The play, *The Jungle Book* is based on the classic tales by Rudyard Kipling. Kipling wrote The Jungle Books over 100 years ago, but his classic tales are still being reproduced on the stage and in the cinema.

The story is set in the jungles of southern India, where a baby is discovered and raised by a pack of wolves. Mowgli, the boy, has a life full of adventure and conflict. Mowgli’s best friends are a bear - Baloo, and a Black Panther - Bagheera. The notorious Shere Khan, a tiger, is a force to be reckoned with in the jungle.

Kipling’s story of Mowgli’s childhood adventures in the jungle reinforce respect for life, both animal and human, and the idea of the harmony of all living things. So enjoy this fantastic journey filled with mystery and danger!

**Challenge!**

Use a map or globe to locate India. Then, use a dictionary to define the following geographic terms:

- bordered
- tropical
- temperate
- climate
- monsoon
Critic’s Corner

Write a review below of the play, The Jungle Book.

I liked The Jungle Book because

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

My favorite part was

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I didn’t like the part when

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

The character I like the best was

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

because

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

The character I didn’t like at all was

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

because

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Overall, I think the play The Jungle Book was

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Definition

Review: A review tells what you liked or didn’t like about a play, a book or a movie.

Challenge Activity

The following events occurred in Mowgli’s life. Put them in order, then illustrate your favorite.

☐ Mowgli leaves the jungle and the pack.

☐ Mowgli is captured by the Monkey People.

☐ Mowgli crawls into the den of Mother and Father Wolf.

☐ Bagheera tells Mowgli he must soon return to the man’s village.

☐ Baloo and Bagheera promise to look after and teach Mowgli.

☐ Mowgli returns to the jungle to hunt with his wolf brothers, Baloo and Bagheera.

☐ Mother Wolf saves Mowgli from Shere Khan.
The Rainforest

Mowgli grew up in the rainforest of India, along with many animals that are indigenous to the Indian rainforest. Predict which of the following products and animals come from the rainforest. Circle the ones that you think come from the rainforest, and put an X through those that do not come from the rainforest. Then, use Social Studies and Science resources to research the animals and products of the rainforest.

Products

(hint: only five of these do not come from the rainforest)

- avocados
- apples
- bananas
- chocolate
- grapefruit
- cinnamon
- cocoa
- coconut
- ginger
- guava
- hamburgers
- limes
- mangos
- paprika
- passion fruit
- peppers
- Pepsi
- pineapple
- plantains
- potato chips

Animals

(hint: only 4 of these do not come from the rainforest)

- anteater
- python
- moose
- quetzal
- puma
- parrot
- lemur
- Indian elephant
- toucan
- polar bear
- tree frog
- armadillo
- jaguar
- sloth
- gorilla
- cocker spaniel
- macaw
- orangutan
- boa constrictor
- monkey
- Siberian tiger

Definition

indigenous: - adj. - Originating and living in a particular environment or place; native.

Challenge Activity

Use a map and other Social Studies resources to answer the following questions.

1. In what part of India is the climate the warmest? Where is the jungle described in The Jungle Book?

2. From Hyderabad, what direction would you have to travel to get to the Arabian Sea? The Bay of Bengal?

3. What mountain range (which includes some of the tallest mountains in the world) lies between India and China?

4. Name the countries that border India.

5. What is the capital of India? In what direction would Mowgli have to travel to get there?

Take it One Step Further

Log on to Indian Wildlife, at www.iucaa.ernet.in/~yogesh/wildlife.html to research the animals and products of the rainforest.
If you liked the play The Jungle Book, you may want to check out the following books at your local library:

- *All the Mowgli Stories*, by Rudyard Kipling
- *Captains Courageous and Other Stories: including Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, and the Maltese Cat*, by Rudyard Kipling
- *Just So Stories*, by Rudyard Kipling
- *The Best Short Stories of Rudyard Kipling*, by Rudyard Kipling

Look for Kipling in the Juvenile Fiction, Short Story, or Easy section of your local library to read more of Rudyard Kipling’s stories.

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**Jungle Juice**

1 liter lemon or lime-flavored seltzer water  
1 cup orange juice  
1 pint lemon sherbet  
1 ripe banana  
1 cup pineapple juice

Place banana in a blender and puree it. Add the orange and pineapple juices and blend. Add the seltzer water and mix well. Just before serving, add a spoonful of sherbet to each glass. Makes about two quarts.

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**Tiger Time**

Log on to CyberTiger at [www.nationalgeographic.com/tigers/maina.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/tigers/maina.html) to learn more about what Tigers need to live in a zoo.

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**Log On!**

Did you know that Rudyard Kipling has something to do with the history of scouting in America? Log on to [www.usscouts.org/profbvr/jungle_book/index.html](http://www.usscouts.org/profbvr/jungle_book/index.html) to discover the link between the Cub Scouts and Rudyard Kipling’s The Jungle Book!

Learn more about the animal characters in *The Jungle Book* by logging on to Zoo Reach at: [www.zooreach.org/AnimalKingdom/Animals.htm](http://www.zooreach.org/AnimalKingdom/Animals.htm). How are the characters’ traits in the story similar to the real traits of those animals?