

GO! UP! 3



DRAMA

PAGE

END OF YEAR PLAYS:

RUDOLPH SAVES CHRISTMAS 2

A GOOD DECISION 5



TEACHER'S NOTES

Objectives: The children work collaboratively to rehearse and perform a play. While doing so, not only do they use their imagination but they also practise and extend their English.

Characters

- Santa
- Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
- Four reindeer
- Five narrators
- Mrs Claus
- Children

Instructions

1 Warmer: Santa chant.

To introduce and focus the class on the Christmas topic, write *Santa* on the board and sing the Santa chant to the tune of *Bingo Was His Name-O*. Rub out the letters one by one.

S-A-N-T-A, S-A-N-T-A, S-A-N-T-A, Santa Claus is coming.

clap-A-N-T-A, clap-A-N-T-A, clap-A-N-T-A, Santa Claus is coming.

clap-clap-N-T-A, clap-clap-N-T-A, clap-clap-N-T-A, Santa Claus is coming, etc.

2 Assign roles.

Give all the children in class a role to play. There can be more reindeer and as many children as needed. One child could also be the director, another one could be responsible for the music and sound effects.

3 Pre-teach vocabulary, concepts and key phrases.

Talk about Christmas and introduce or review the vocabulary. Revise reindeer and sleigh.

Rehearse Scene 1

Practise different emotions (happy, sad, sleepy, hungry, angry). Ask the children: *How are you today? How is Rudolph?*

Rehearse Scene 2

Ask the children what they have for breakfast. Ask them to guess what Santa has for breakfast.

Rehearse Scene 3

Make sure the children remember weather vocabulary, asking questions such as: *What's the weather like today?*

Rehearse Scene 4

Ask the children to compare their regular morning routine and Christmas morning. For example, *What time do you get up? What time do you have breakfast?*

Rehearse Scene 5

Have some fun with the children by allowing them to imitate Santa's *Ho, ho, ho!*

Rehearse Scene 6

Practise the song.

4 Rehearse the whole play.

Read the script aloud and encourage children to repeat the lines. In this way they will gradually memorise the lines. Rehearse with costumes and props available.

5 Perform the play.

The children can perform for another class.

Script

Scene 1

(Santa Claus and Mrs Claus putting presents on the sleigh.)

Narrator 1: Tomorrow is Christmas.

Santa and Mrs Claus are preparing the presents.

Mrs Claus: Santa, here is the ... for

Santa: And here is the ... for

Mrs Claus: And the ... for

Santa: (yawn) I'm tired. I want to sleep a bit more because tomorrow I have a busy day. (Santa lies down.)

Scene 2

(Mrs Claus putting presents on the sleigh.)

Narrator 2: The reindeer are happy. It's Christmas and they want to go with Santa and take the presents to the children. But Rudolph is sad.

Mrs Claus: Hello, reindeer. I have some apples for you. Who wants to help Santa?

Reindeer 1: Me, look at me, I am strong!

Reindeer 2: Me, look at me, I am fast!

Reindeer 3: Me, look at me, I am clever!

Reindeer 4: Me, look at me, I am big!

Rudolf, the red-nosed reindeer: Me, look, I have a shiny red nose!

Reindeer 1, 2, 3 and 4: Ha, ha, ha, look at Rudolph's shiny red nose! Ha, ha!

Rudolph: I am sad, nobody likes my shiny red nose. (Rudolph is very sad and cries.)

Scene 3

(Santa and Mrs Claus are having breakfast.)

Narrator 3: Santa is hungry and he is having breakfast.

Santa: I'm hungry. Can I have a banana and some milk, please?

Mrs Claus: Here you are. Mmm, the cake is delicious.

Santa: Can I have some cake, please?

Mrs Claus: Here you are, Santa.

Santa: Thank you, it's delicious.

Scene 4

(Santa is putting on his clothes.)

Narrator 4: Uh-oh, it's snowing and Santa can't see in the snow.

Santa: What's the weather like?

Mrs Claus: It's cold and it's windy.

Santa: (Puts on his boots and his hat. He opens the door.) Oh no, it's snowing! I can't see anything and the children are waiting for their presents!

Mrs Claus: I know, Rudolph and his shiny nose can help you.

Santa: Rudolph! Rudolph!

(Rudolph runs next to Santa.)

Scene 5

(Rudolph helps Santa take the presents. The children wake up and find their presents.)

Narrator 5: Because of Rudolph's shiny red nose Santa can see and take the presents to the children. Rudolph is very happy.

Santa: (Sound of bells if possible.) Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas!

Children: Children wake up and find their presents.

- Thank you for the _____, Santa!
- Thank you for the _____, Santa!
- Thank you for the _____, Santa!

Children together: Thank you, Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer!

Scene 6

(Everyone sings the song Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer.)

Song: Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
Had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw it,
You would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph
Join in any reindeer games.
Then one foggy Christmas Eve,
Santa came to say,
Rudolph, with your nose so bright,
Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?
Then all the reindeer loved him,
As they shouted out with glee,
Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer,
You'll go down in history.

TEACHER'S NOTES

Objectives: The children work collaboratively to rehearse and perform a play. While they use their imagination, they practise and extend their English. This play can be done at any time after Unit 4.

