

## *Cat Ninelives in Deepest Trubble*

CAT NINELIVES IN DEEPEST TRUBBLE is one of Walking Forward's most highly regarded and popular shows. It is a funny and entertaining show that delivers within the colourful plot important Road Safety messages. Aimed at 5-9 years of age, Cat Ninelives hits the street with a story packed full of fun, music, dance and madcap characters.

The spectacle of theatre is an ideal tool for making children aware of the dangers of the road and with the minimum of disturbance to the school a truly magical experience is created.

### **The Play**

It's Cat's birthday and she's just been given her latest present, a brand new scooter. But there's a problem: common sense never came in the box!

Her street-cred attitude lands her in Deepest Trubble and with the clock ticking, Cat, along with the audience, goes on a quest to find the answers to leading a safer lifestyle on the road. Only the correct answers will lead her safely home!



The play has a very professional top end feel to it. This is not a typical TIE production of old with two actors dressed in black, a rusty car and a puppet. Walking Forward insists that all its productions are polished and professional, incorporating high quality performers, set and equipment. The production includes:

- 3 professional actors

- Full story book style set
- Full portable theatre lighting
- Auto cue mini disc sound cues system
- Quality costumes, wigs and props

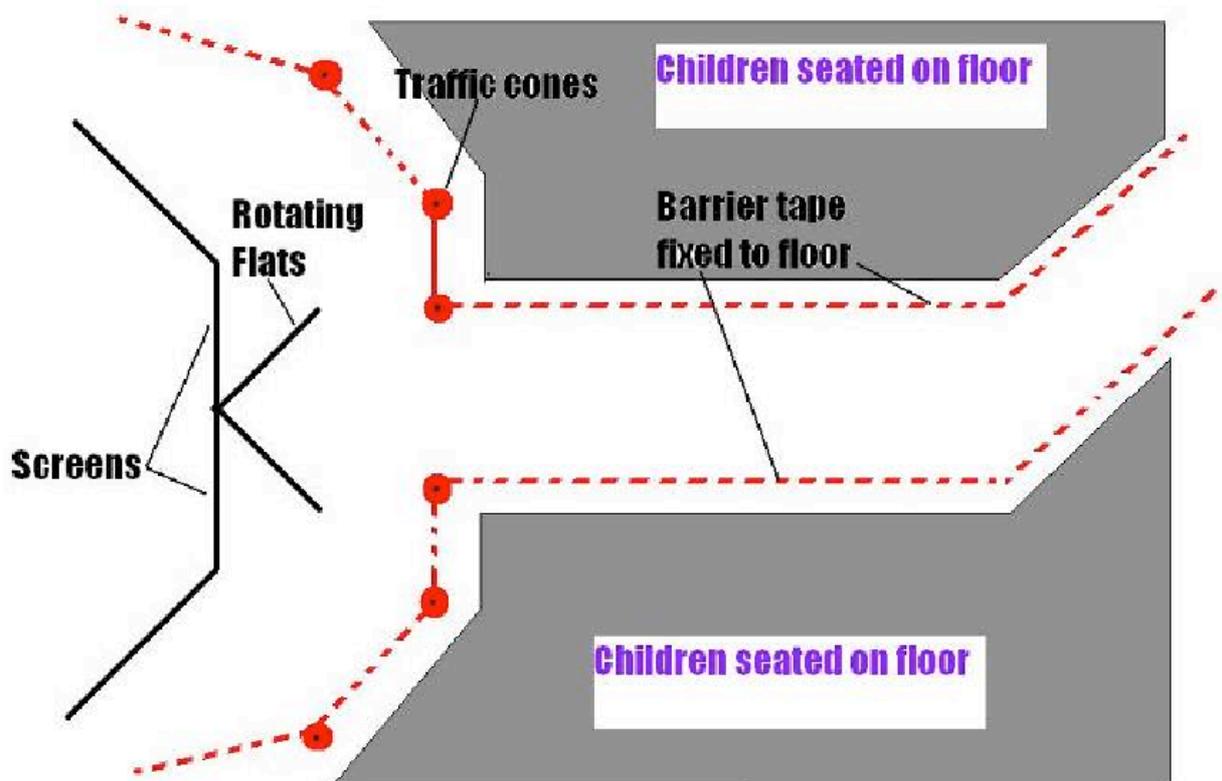
The play lasts approximately 50 minutes

Show times within schools should always be booked for 10am and 2pm starts. Although this may not always be viable we strongly recommend that that these are the options given to schools upon booking. It simply allows the actors enough time for travelling to and from each school safely and calmly.

### Key objectives and Messages

The fun production aims to promote the craft of Road Safety and covers topics such as cycle safety, pedestrian responsibility and above all, common sense.

### Plan of Set and Venue requirements



Get-in times should allow 1 hour to set up and 3/4 of an hour to dismantle, tidy and distribute back up materials. Our transit type van is approximately 18 ft in length. Therefore access should be clear and as close to the chosen venue as possible. Some of our equipment is heavy and awkward and for that reason, locations on ground level and wide doors are advantageous. Tea, coffee or refreshments are always greatly appreciated during the set up and after the performance.

## **Staging**

CAT NINELIVES has the flexibility to perform in all circumstances. No show has ever been cancelled since Walking Forward's creation in 1992, due to the venue. The show can be performed to any number of children - the only stipulation being that they can see. Generally speaking, the better the environment the easier it is to view the plays at their best. The ideal situation is a purpose built theatre with comfortable raked seating, full blackout facilities and a dressing room. But we're realists. Life is never that easy!

