LEARNING STANDARD QUESTIONS:
What are the most important events/ideas to remember? Why are they most important?
Possible answers: Chairs are standing up for their rights; students realize they were mistreating their chairs and apologize and promise to do better so the chairs will come back; don’t take things—or people for granted; don’t mistreat things—or people; your actions have consequences; be kind; be respectful of people and things; use things safely;

ACTIVITY: Play – Chairs Say/The Floor is Lava: After watching Story Hour, teachers are asked to have a classroom discussion using the learning standard questions above. Then play a game of Chairs Say/The Floor is Lava. Start by going over the rules.

Game rules:
Step One: Chairs Say is like Simon Says, i.e.: if the teacher says Chairs Say stand on one foot – students stand on one foot; Chairs Say sit on the floor – students sit on the floor; Chairs Say walk around the room – students walk around the room; etc. Get the kids moving and thinking by changing the directives/actions quickly.

Step Two: Intermittently teachers say “The Floor is Lava! Level 1, 2, 3 or 4”. (This step is in place of leaving the words Simon Says out of a directive to see who is listening.)

The Floor is Lava Level 1: Students sit in their chair without their feet touching the ground
The Floor is Lava Level 2: Students lay on their chair (no feet on the ground)
The Floor is Lava Level 3: Students sit on their knees on their chair (no feet on the ground)
The Floor is Lava Level 4: Students sit in their chair and put their hands on their head (no feet on the ground)
*Teachers can choose to make their own rules for each level, perhaps using classroom rules.

Final step: while having fun playing the game, teacher should stop from time to time to ask students questions like: are we being safe? Are we bumping into one another? Are we knocking our chairs over? Are we sitting safely? Bringing back the lesson from the book – to be safe and respectful of each other and our things.

MATERIALS NEEDED: None.

SHARE YOUR CREATION!
theREP would love students to share photos of (or short videos) of students playing the game! They can be emailed to Associate Artistic Director, Margaret E. Hall, at mhall@capitalrep.org
Additional Student and Parent/Guardian Activity

At home with their parent/guardian, students are asked to select a room (bedroom, kitchen, living room etc.) where a strike could happen. Why might a strike happen in that room? Think about why the Chairs in the book went on strike. Are there similar reasons the furniture in the room you choose might go on strike? (If it’s their bedroom: is the bed unhappy about being disrespected? In what ways? Perhaps because it’s bounced on, or never gets made, or because it keeps having toys and clothes thrown on it, etc.?)

Together, students and their parents/guardians should make a strike sign, from the point of view of that piece of furniture. List the demands that piece of furniture is making, like the Chairs did in the book.

Students are also encouraged to take the next step and write a letter of apology to that piece of furniture, just like the students in the story.

MATERIALS: Paper, Crayons, Colored Pencils etc.