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## Let's See a show!

### ON THEATRE ETTIQUETTE

Imagine that you practiced a long time to perform a magic trick for your parents. You worked really hard on it. When they came home, you had them sit on the couch and you prepared to show them what you had learned. How would you want them to act? Would you want them to talk to each other? Would you want them to get up in the middle to go to the bathroom? Probably not! The same thing is true at the theatre.

Artistic performances (like ballets) are different from other kinds of art (like movies) because once the performance is finished it is gone forever. The performers are there to perform just for you! For this reason, it is important to be respectful and pay attention, there is no instant reply at the theatre. Here are some Do's and Don'ts:

#### **DO:**

- \* Watch the dancers
- \* Listen to the music
- \* Look at the costumes and set designs
- \* Laugh when they see the dancers doing something funny
- \* Clap when the dancing has finished to show the dancers that they are enjoying the performance. It is customary to applaud when the dancers take a bow.

#### **DON'T**

- \* Talk or make noise because they might miss something important.
- \* Chew gum or eat because it is disruptive to others and makes a mess in the theatre.
- \* Leave your seat before the lights go on because this is very disruptive to their neighbors
- \* Bring cameras, ipods, or headphones to the theatre because this is disruptive to the dancers and other members of the audience.