



JO SOLO

A Play about Loneliness at School

STARRS PRODUCTIONS

Ph: (02) 9519 3573 Fax: (02) 9519 2011

Email: pstarrs@optusnet.com.au

www.starrs.com.au

THE TEAM

Trisha Starrs has been writing and directing plays for young people for the last 20 years. The actors involved in the production are drama graduates and have strong backgrounds in theatre and working with children.

THE PLAY

Starting at a new school is hard for everyone but for Joseph it is especially difficult. Joseph's parents have constantly moved never giving him time to make friendships. Finally his family is settling down. Joseph has never had a friend and being alone is something he is used to and enjoys. He has different interests to keep him entertained including a great collection of bottle tops. However when he starts school at Old Town Primary he feels lonelier than ever. He finds it hard to be accepted by the other kids and making a friend is proving difficult. Why can't he just be happy with his own company like he was before? Why do the other kids stay away from him? Why does he feel so lonely and how can he make that feeling go away?

As the children go on the journey of Jo's story they are made aware of the emotions and feelings that being alone can bring. Through empathising with Jo the play encourages children to think beyond themselves and to be sensitive towards the plight of others.

The play offers strategies of how students can care for their peers and help make the school a safe and happy place for everybody. After the play we offer a Q&A session with the children to discuss all the issues raised in the play in an informal and friendly way.

COMMENTS FROM SCHOOLS

The students loved the play 'Jo Solo'. They were very engaged and really enjoyed being able to join in. The students also appreciated being able to ask questions at the end. An excellent production!. – **St Finbar's School**

The students really enjoyed the performance. The discussion was fruitful and timely for our anti bullying unit. Thank you!
Bidwill Public School

'Jo Solo' generated excellent discussions in class. Very positive.-**Newtown Public School**

SUITABILITY: K-6 DURATION: 60 MINUTES

TEACHER NOTES PROVIDED

COST PER STUDENT: \$6 + 60c GST

MINIMUM PER SESSION: \$660 (\$600+ \$60 GST) - IF LESS THAN 100 STUDENTS