

Section 2: Plays for Kids

Part 1: Rhyming Plays

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The range of scripts covers a range of ages, from kindergarten to teenagers. One script does not necessarily fit all! The quoted run-times are a guideline only; so much depends on an individual production.

A Fever For Me 'At

Author Ray Lawrence

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 1. No chorus.

Runtime Around 4 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming monologue in a cockney accent! Designed to form part of a music hall entertainment. (No set, no props.)

Outline A lady who glories in the correct headgear (and the accessories for it) reveals the trouble she went to, preparing for tea with the vicar.

A Journey to Oz

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 19. Chorus.

Runtime Around 35 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming (non-musical) version of L. Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*. Multiple locations, but can be staged as simply as necessary!

Outline A tornado plucks Dorothy Gale from Kansas and drops her and, more significantly (from the perspective of a tendency to squish), her house, on top of a despised witch. Two quests follow (as do a scarecrow, a tin man and a lion), before she is able to return home.

A Ventriloquist's Tale

Author Ray Lawrence

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 3. No chorus.

Runtime Around 5 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming comedy monologue (no set or props required).

Outline A Ventriloquist who fears he's being controlled by his dummy seeks professional help and gets some straight talking.

A Wiser Miser

Author Giles Scott

Roles Minimum Male roles = 7. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 28. Chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music Two songs are suggested in the Producer's Copy of the script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style One-act verse play. The staging, as presented, may be slightly complex, but the Producer's Copy of the script includes a couple of alternatives for simplification.

Outline The miser in question, is, of course, Ebenezer Scrooge, as this is a rhyming version of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Androcles and the Lion

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 9. Chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming fable for kids.

Outline Androcles is a man who loves all living things - he's even reluctant to kill a lamb to feed himself. So when a lion appears, he's less worried about it eating his sheep and more concerned that there's a thorn in it's paw. Helping this lion turns out to be a good move in the long term...

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Archibald Page

Author Ray Lawrence

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 1. No chorus.

Runtime Around 4 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming comedy monologue

Outline Archibald Page is an aspiring actor whose can't get any work because his face doesn't fit. He visits a plastic surgeon and subsequently has a run-in with a punch-line!

Cagic Mup

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 11. Minimum total without doubling = 11. No chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style A fable told as a Spoonerising verse play for children.

Outline Captain Spoon's family are starving. Their cow must be sold. The exchange for a magic cup provokes delight and disaster.

Caterpillar Crawl

Author Raymond Blakesley

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 6. Minimum total with doubling = 9. Minimum total without doubling = 30. Chorus.

Runtime Around 30 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act play for a flexible cast of children in a mixture of prose and rhyme. Options for dances. Includes information about the butterfly lifecycle.

Outline When Tom finds a talking, dancing caterpillar he thinks life is going to be easy, but Salome is almost as much trouble as his classmates. But he organises a concert for her anyway.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears [Rhyme]

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 5. Minimum total without doubling = 5. No chorus.

Runtime Around 7 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming play. This approaches the border of the British pantomime genre. (Make you own mind up on that point!)

Outline The tale of the Three Bears and the diminutive housebreaker with a novel twist at the end.

Hansel and Gretel - A Short Musical

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 9. Minimum total without doubling = 21. No chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music Sheet music for four original songs is supplied with the Producer's copy of the script.

Style A modern version of the Grimm Brothers' story told as a verse play with four songs. Simple props, no specific set requirements. ([A version without music is also available.](#))

Outline In an update to the original fable, Hansel and Gretel's parents want to get rid of them, not because the family is poor, but because the parents are selfish. This leads to the encounter with the witch with the confectionary cottage.

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A set of MP3 files with piano arrangements of all the songs from the show

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Hansel and Gretel [Verse]

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 6. No chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming play. This approaches the border of the British pantomime genre. (Make your own mind up on that point!)

Outline A short rhyming play that preserves the villainous role of the father, but takes extreme liberties with other parts of the original tale, casting Hansel and Gretel in a less-than-favourable light.

If Music be the Food of Love

Author Ethan Smith

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 5. Minimum total without doubling = 5. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Fifteen-minute verse play for kids. Two scenes, but no set requirements.

Outline A greedy and selfish king is taught the value of life by his caring son and a local musician.

Jason and the Golden Fleece

Author Dominique Vaughan

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 27. Chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short epic(!) told in verse. Ancient Greek myth as a rhyming play for children. No set requirements, no props specified (though many might be used in a particular production).

Outline The myth of Jason and the Argonauts on their quest to retrieve the Golden Fleece. A tale of heroes, kings, goddesses, sirens, harpies and the occasional shipwright.

Kids in Lurve

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 15. No chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming play, delivering a rapid, modern and informal version of Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew'. Multiple scenes, but little required by way of set or props.
Set in the north-west midlands, but could easily be moved to your home town!

Outline Bianca is sweet and pretty. All the lads fancy her. But standing in the way, there's Bianca's acid-tongued sister, Kate, and who can tame Kate?
Well, since there aren't many lads called Petruchio these days, the modern-day volunteer is Shane.
The course of true love never did run smooth (but that's another story).

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Kids in Tights - The Musical

Author Bill Siviter with Music by Jonny Ardern

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 12. No chorus.

