



Kids Stuff

HAPPY
VALENTINE'S DAY



Hawthorne students perform "The Lion King"

By ANGELA
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Children flood into the cafeteria. They grab furry hoods, headbands with lion ears and spotted fabric from a cardboard box.

Suddenly, the boys and girls of Hawthorne Elementary in Everett transform into the wild beasts of the African savanna. They are preparing for Disney's "The Lion King" kids edition featuring the third, fourth and fifth grade actors. The show's coming for one night only Valentine's Day on the big stage at the Everett Civic Auditorium.

Zebras, giraffes, antelopes and elephants take their places on stage. Some hold painted wood figures of exotic birds and other creatures. Then, they open their jaws, beaks and trunks, and suddenly everyone watching is swept into the fantasy as they sing about the

circle of life.

They raise their new prince, a handmade baby lion named Simba, in the air and the adventure begins.

It's taken the young actors more than three months of practicing to put on the spectacle.

Twin brothers Aiden and Aaron Sterling, both 8, play buddies Simba and Timon, a wisecracking meerkat.

For Aaron, the fighting and dancing are both exciting but he loves singing "Hakuna Matata" the most. The title of the cheery song means "no worries" in Swahili. For Aiden, having a funny role and a dramatic stampede scene are his favorite parts.

Sariah Minnott, 9, is having so much fun playing the fiery tempered hyena Shenzi that she acts like her at home, too, she says.

"I've always wanted to be a famous actor," says 10-year-old Janelle Sepulveda, who

plays the young version of Simba. She loves getting to have fun practicing and making her character "really playful and really curious."

Playing the evil leader of the lions is Ryan Barton as Scar.

"It's been kind of nerve wracking," the 10-year-old admits. But you'd be nervous too if you knew by the end of the show your nephew Simba would overthrow you as king and your own followers would kill you after your defeat.

Despite his fate, Barton encourages all kids to try out acting. This was his first show and it's very exciting, he says. "Especially if they're shy, they should try overcoming their fears," he says.

The show is full of catchy songs you might find yourself singing along to like "I Just Can't Wait to be King," plus plenty of battles and lots of laughs.

Whether you root for Scar



Doug Ramsay photo

Scar, played by Ryan Barton, 10, (left) plots to overthrow the Lion King with the help of his hyena henchmen.

or Simba, look forward to an exciting night.

Like the cast says, "Our teeth and ambitions are bared, be prepared!"

"The Lion King" kids edition plays one night only, Valentine's Day, Feb. 14 at the Everett Civic Auditorium at 2415 Colby Ave. The show

runs approximately 35 minutes and admission is free.

Fun at your local library

Snohomish Library 311 Maple Avenue

• Balloon Towers: Feb. 8 ~ Using only balloons and tape, how tall of a tower can you build? Work in teams on this fun engineering challenge. 4pm

• LEGO Lab: Feb. 23 ~ Come and build to your heart's content using LEGO®, Roilco straws, K'NEX, and more! 10am

• Crash Test Dummies: March 1 ~ Make a contraption that can save your crash test dummy from certain doom! 4pm

• Origami Hour: March 8 ~ Come and fold paper into complex shapes and cool characters. Learn the basics, or show off your mad folding skills. 4pm

Monroe Library 1070 Village Way

• Minecraft Build Challenge – Mage Towers: Feb. 12 ~ Join your fellow Minecrafters and put your mage tower building skills to the test! Space is limited on a first come, first serve basis. For grades 4-12. 3:30pm

• Ick-tivity Club – Polymer

Party: Feb. 19 ~ Moving past slime, you'll create something different with school glue. Use the science of non-Newtonian liquid to make bouncy balls and stress balls. For ages 9 and up. 3:30pm

• Bubble Lab: March 5 ~ Make your own bubble solution, explore several bubble experiments, and answer the question: Just what exactly are bubbles?! For ages 9 and older. 3:30pm

• Get Literary @ the Library – WORD! Games: March 12 ~ Join in for giant mad libs, word card games and play to win a round of Countdown! For ages 8 and older. 12:30pm.

• Minecraft Build Challenge – How Do You Zoo?: March 12 ~ Join your fellow Minecrafters and put your stellar zoo building skills to the test! Space is limited on a first come, first serve basis. For grades 4-12. 3:30pm

• Ick-tivity Club – Chemical Reactions: March 19 ~ Tired of the same boring baking soda volcano? Create new reactions, like elephant toothpaste, and test other

acids with baking soda for the volcano effect. For ages 9 and up. 3:30pm

Mukilteo Library 4675 Harbour Pt. Blvd.

• Free Sewing Class for Kids: Feb. 16 ~ Learn to sew a button on felt to create a bookmark or a bracelet to take home. Younger children may stuff and sew a small item to keep. All material, needles, thread and buttons will be provided. 2pm

• Bricks 4 Kidz – A Pirate's Quest: March 9 ~ It's a pirate's life for you at this fun building event using LEGO® bricks. Build a motorized pirate ship, a helm and an anchor, as you batten down the hatches and prepare for mutiny. For ages 5-12. 2pm

Everett Library 2702 Hoyt Ave.

• Brick Builders Club: Feb.

14, 21, 28 and March 7 ~ The library provides the LEGOS, you provide the imagination. For ages 6 to 12. 4pm

• Insect Safari: Feb. 16 ~ See more than 2,100 insects from around the world – dazzling butterflies and moths, fantastically shaped beetles, grasshoppers, bees and more with entomologist Don Ehlen! For ages 4 and up. 2pm

Sultan Library 319 Main Street

• Crafts from Old CDs: Feb. 12 ~ Turn hard-to-recycle CDs into fab or funky objects of art. 4:30pm

• Stop-Motion Movie Making: March 12 ~ Stop-Motion animation is a time lapse technique that physically manipulates the object that appears to move

on their own. Come plan and shoot your own LEGO stop-motion movie for ages 8 and up. 4:30pm

Lake Stevens Library 1804 Main Street

• Pacific Science Center Planetarium: Feb. 15 ~ Experience the planetarium and join in the telling of cultural myths from around the world related to the stars and constellations. Caregivers required. Please register children only. This will be at the Lake Stevens Boys and Girls Club, 1609 E. Lakeshore Dr. 10am, 10:30am, 11am, 11:30am and 12:30pm

Daddy Daughter Dance

This dance is for children of all ages. Dress fancy and save the memory with a free commemorative photos!

Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required under the father's name. Cost is \$34; each additional child is \$6.

You can choose Friday or Saturday, Feb. 8 or 9 from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. The dance will be held at the Cascade View Hall at the Carl Gipson Senior Center, 3025 Lombard Ave. in Everett. 425-257-8300 ext. 2.