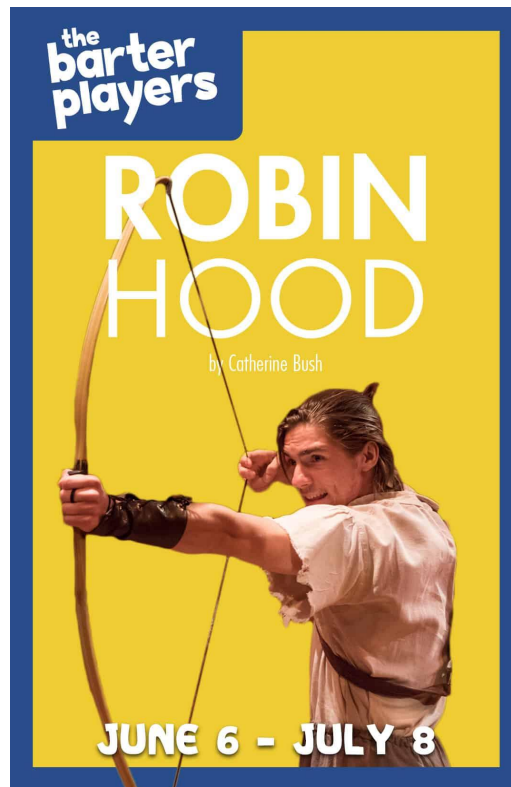


the  
**barter  
players**



**Social Narrative for:**

***Robin Hood***

By Catherine Bush

Barter's Smith Theatre  
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I'm going to see a play called *Robin Hood* at Barter's Smith Theatre! This play is about a young man named Robin who wants to help his fellow citizens by robbing the rich to give to the poor.



Seeing a play is like seeing a movie. The play will be performed by people right in front of me on stage. They are called actors, and the people they are playing are called characters.



Once arriving at the theatre, I will go into the lobby where I will get my tickets. If I am early, I can wait in the lobby or lounge. Other people will also be waiting for the show to begin.



Next, I'll enter the theatre and choose a seat for the show. I'll sit in a seat and wait for the show to start. Other people will be doing the same thing. We will all wait together for the performance to begin.



Just before the performance begins, some of the actors will come out to talk about things we use in the play that help us tell the story, like props, costumes, lights, and sound.



If at any point during the show I have a question or want to leave, I will ask for help quietly. There will be ushers who can help me, too. An usher is someone in a tan vest who works at the theatre.



If anything ever gets too loud I can put on my ear protection or cover my ears with my hands.



I'll know the performance is about to begin when the lights dim around me and someone on stage makes an announcement. After the announcement the lights will change again and I'll know the play is about to start.



At the beginning of the play, lots of people come out and sing about Sherwood Forest, where the play takes place. We then meet Robin, and he receives a bow.



Robin tries to shoot the Great Stag, a very large deer, but he misses. Robin is determined to keep hunting the Great Stag. There are no real arrows used in the play. Robin acts like he is shooting an arrow from his bow, and everyone imagines seeing the arrow fly through the air.



Meanwhile, King Richard announces that England is going to war. He will be leading the army into battle, and his younger brother, Prince John, will rule England while he is away.



Prince John orders the Sheriff of Nottingham to have the most luxurious hunting lodge in the world constructed for him. He summons the Royal Architect and Carpenter to draw plans and build it.



The Royal Bookkeeper arrives to tell Prince John that there is not enough money to build this hunting lodge. Prince John decides to double the taxes for all citizens in order to fund the construction of his hunting lodge.



Nottingham visits every village in the kingdom and forces the peasants to pay the tax. Many of the peasants do not have enough money to pay the tax, so Nottingham takes away their homes



Friar Tuck helps the peasants by leading them to Sherwood Forest, where his sister Rose and nephew Robin live. He knows they will provide food for the villagers.



