READ TO ACHIEVE!

UP UP AND AWAY

MAGICIAN LEIF DAVID

STUDY GUIDE

Ali K. Zam Productions - www.BCmagician.com
**Recent Testimonials for the “Up, Up and Away” Read to Achieve Magic Show**

“Leif puts on an amazing show that captivates all ages. On a personal level, the librarian in me loves how he incorporates literacy into the program, while the child in me loves, loves, loves the magic!”
Ardie Burnham, Okanagan Regional Library - Salmon Arm

“The children were excited and very attentive during the performance and enjoyed the upbeat atmosphere! The music really added to the show. Excellent performance! Would recommend Leif to everyone! Great job!!! Thanks!”
Glenda Livolsi, Okanagan Regional Library – Keremeos

“I love when the kids get to volunteer to help! Their reactions are priceless.”
Ashley Machum, Okanagan Regional Library – Kelowna

“I especially appreciated that you included magic featuring books, letters and reading. Perfect for a library performance!”
Glenna Hines, Okanagan Regional Library – Enderby

“A magical performance for both children and adults. Everyone was spellbound. Lots of smiles and laughter. Leif was very professional and a big hit with the audience.”
Eileen Veideman, Okanagan Regional Library – Sicamous

“Leif does such an amazing job! So entertaining, funny and engaging. Everyone- children and adults are thoroughly involved and entertained.”
Beverly Newell, Okanagan Regional Library – Mission

“Loved the reactions of the kids, their sparkling eyes and laughter.”
Cherie Hekkert, Okanagan Regional Library – Rutland

“Leif’s professionalism and performance was extraordinary. His program was amazingly entertaining for our family audience. We will be sure to recommend him for future events.”
Diana Rawlings, Okanagan Regional Library – Osoyoos

“He is such a huge fan of the library, he promotes reading and the library throughout the show. He keeps the kids totally involved and enthralled with the whole event. We have had him at the Library many times and would not hesitate to invite him back again.”
Dorothy Smith, Okanagan Regional Library – West Kelowna

“One of the children said ‘You are the best part of Summer!’”
Vicky White, Okanagan Regional Library – Oliver

For additional references visit www.BCmagician.com
When Leif was 8 years old, his uncle bought him a magic kit for Christmas. After learning all the tricks included in the kit, he made his way to his local library where he took out every book on magic that he could find. That’s when he discovered a passion for both reading and magic – he knew what he wanted to be when he grew up!

During elementary school Leif began honing his craft by performing at daycare’s and senior centers, free of charge. Throughout high school he continued to master his craft by performing at local festivals, birthday parties and corporate events.

After graduation Leif attended Okanagan College where he completed a diploma in Telecommunications and Networking Engineering. Even though he enjoyed working as an engineer, his passion for performing was stronger than ever. In 2007 Ali K. Zam Productions was born.

Once again books became his mentors. He began studying business, marketing and magic. Since then he has become one of the most sought-after entertainers in British Columbia, performing over 140 shows annually. He’s been featured in local newspapers, radio and appeared on National Television. His close up magic and stage show has won him international awards and recognition.

Now Leif hopes to encourage the next generation to pursue their interests through reading.

To learn more about Leif David visit: www.BCmagician.com
**Show Description**

“Up, Up and Away: Read to Achieve”

Encourage your students to follow their passion with our educational assembly program “Up, Up and Away: Read To Achieve.” Your students will take to the skies, voyage through space, follow authors to other worlds and experience the joy of reading through magic!

Our 45 minute long program includes comedy, audience participation, puppets, juggling, and of course, lots of amazing magic. This show is specifically designed to highlight the importance of learning to read for younger students, while encouraging older students to continue reading the books they love and discovering new ones! During this entertaining and educational presentation, Leif David will explain how he got his start in magic when he was only 8 years old and the role his local library played in the development of his present day career. This show is guaranteed to get your students excited about reading!
What is Magic?

