

YO, VIKINGS!

MAY 18-20, 2018

BOOK AND LYRICS BY **MARCUS STEVENS**

MUSIC BY **SAM WILLMOTT**

BASED ON THE BOOK BY **JUDY SCHACHNER**

The story of Emma Katz, the fiercest Viking in Swarthmore, PA,
and her quest for real adventure. For all ages.

“Yo, Vikings!” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

PLAY SUMMARY:

Emma Katz has an amazing imagination... so amazing, it gets carried away sometimes. She practically *becomes* whatever she's studying, whether it's an amoeba, a squash, Benjamin Franklin, or something else! When Emma is assigned the topic of **Erik the Red** for a school project, you can imagine her classmates' concern. Naturally, Emma jumps right into the world of Vikings and discovers a Viking connection in her own town! With the help of the local librarian, Emma tries to complete her project and do something to help her community. If only she can convince everyone her imagination isn't playing tricks on them again!

YO, VIKINGS!

- ❖ Vikings sailed huge distances from their home in Scandinavia between AD 800 and 1066 to raid and plunder, but they also traded with people from other countries.
- ❖ Vikings travelled to America some 500 years before Christopher Columbus!
- ❖ The name "Viking" comes from the Old English word for "pirate".
- ❖ Vikings didn't wear horned helmets! Most of how we picture Vikings comes from **romanticized** stories from the 19th century.

Activity: Adventure Awaits!

Even though Viking longships could be over 120 feet long, their oars and square sails helped with steering, and their narrow hulls and shallow bottoms made landing on beaches a breeze.

Make your own longship using templates for **pro**w, sail, oars, and shields (on last page of this guide). Or create your own designs!

SUPPLIES:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juice or milk carton | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardboard or empty cereal box | <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape or hot glue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bamboo skewers or drinking straws | <input type="checkbox"/> Hole punch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Markers or paint | |
1. Cut the carton in half long-ways. Use one half for your boat.
 2. **Prow:** Cut out 2 dragon heads and glue them together at the "peak" of the boat
 3. **Sail:** Cut out and attach to a skewer. Secure to the bottom of the boat.
 4. **Oars:** Punch holes in the sides of the boat for skewers/straws. Cut out and attach paddles.
 5. **Shields:** Use to decorate the outsides of the boat.



Erik the Red: Famous for his red hair and beard; Erik the Red founded the first Norse settlement in Greenland.

Romanticized: to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something.

Prow: the portion of a ship's bow above water

LITERARY LINK:



JUDY SCHACHNER is a children's book author best known for the Skippyjon Jones series and Yo, Vikings!. Yo, Vikings! is based on a true story: Ms. Schachner's daughter Emma loved Viking mythology so much that she convinced a local Leif Erickson Society to deliver a real Icelandic longship to the family's backyard in Swarthmore, PA!



Emma Schachner and friends



MARCUS STEVENS lived in Swarthmore, PA as a kid, and remembers seeing the Schachner's backyard longship on his way to school! Years later, Mr. Stevens was hired to write a big children's musical for Upper Darby Summer Stage. Inspired by Yo, Vikings! (which was given to him years before by Ms. Schachner herself!), Mr. Stevens collaborated with Sam Willmott, whom he met at the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop in New York, to write Yo, Vikings! the musical.



SAM WILLMOTT is an award-winning musical theater composer, lyricist and bookwriter, and a teaching artist with Lincoln Center's Songwriting in the Schools Program. Yo, Vikings! premiered at Upper Darby Summer Stage in 2010. The show was a finalist for the Richard Rodgers Award (2011) and a Weston Playhouse New Musical Award nominee (2012).

Activity: Someone Like Me

Research shows it's important for kids to have at least one stable, caring adult in their life. Emma finds a **kindred spirit** in Mr. Sigurd, who doesn't laugh at her or get exasperated about her wild imagination.

