

# The Happy Prince

## Show Info and Activity Pack

**Welcome to our production of The Happy Prince! The Happy Prince is a short story, written by Oscar Wilde in 1888. Our production features music and puppetry. We have also used our 'artistic license' to tweak some of the original story to make it more relevant for 21<sup>st</sup> century audiences. We hope you enjoy!**

### Synopsis

Once upon a time, there lived a Prince in a palace, unaware of the suffering of the poor people in the town. After his death, he lives in the form of a golden statue, which stands on a tall column at the edge of the city. He is known by the townspeople as the Happy Prince. His eyes are made of two blue sapphires, and on his hand is a ring with a red ruby. He spends his days witness to the town's poverty.

One day, a Swallow takes rest at the Prince's feet, and is surprised by the Prince's tears. The Prince is desperate to help the townspeople and, reluctantly at first, the Swallow agrees to help. He flies over the city, and delivers the Prince's ruby to a Seamstress, who has to work very hard to look after her son. Next, the Prince sacrifices one of his blue sapphire eyes to help a struggling writer. Then, he offers his second sapphire to a little Match Girl. Finally, he gives up all the gold on his statue body, which the Swallow spreads over the town, leaf by leaf.

Despite needing to leave before winter, the Swallow offers to be the Prince's eyes, now that he has none. The cold soon follows, and the Swallow and the Prince say their goodbyes. The Swallow uses his last few breaths to fly to the Prince and kiss him on the cheek, before falling to his death. The Prince dies of heartbreak.

The Mayor and the townspeople are disgusted by the dead bird and the ugliness of the statue, now without any gold or gems. They burn the remains in the furnace. Shortly after, the children of the town reminisce about their memories of the Prince, and the Swallow who helped to spread the Prince's wealth to the people most in need.

**As this is a theatrical adaptation, there are some differences from the original story written by Oscar Wilde. If you've read the original story, can you spot the differences?**

### Cast



**eleanor faye**  
*(they/them)*  
**Narrator**



**Gil Sidaway**  
*(he/him)*  
**Prince**



**Kaidyn Niall Hinds**  
*(he/him)*  
**Swallow**

### Creative Team

**Director and Script**

Joseph Winer *he/him*

**Music, Lyrics and Musical Director**

Alice Hope Wilson *they/them*

**Puppetry Director**

Jo Feijó *he/she*

**Puppetry Design & Build**

Jo Feijó and Alice Hope Wilson

**Set & Costume Designer**

Amy Yardley *she/her*

**Technical Stage Manager**

Elliott Sheppard *he/him*

**Producing Assistant**

Jo Walker *she/her*

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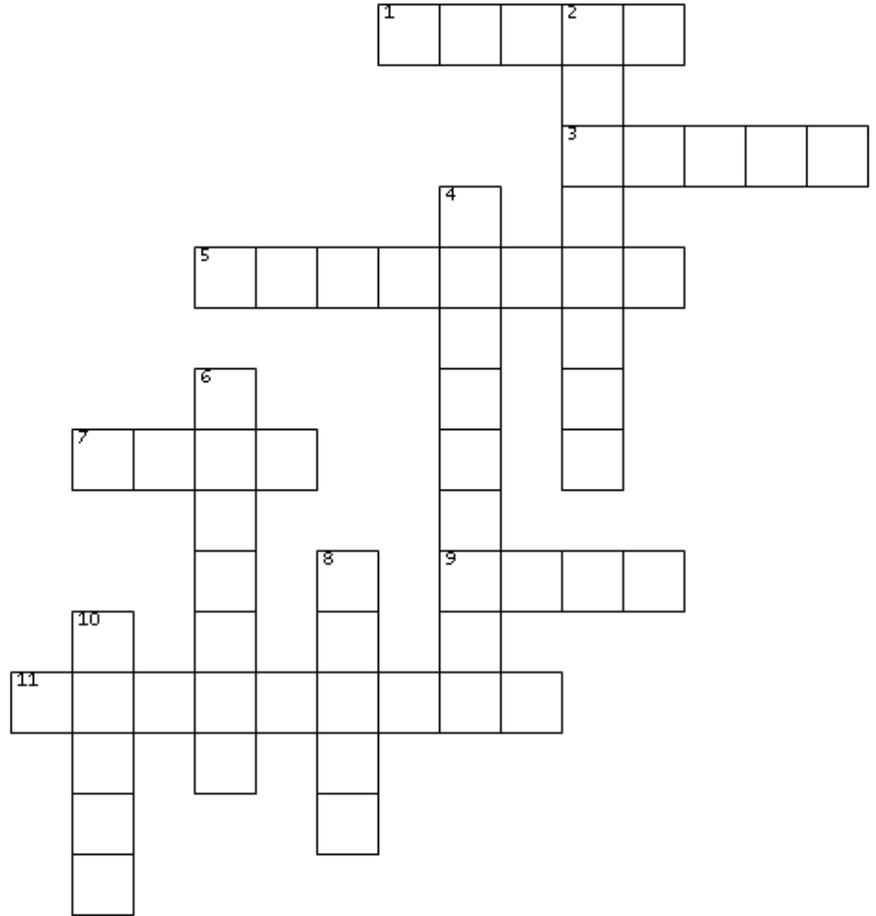
# The Happy Prince Puzzles

## ACROSS

1. An emotional word that people use to describe the Prince (6)
3. First name of the famous writer who wrote The Happy Prince (5)
5. A character in a play who helps tell the story to the audience (8)
7. A story told by actors, usually in a theatre (4)
9. The first gift from the Prince to the Seamstress; a red gemstone (4)
11. How the Prince feels; a synonym for weak or useless (9)

## DOWN

2. The introductory section of a book or play (8)
4. The Happy Prince had two of these blue gemstones for eyes (9)
6. The item sold by the little girl in the Happy Prince story; used to light a fire (7)
8. Surname of the famous writer who wrote The Happy Prince (5)
10. The compass direction the Swallow should be heading towards (5)



## Word Search

- Prince
- Swallow
- Seamstress
- Matchgirl
- Writer
- Gold
- Statue
- Mayor
- Sapphire
- Ruby
- Narrator
- Wilde

D	T	J	Y	M	R	W	X	L	X	W	J	E	U	R
S	C	Q	L	D	A	O	I	Q	G	R	G	A	U	H
E	U	T	A	T	S	T	Y	L	V	I	F	R	Q	L
G	O	U	V	N	F	Y	C	A	D	T	U	O	U	E
N	A	R	R	A	T	O	R	H	M	E	W	T	L	O
I	S	N	J	M	O	E	U	I	G	R	E	B	E	E
S	E	A	M	S	T	R	E	S	S	I	T	Z	C	R
V	T	R	Y	W	O	U	I	F	O	X	R	Y	N	I
O	Q	R	V	L	N	V	B	W	P	G	B	L	I	H
B	H	A	H	R	J	U	O	Y	O	U	A	P	R	P
S	Q	T	F	L	G	L	U	L	R	J	K	L	P	P
I	X	O	Q	D	L	W	D	N	Q	R	G	Q	T	A
R	M	R	Y	A	Q	W	O	G	H	S	U	I	R	S
Q	U	G	W	O	Y	H	D	B	G	Z	A	D	T	E
E	W	S	C	E	K	F	D	S	A	P	P	A	V	G