Magic is a performing art where the impossible appears to be happening but actually isn’t. The magician accomplishes this by using Sleight of Hand, and Optical illusions.

Sleight of Hand

Sleight of Hand is when a magician secretly manipulates an object without the audience noticing.

1. Misdirection:
   To lead attention away from a secret move

2. Simulation:
   To give the impression that something has happened that has not

3. Load:
   To secretly move an object to where it is needed

4. Steal:
   To secretly obtain a needed object

5. Ditch:
   To secretly dispose of an unneeded object

6. Switch:
   To secretly exchange one object for another

7. Palm:
   To hold an object in an apparently empty hand

What is an Optical Illusion?

An optical illusion tricks the brain into seeing something differently than what actually exists. Optical Illusions occur because incorrect information gets sent from our eyes to our brain.
Classroom Discussion Questions:

1. What are some ways you could become better at reading? 
   (Practice by reading every day. Reading to a friend or family. Reading for fun. 
   Reading different types of books. Rereading books a second time or reading new books.)
2. Are there other things to read besides books? 
   (Food menu, magazines, road signs, maps, comic books)
3. What are some books that you like to read for fun? 
4. Do you ever read outside school for fun? 
5. Are there books about your hobbies and interests? 
6. Does your school library, or your community library have those books? 
7. Have you ever visited your community library before? 
8. Do you have a library card? 
9. Is there a certain time when you always read? 
   If not, is there a good time when you could read every day? 
   (Before bed time, after school, after dinner, on the weekend.)

Learn the Alphabet Backwards:

Can you say the alphabet forwards? Now how about backwards? The easiest way to learn the alphabet backwards is by memorizing this story about a Russian Warrior.

ZY was an X-Warrior his wife gave him a coupon. 
“VUTS(what’s) R(are) QPON(coupon) for” he asks? 
“For MLK(milk) JIHGs(jugs) to FED(feed) the Cute Baby Alligators”

ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

The first letter of each word, or a short word turned into a combination of letters, reminds you what letter comes next. By memorizing this story and visualizing it in your head, it will help you say the alphabet backwards. It will take some time to memorize the story and the combination of letters.
Classroom Activities

Flying Paper Clips:

**Items needed:** Two paperclips and piece of paper measuring approximately 15cm x 10cm or you can printout the Flying Paper Clips Bookmark Template on the next page.

**Effect:** Two paperclips attached to a bookmark, a piece of paper, or a bill magically link together in mid-air.

**Method:** Fold the paper into an “S” shape and attach two paperclips as shown. Make sure that the paper clip is only clipping two layers of paper and not three. Tell your audience that the paperclips will be launched into the air and in the middle of their acrobatic flight will come together and impossibly link... right in mid-air!

Pull the two ends of the bill tightly and in opposite directions. The paperclips will come together and magically link in the air all by themselves. Now you just need to catch the paperclips to show them linked together and take your bow!

Printable Bookmark Show Souvineer:

On the next two pages you will find a printable bookmark for students after seeing the “Up, Up and Away: Read to Achieve” educational assembly program. Audience volunteers that were selected to come on stage will have already received a copy of this bookmark.

**Important:** Do not use heavy cardstock for the bookmarks if you plan to perform the Flying paper Clips magic trick with them. Instead, you will need to use just regular printer paper.
Pull the two ends of the bill tightly and in opposite directions. The paperclips will come together and magically link in the air by themselves. Now you just need to catch the paperclips to show them linked together and take your bowl! 

Fold this paper into an 'S' shape and attach two paperclips as shown. Pull your audience that the middle of their acrobatic flight will come together and impossibly link, right in mid-air!

Pull the two ends of the bill tightly and in opposite directions. The paperclips will come together and magically link in the air by themselves. Now you just need to catch the paperclips to show them linked together and take your bowl! 