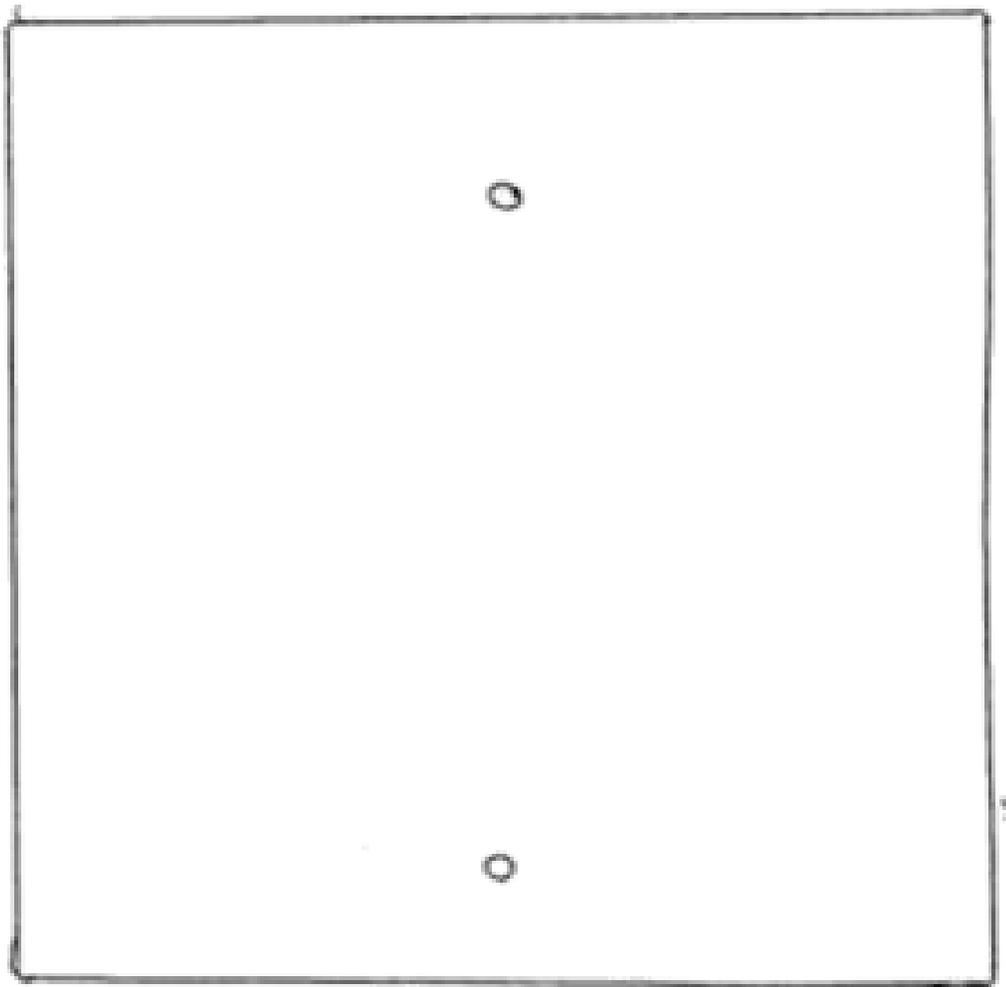
How would you thank an adult who helped you achieve a goal, learn a new skill, or encouraged you in some way? Use this notecard for your message.



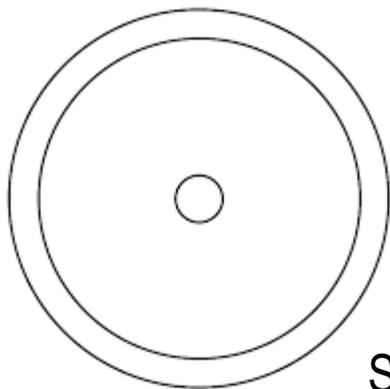
Kindred spirit: a person whose interests or attitudes are similar to one's own.



Prow



Sail



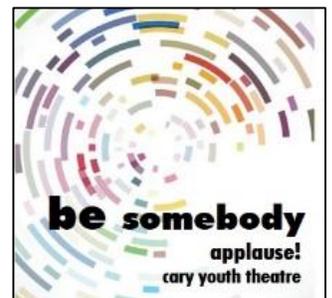
Shield



Paddles

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- ❖ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judith_Byron_Schachner
- ❖ <https://www.samuelfrench.com/a/103221/marcus-stevens>
- ❖ <http://www.samwillmott.com/bio>
- ❖ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikings>
- ❖ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Longship>
- ❖ <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/10-facts-about-the-vikings/>
- ❖ <http://happybrownhouse.com/viking-ship-craft-for-kids/>
- ❖ <http://madebytoya.wordpress.com/2014/04/29/juice-carton-viking-longboat/>
- ❖ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erik_the_Red
- ❖ <https://www.breakingcharactermagazine.com/yo-vikings-a-real-adventure/>
- ❖ <https://www.greetingsisland.com/preview/cards/gratitude-circle/87-11001>



More at www.townofcary.org (search "Applause") or (919) 465-4792.

Ticket information at (919) 462-2055.