



## **Naturalist**

*From Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Your Teachers (But Were Afraid to Ask)*

By John Pizzarello

Age Range: Young Adult

Style: Comedic, Contemporary

### Monologue:

“Ah yes, you can see the parent here. They applaud for their offspring whether or not they were paying attention the whole time and no matter the level of talent displayed before them. They applaud because they have to. They applaud because everyone else is. A classic group behavior that they’d follow off a cliff. But tonight, tonight, wait, wait, is it a standing ovation? (If there is a standing ovation at this point, great. Skip this next part, or if not, the idea is to elicit one. This can be improv-ed a bit depending on what is happening.) Yes, they’re going to stand. Stand and clap at the same time. First they must put down their jacket and their phone in their pocket. They’re doing it, they’re doing it. A fascinating sight really. A standing ovation, barely deserved. There wasn’t any singing or dancing in the show and they’re still standing. Wow. (Now maybe the NATURALIST moves to others. This shouldn’t go on too long, though, as you don’t want it to become stale.) Another parent, who definitely nodded off in scene five, is now taking a photo with their phone. Illegal, yes. But necessary so they can act like they were engaged. Classic attempt but I doubt they’re fooling anyone. (The bows should be finished by now, and the CAST is leaving the stage.) What a show from the parents. They must be so proud. Perhaps they’ll head to the diner now with their offspring. Perhaps not. Perhaps they realize they should get their teachers a Starbucks gift card immediately. That would be wise. They can be bribed, just as I have been to say this. ...I should go. I feel my presence here is yet again unwelcome. Well, until next time...join me as we investigate the elusive and mysterious creatures known widely as teenagers, and are truly a spectacle to behold. Good night.”

### Play Synopsis:

Finally your timeless questions about teachers will be answered through a series of hilarious revelations from a gameshow revealing your teacher’s teenage years to a battle of core subject teachers vs. electives. By the end, you’ll know why teachers drink so much coffee and what to do if an unexpected encounter occurs in public.

### Read the Play Here:

<https://www.yourstagepartners.com/everything-you-always-wanted-to-know-about-your-teachers#previewScript>