The background features a stylized illustration of two children. On the left, a boy with glasses and a blue shirt looks towards the right. On the right, a girl with blonde hair looks thoughtful, with her hand near her chin. The overall style is colorful and cartoonish.

# Frindle

Fifth grader, Nicholas Allen, has plenty of ideas. When he ends up in Mrs. Granger's language arts class, he has his best idea ever. He decides to create his own word...*FRINDLE*! Before long Nick's word creates a buzz in his school, his town, and then to his surprise, it spreads all around the country, and a power struggle erupts with strict Mrs. Granger. Will the word "Frindle" become the next word added to the dictionary?

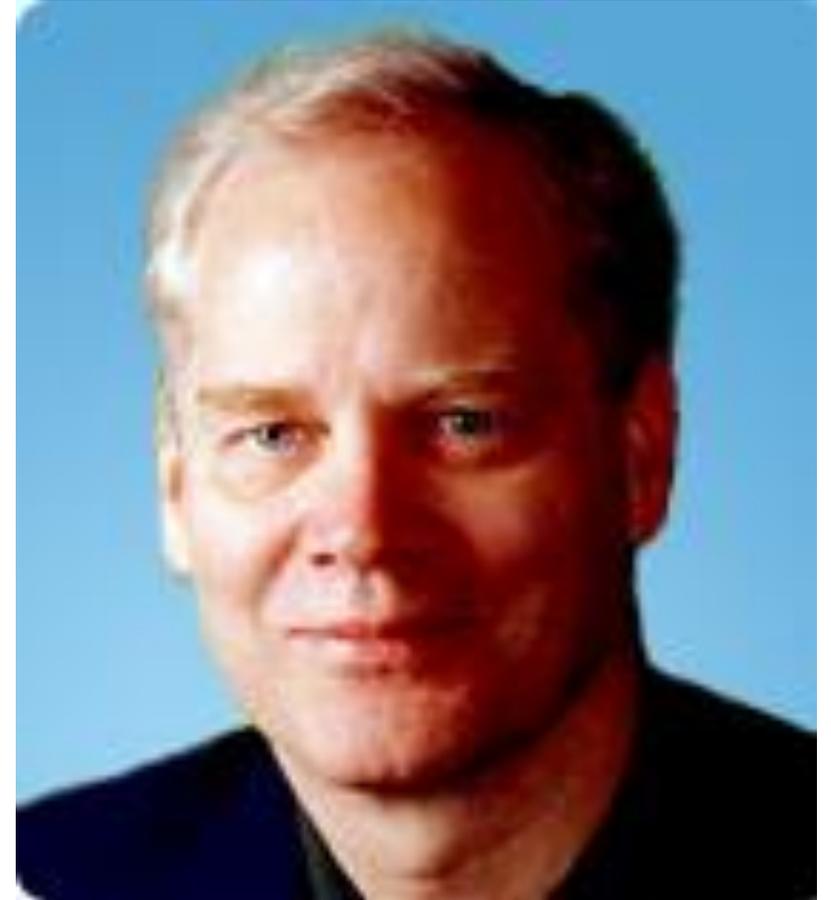
Based on the multiple award-winning best-selling novel by Andrew Clements, this quirky, imaginative tale, brought to life on the Clowes Hall stage, about creative thought and the power of words will have your students inventing their own words, too.

Griffin Theatre's Study Guide [Here](#)

# Andrew Clements

Andrew Clements is the author of several picture books, including *Big Al* and *Bill and the Bad Teacher*. He taught in public schools near Chicago, Illinois for seven years before moving East to begin a career in publishing. The idea for *Frindle* grew out of a talk he gave about writing to a group of second graders. He says this about the book: “*Frindle* is...about discovering the true nature of words, language, thought, community and learning. It’s also about great teaching and great teachers, and about the life that surges through corridors and classrooms every school day.” Mr. Clements lives in Westborough, Massachusetts with his family.

Read more on his [website](#).



# Dictionary Fun!

Nicholas Allen shows us  
that even dictionaries can  
be fun to use and learn!

Go [here](#) to discover eight  
fun dictionary activities.

# Teaching *Frindle*

Scholastic, Inc. has wonderful resources for helping teachers with lessons, ideas, discussion questions, and activities surrounding the book *Frindle* with students.

[Check it out!](#)



# Playing with Perspectives

- There are two opposing points of view in *Frindle*: Mrs. Granger and Nick Allen. We get the story from Nick Allen's side, but how do you think the events take shape from Mrs. Granger's perspective?
- Discuss as a class, and try to re-write a chapter from the book from Mrs. Granger's perspective, or use the worksheet to write a newspaper style view.
- Why is perspective important? How does it change things? Are there situations in your life or other books you can think of where point of view is important?



EXTRA! EXTRA!  
READ ALL ABOUT IT!

**The Westfield Gazette**

Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_

**Frindle Frenzy Takes Over Town**  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mrs. Granger's Battle**

**Nick Allen's Quest**

# Words Shape Your World

**Words** are an amazing reflection of our world and culture. The things to which we give names and their meanings show what we value and how we see the world. For example, there are 50 words for "snow" in Inuit languages. How many words in English are there? Why do you think that is? Why is that important?

There are also words in other languages that don't directly translate. Like the Japanese word *Komorebi* which means the play of sunlight through the leaves. Again think about why we don't have a word for that in English and what that means about our culture and Japanese culture.



# From Page to Stage

Theatre artists use a variety of tools to bring a story to life on stage including **sets, costumes, makeup, props, lighting, music**, and more.

- How do you think these things will be used to bring *Frindle* to life on the Clowes Hall stage?
- Discuss and brainstorm ideas with a group.
- Sketch ideas of sets and costumes.
- Share them with the class.



# Your Turn!

Nicholas Allen successfully made up a word that later received a place of its own in the dictionary.

*Now it's your turn!*

Either **make up a word** for something that already exists or try to **describe something** that doesn't have a name yet. Work by yourself or in a group.

In *Frindle* by Andrew Clements, Nick decides to invent a new word. Soon his new word spreads and everyone is calling a pen a *frindle*! Now it's your turn to create a new word. Choose an ordinary object and create a new word for this object. Create a dictionary entry for your new word below.



Draw a picture of the ordinary object in this box.

OLD WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

## DICTIONARY ENTRY



Word \_\_\_\_\_ Pronunciation \_\_\_\_\_

Part of Speech \_\_\_\_\_ Other Forms \_\_\_\_\_

Definition \_\_\_\_\_

Synonyms \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence \_\_\_\_\_

# Now that You've Seen the Show...

- What was different about the performance from what you expected?
- What surprised you?
- What was your favorite part?
- How do you think the sets, costumes, and lights helped to tell the story?
- What questions do you have now?

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