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Aircraft: 387.7
Jokes: 793.27
Birds: 598
Planets: 523.4
Juggling/Magic: 793.8
Painting: 750
Biographies: 042

Take a trip to the library and visit these sections to learn more about what you saw during the magic show.
Jumping Rubber Band:

**Items needed:** A small rubber band or hair elastic for each student.

**Effect:** You place a rubber band on two of your fingers and close your hand into a fist. When you open your hand again the elastic has jumped across onto your other two fingers!

**Method:** Put a rubber band around your first and second finger. (Picture: #1) When you close your fist you secretly pull the elastic and put all your fingers inside the band (Picture: #2). Make sure the audience doesn't see this part. Tell your audience that the rubber band will jump across to your other two fingers. When you open your hand the band will jump across automatically. (Picture: #3)

Watch the video online to learn how to perform this trick: www.BCmagician.com/JumpingRubberBand/

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The Magic Grid:

**Directions:** Draw the image (Picture: #4) on the classroom blackboard then read the directions out loud. Get the class to follow along.

1. Focus on any circle.
2. Move right or left to the closest square.
3. Move up or down to the closest circle.
4. Move diagonally to the nearest square.
5. Move right or down to the closest circle.
6. Did you end up on the number 11 circle? Good job!

**Classroom Activity:** Discuss how it doesn’t matter where you start. Demonstrate by starting on different numbers.
Two String Restoration:

**Items needed:** Yarn and safety scissors.

**Effect:** First you display two strings. Place the ends of the strings into your hand then close your hand. The ends are gently pulled and the string is restored!

**Method:** First you will need to find string that is made up of smaller “strings”. Most yarns will work perfectly for this trick.

Cut off a piece of string then fold the string in half to find the middle. At this middle point pull the different strands of the string apart then twist them together. Yarn will be made up of 4 stands, so take 2 of them and twist them together and take the other two and twist them together.

If you hold the string at the spot that creates the “X” it will create the illusion that you are holding two strings. (Picture: #5) Now if you place the ends into your hand and pull it will restore back into a single string.

*Watch the video online to learn how to perform this trick:* [www.BCmagician.com/TwoStringRestoration/](http://www.BCmagician.com/TwoStringRestoration/)
**Performance Technical Requirements:**

**Setup time:** 45 minutes prior to the students entering the gymnasium.

**Tear down:** 30 minutes after the students have left the gymnasium.

**Performance area:** Even if there is a stage available, it is preferred to have to show on the same level as the children because of the large amount of interaction during the show. A clear space of 20 feet wide x 15 feet deep is ideal. Everything required for the performance will be provided (Unless otherwise discussed) including a backdrop, banner stands, iPod, lavaliere microphone, and professional sound system.

**Technical Requirements:** A nearby power outlet. One chair. Easy access to load equipment into the venue.

**Changing Rooms:** Change rooms are not required, but access to the staff washroom would be preferred.

**Emcee Instructions:**

**Before the show begins:** A teacher should welcome everyone to the show, get the children settled, and explain the audience expectations for the show.

**Introduction:** “Boys and girls the magician you are about to see has been performing for over 19 years. He started when he was only 8 years old by taking out books on magic from the library. Let’s have a warm welcome for magician Leif David!

**After the show:** A teacher should return to the stage and say “Let’s have another round of applause for our performer Leif David”. At this point the students may be dismissed.

**Audience Expectations:**

The audience is expected to stay seated for the entire show. Children are encouraged to participate verbally when prompted, raise their hands when volunteers are being selected, and to clap their hands. Teachers and students will be selected as volunteers during the show.

Interaction during the show is encouraged, but if a child starts being disruptive then a teacher should intervene.

**Show Evaluation:**

After the performance a show evaluation should be filled out. This will be emailed to the school after the show or can be filled out online at: http://www.bcmagician.com/evaluation/

**Contact:**

Ali K. Zam Productions featuring Magician Leif David

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