Nottingham comes to Sherwood Forest to collect taxes, and discovers that Robin has broken a law by hunting without permission. Nottingham goes to arrest Robin. Rose tries to protect Robin, and hits Nottingham. Nottingham then arrests Rose and has her imprisoned in the castle's dungeon. *Even though the characters fight, the actors are safe and it is all pretend.*



Friar Tuck rushes to Robin and informs him that his mother, Rose, has been arrested, and that Nottingham plans to arrest Robin as well. Friar Tuck and Robin decide to hide deep in the forest while they make a plan to rescue Rose.



Friar Tuck and Robin meet a man named Little John while trying to cross a bridge that is wide enough for only one man to pass. Little John hits Robin off the bridge with his staff. Then Friar hits Little John off the bridge. *Even though the characters fight, the actors are safe and it is all pretend.*



Little John reveals that he also lost his home because of Nottingham and has nothing left. Robin invites Little John to join him and Friar Tuck, as they plan to rescue Rose.



Meanwhile, back at the castle, Prince John finds out he is out of money again and cannot finish his hunting lodge. Nottingham suggests Prince John marry a young maiden named Marian. She is very wealthy and her money could allow Prince John to finish the hunting lodge. Prince John agrees and plans to marry Marian.



Back in Sherwood Forest, Robin, Friar Tuck, and Little John encounter the Great Stag. Robin successfully shoots the Great Stag with his bow and arrow. *Even though it looks like the Great Stag gets hurt, the actors are safe and it is all pretend.*



Suddenly, a young boy named Will Scarlet runs into Robin, Friar Tuck and Little John. Will explains he has also lost everything because of cruel, rich people like Prince John. Will's mother was sick with fever, and he tried to get help from some wealthy citizens. They refused to help, and his mother died that night.



In order to stop this kind of cruelty happening again, Robin decides they should rob from the rich to give to the poor. Will decides Robin needs an outlaw name and chooses "Robin Hood." Friar Tuck, Little John, and Will Scarlet will be called his Merry Men.



Prince John takes a carriage ride with Marian and tries to kiss her. She rejects him, and refuses his marriage proposal. Suddenly, Robin Hood and his Merry Men surround the carriage and rob them. Marian asks them to take her hostage, so she can escape Prince John. Prince John vows to get revenge on Robin Hood.



Robin Hood, Marian, and the Merry Men meet with a group of beggars, and give the beggars all the money they took from Prince John. Marian decides she wants to help rescue Rose from Prince John's dungeon. She will pretend she wants to marry Prince John, steal the key to the dungeon, and free Rose.



Robin thanks her, and Marian kisses him. They have fallen in love.



Prince John and Nottingham catch Marian trying to help Rose, and they decide to have both women publicly executed. They believe Robin will try to rescue them, and they plan to kill him as well. *Even though it may seem dangerous, the actors are safe and it is all pretend.*



Robin and his Merry Men do come to rescue Rose and Marian. Robin shoots two arrows at the same time, cutting down the ropes around their necks and freeing the women. Prince John grabs Friar Tuck, and threatens to kill him.



All of a sudden, King Richard appears and stops Prince John. King Richard wanted Prince John to treat all the people in the kingdom with kindness, not cruelty. King Richards promises to return all the money to the villagers, and he has Prince John and Nottingham locked up in the dungeon.



King Richard makes Little John the new Sheriff, with Will Scarlet as his Deputy. Robin Hood asks if he may become the Royal Gamekeeper of Sherwood Forest. The play ends with Robin and Marian getting married.



The play is about 45 minutes long. If at any point during the show I think something is funny I can laugh. If I ever think the actors did a good job I can clap. I'll know the play is over because people around me will start clapping their hands, and I can clap too if I want. Then the lights will come all the way back up, and I can leave the theatre.

## CHARACTERS IN *ROBIN HOOD*

Here are the names and photos of the characters you'll see in *Robin Hood*!

### ROBIN HOOD



### ROSE



**KING RICHARD**



**PRINCE JOHN**



## THE GREAT STAG



## FRIAR TUCK



**SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM**



**LITTLE JOHN**



**WILL SCARLET**



**MARIAN**