Characters

- Seven narrators
- Land animals
- Air animals
- Water animals
- Platypus

Instructions

1 Warmer: Animals.

To focus the class on the animal vocabulary, draw three columns on the board: Land animals, Water animals and Air animals. Elicit animals from the children or invite the children to mime the animals and put their answers in the correct column.

2 Revise and pre-teach vocabulary, concepts and key phrases.

Revise vocabulary connected with animals. Don't pre-teach *platypus*, the children will be naturally curious to know which animal is not invited to the party. It would be good to have a photo or an image of a platypus at hand when you tell the story.

3 Tell the story.

Explain to the children that they are going to prepare a play, based on a creation story by Aboriginal people from Australia. Then tell the story.

4 Assign roles.

Give all the children in the class a role to play. One child could be responsible for the music and sound effects.

Rehearse Scene 1

Rehearse with the land animals. Each child should try to imitate their animal. You could use a bell, a recorder or a Tibetan bowl to make a magical sound.

Rehearse Scene 2

Rehearse with the water animals. Each child should try to imitate their animal. The other animals are silent.

Rehearse Scene 3

Rehearse with the air animals. Each child should try to imitate their animal. The other animals are silent.

Rehearse Scene 4

When the animals are having a party, they should mime in silence so that we can hear Platypus.

Rehearse Scene 5

Each animal could say a little part of the dialogue. At the end everyone says, *we are the best!*

Rehearse Scene 6

Elicit from the children the body language to suggest waiting anxiously.

Rehearse Scene 7

Practise the song to the tune of *If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands*.

5 Rehearse the whole play.

Read the script aloud and encourage children to repeat the lines. In this way they will gradually memorise the lines. Rehearse with costumes and props to help them look like animals.

6 Perform the play.

They can perform for another class.

Script

Scene 1

(Three groups of children representing animals on the ground with a throw on top to hide them.)

Narrator 1: In the beginning, there is silence. There are no animals. Then, one day something magic happens: (magic sound) the land animals wake up.

(The land animals wake up.)

Animal 1: Look at me, I can walk.

Animal 2: Look at me, I can run.

Animal 3: Look at me, I've got fur and I can jump.

Animal 4: Look at me, I've got fur and I can climb.

Animal 5: Let's have a party.

Scene 2

Narrator 2: Suddenly, more magic happens, (magic sound) and the water animals wake up. (The water animals wake up.)

Animal 1: Look at me, I am a fish.

Animal 2: Look at me, I can swim.

Animal 3: Look at me, I can swim fast.

Animal 4: Look at me, I'm a frog, I can jump.

Animal 5: Let's have a party.

Scene 3

Narrator 3: Then more magic happens, (magic sound) and the air animals wake up. (The air animals wake up.)

Animal 1: Look at me, I am a bird.

Animal 2: Look at me, I've got wings, I can fly.

Animal 3: Look at me, I'm a butterfly.

Animal 4: Look at me, I am a bat.

Animal 5: Let's have a party.

Scene 4

(The three groups of animals mime in silence that they are having a party.)

Narrator 4: All the animals are having a party. One animal is very sad because he is not invited to the party. Do you know which animal? (Ask the audience.)

Platypus: I am a platypus. I am different from other animals. I've got a beak and I lay eggs but I'm not a bird. I've got fur and I give milk to my babies but I'm not a land animal. I spend a lot of time in the water but I'm not a fish.

Narrator 5: Poor Platypus is sad, he is crying. Because he is different from other animals, he is not invited to the party. (Platypus mimes he is crying.)

Scene 5

(Platypus is swimming, he looks very sad.)

Narrator 6: The next day Platypus is very sad and the animals visit him.

Land animals: (Knock, knock.) Platypus, we are sorry. Come with us, please. You can be in our family. The family of the land animals is the best! We are the best!

Water animals: (Knock, knock.) Platypus, we are sorry. Come with us, please. You can be in our family. The family of the water animals is the best! We are the best!

Air animals: (Knock, knock.) Platypus, we are sorry. Come with us, please. You can be in our family. The family of the air animals is the best! We are the best!

Platypus: (Platypus looks confused and swims around.) First, I have no family and now I have three families! Which family is the best? The land animals? The water animals? Or the air animals?

Scene 6

(All the animals are waiting for Platypus's decision.)

Narrator 7: All the animals are waiting for Platypus to give his answer.

Platypus: Good morning, I want to be in (pause for dramatic effect) the family of the land animals.

Land animals: (Cheers.) We are the best!

Platypus: I also want to be in (pause for dramatic effect) the family of the water animals.

Water animals: (Cheers.) We are the best!

Platypus: I also want to be in (pause for dramatic effect) the family of the air animals.

Air animals: (Cheers.) We are the best!

Platypus: In a competition some animals win, and they are happy and some animals lose, and they are sad. I want to be part of one big, happy family. What do you think?

All the animals: Yes, good idea!

Scene 7

(All the animals with Platypus in the middle face the public in a semicircle with their arms round each other and they sing the song.)

Song: We are one big family and we are happy

We are one big family and we are happy.

We are one big family and we are happy.

We are one big family,
and we are really happy.

We are one big family and we are happy.