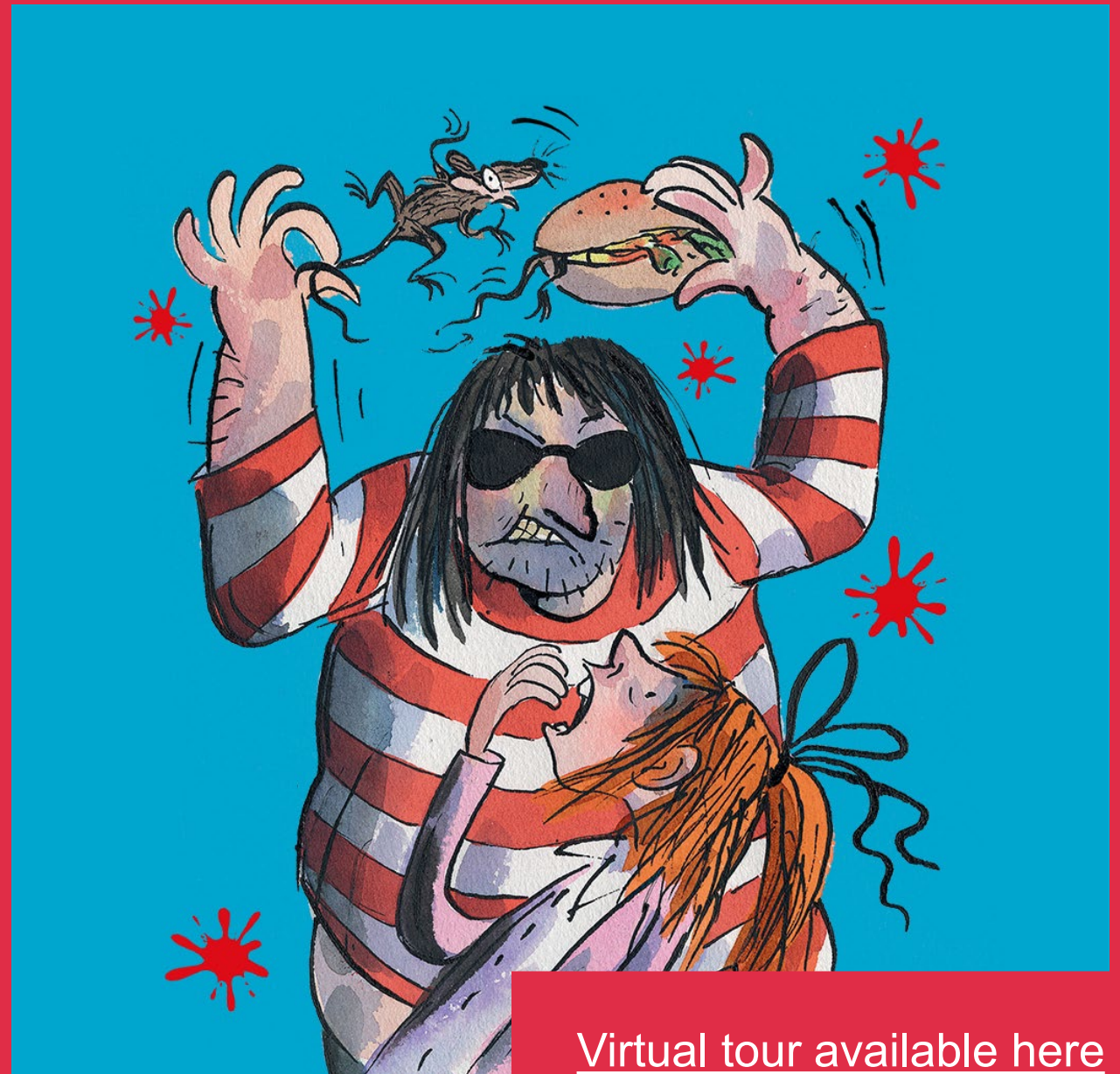


Ratburger

Pre performance visual story

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The story

Very soon you will be seeing a play called *Ratburger*.

The story comes from a book with the same name, by the author David Walliams.

It is about a girl named Zoe, who lives with her dad and stepmother.

She befriends a dancing rat named Dapper, and sets out to stop the burger shop owner Burt from turning rats into burgers.



Image credit: Peter Wallis

Going to the theatre

You will travel to the theatre with your parent, guardian or teacher.



Image credit: Alastair Bett

Entering the Foyer

The main entrance to the Theatre is via a large foyer. There is a ramp to the left which leads to a lift, or you can walk up the stairs.

At the top of the stairs, is the Box Office.



Image credit: Alastair Bett

The Box office

It might be busy when you arrive. You may wish to allow some extra time before the show or wear a pair of headphones if it's noisy.

Your parent, guardian or teacher will say hello to Theatre Royal staff. If you need help at any time, you can ask the people who work at the Box office.

Box office can help with lots of things, including First Aid or helping you find your parent, guardian or teacher if you get separated or lost.



Image credit: Alastair Bett

Theatre Royal

Ratburger is in the Theatre Royal.

There are ushers, who work for the Theatre Royal and are dressed in black clothes. Their job is to help keep you safe and help you find your seat.

It's very important that you listen to any directions they give you.



Image credit: Alastair Bett

During the Show

Wherever you are sitting for the performance, the show will start with an Acknowledgement of Country.

This will be a man's voice, speaking calmly, and the sound will be played through loudspeakers.

This lets us know that we need to pay attention and listen in.



Image credit: Rosie Hastie

During the Performance

Then, the lights will go down. This means the show is starting.

During the show, it's important to try and sit calmly and quietly, and watch what happens on the stage.

You will sit in your chair. There will be lots of other children and families in the audience.

The play goes for 60 minutes



Image credit: Jillian Mundy

During the Show there may be bright lights and loud noises

The people on stage (who are called actors) may pretend to be someone else, a character, and you might watch a story that is different from the normal things you see every day.

If you find anything upsetting or it gets too loud or bright, your parent, guardian or an usher can help.

It's important to remember that the actors are pretending, and they have carefully rehearsed these moments to stay safe.



Image credit: / *Wish*, Patch Theatre and *Gravity & Other Myths*. Photo: Daniel Boud

If you need a break, that's okay

There is no interval, but if you need to take a break during the show you can leave your seat and go out into the foyer.

An usher can help you find a quiet place.

Tell your parent, guardian or teacher and they can help too.

You can return to the theatre to watch the rest of the show whenever you are ready.



Image credit: Cassie Sullivan

The Set

When you go into the theatre you will see the set on the stage.

There will be some brick walls, a dumpster and a garage door covered in graffiti, and a screen with a projection of a rat.

It will be a little dark on the stage at the start, but it will get brighter when the show begins.



Image credit: Peter Wallis

The Characters

5 actors play different characters to tell the story in the play.

When you see the show, the actors that you see playing the characters might be different than the pictures below, but they will be wearing the same costumes.

There is also **Dapper** the Dancing Rat, who you will meet a few times in the play. Dapper is a **puppet**, and is operated by an actor.



Image credit: Peter Wallis



Image credit: Peter Wallis

Mr Grave



Burt



Tina



Image credit: Peter Wallis

At the end of the show

The show has finished when the lights go dark and people will clap to say thank you to the performers. Some might even cheer!

You can clap your hands if you want to. If it's too loud, you can cover your ears with your hands.

The actors on stage will take a bow.



Image credit: Peter Wallis

After the show

The ushers will let you know when it is time to leave the theatre.

You will leave the theatre with your parent, guardian or school group.



Image credit: Alastair Bett