There is, however, a guideline for delivering the show to its optimum dramatic impact:

- A cleared space 25 feet x 25 feet is generally required with access to 240 volt power sockets. There should be sufficient sockets on separate ring mains to allow for powerful portable theatre lights and sound equipment.
- A smoke machine is used to create atmosphere as well as adding to characters' costumes. This shouldn't interfere with the school's smoke detectors but if the school is worried about setting off alarms the actors will not use it.
- Lights illuminate the playing area from around 10 feet from the stage area. For this reason black out facilities are advantageous - but not essential.
- PA equipment, costumes and props are housed behind the screens.

At times there are loud noises, stage smoke and mysterious characters. Most of the children love these, but we leave it to the discretion of the school as to its suitability for younger and special needs pupils.

## **Teachers Worksheets**

There is a pack containing five pupil worksheets with accompanying teachers notes that compliment the show. These look at some of the Road Safety issues raised in the play. The worksheets are intended to be used within Key Stages 1 & 2, but individual teachers will need to decide on the suitability their students. English and Welsh language versions of the worksheets are available on the website on the Cat Ninelives page. The direct URL address is: <http://walkingforward.co.uk/catninelives/WorksheetsKeyStage2.pdf>

## **Evaluation**

Walking Forward have run a successful evaluation programme with TfL during the last six years of production. Evaluation packs will be issued to each school by the assigned Tour Manager and the school encouraged to return the documentation as soon as possible directly to the LRSU, to gauge an honest appraisal from students and teachers alike. The Tour Manager will also issue the school contact with an evaluation form to send back to Walking Forward. This will mainly deal with how the team of actors presented themselves whilst in the school grounds.

## **Insurance**

Walking Forward insures its productions, venues and staff. Public liability to £5,000,000 is included in the costs as is Employers Liability and Products Liability.

The tour manager will be responsible for the day to day running of the production and has a company mobile at their disposal for incoming and outgoing calls. An answer phone service is provided during performance.

## **Contact us**

During the tour, regular visits will be made by the management team to ensure quality and delivery.

If you have any further questions or queries regarding the show Walking Forward can be contacted directly on 020 7359 5249 or Mobile: 07595 206024. You can find further information about the company and all our other shows on our website:

[www.walkingforward.co.uk](http://www.walkingforward.co.uk)