Runtime Around 30 minutes.

Music Piano and Vocal scores for nine songs are supplied with the Producer's Copy of the script.

Style Romeo and Juliet told, as an irreverent verse play, by the protagonists and by narrators. A good introduction to Shakespeare's story! (The specified run-time is the minimum - extending the ball and the fight will add time!)

Outline Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet condensed into a short verse play for kids, then lengthened because everyone gets so excited that they need to sing about it. Boy meets girl, love overcomes the family feud - but only for the lovers. Swordplay turns rivals into kebabs. Mistakes are made and the heroes die. (You see, it's a soppy love story.)

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A 'rehearsal CD' with piano arrangements of all the songs from the show

Kids in Tights - The Play

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 11. No chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style Romeo and Juliet told as an irreverent verse play, told by the protagonists and by narrators. A good introduction to Shakespeare's story! (The specified run-time is the minimum - extending the ball and the fight will add time!)

Outline Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet condensed into a twenty-minute verse play for kids. Boy meets girl, love overcomes the family feud - but only for the lovers. Swordplay turns rivals into kebabs. Mistakes are made and the heroes die. (You see, it's a soppy love story.)

Little Red Riding Hood [Verse]

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 6. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Simple verse play for kids. (A sort of short British pantomime.)

Outline Red Riding Hood, her mother, and her brother Robin (who you may know from other pantomimes) live in a cottage in the woods. One winter's day Red's mother asks her to take a Christmas hamper to her Grandma, but a Wolf is on the prowl, and there's no woodcutter in sight...

Moses in the Bullrushes

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 24. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming play for kids. No set requirements and props are optional.

Outline A fun version of the Exodus story that includes all the relevant elements and allows a fair sized (and flexible) cast to present the story in a dramatized but simple fashion.

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Mother of the Bride

Author Ray Lawrence

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 5. No chorus.

Runtime Around 5 minutes.

Music None.

Style Either a rhyming monologue or a piece for a cast of five! No set requirements, no props.

Outline A mother of four (unwed) daughters bewails the lack of matrimonial bliss in her family.

Noah's Ark

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 4. Minimum total without doubling = 6. Chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Verse play, mainly told by narrators (with plenty of scope for a large cast to mime the actions)

Outline See the book of Genesis, chapters 6 to 9!

Olympic Ode - Faster, Higher, Stronger

Author Sue Russell

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 30. Chorus.

Runtime Around 5 minutes.

Music None.

Style Performance poem for a class of children. No props or staging requirements

Outline The motto of the Olympic Games, *Citius, Altius, Fortius* - Faster, Higher, Stronger - explored in verse, with the performers representing different groups of athletes.

One in the Eye

Author Bill Siviter with Lea Anderson

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 21. Chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style An educational, historical, rhyming comedy musical. (There. What does that leave out?)

Outline The story of the Harold, the last Saxon king of England who proves adept at dealing with his riotous brothers and Viking invaders, but is finally overcome by William, Duke of Normandy, with his secret weapon...

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A 'rehearsal CD' with piano arrangements of all the songs from the show

Rapunzel [Verse]

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 7. No chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short verse play (probably, but not necessarily for kids).

Outline A couple offend a witch and hand over their daughter, Rapunzel, to her by way of recompense. Rapunzel is locked-up in a tower, accessible only by a window - with the aid of her hair as a climbing rope. She stays there until she is visited by a handsome prince and the audience is visited by an unexpected plot twist!

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Rhyming Aladdin

Author Stuart Ardem

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 11. Minimum total without doubling = 12. No chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act Rhyming English pantomime. Simple sets, mainly simple props (give or take a laundry basket on wheels).

Outline Aladdin, a washerwoman's son falls for a beautiful princess. In his urgent need for wealth, he is tricked into accompanying the wicked Abanaza on an expedition to retrieve a magic lamp. Abanaza traps Aladdin in a cave, but with a lot of magical help Aladdin escapes and (after a few twists and turns) love triumphs.

Rhyming Ali Baba

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 9. Minimum total without doubling = 9. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music One set of song lyrics included, to the tune of 'Wild Rover'. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style A simple version of 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves' told in rhyme, minimal set requirements.

Outline Like all pantomime heroes, Ali Baba is broke. On his way to look for work, he witnesses a band of thieves hiding treasure in a secret cave. He overhears their password and helps himself to their treasure. Unfortunately, the thieves find out and track him down by hiding in storage jars.

Rhyming Beauty and the Beast

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 16. No chorus.

Runtime Around 30 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of the tale of Beauty and the Beast in one-act and in rhyme.

Outline A merchant goes to trade his wares and bring back gifts for his three daughters. Two of them, greedy and vain, desire jewellery, the other, fair and good-natured, wishes for a rose. But the merchant plucks a rose from the garden of the Beast, and he must pledge the Beast his daughter's hand in marriage to save his own life.

Rhyming Captain Hook

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 10. Chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style A comic, rendition of J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan as a rhyming pantomime. Minimal set requirements, but includes a comic cookery scene.

Outline Captain Hook plots his revenge on Peter Pan, with the help of a crocodile and a poisoned cake. Peter Pan, Tonkerbell (the punk fairy) and the crocodile have other ideas.

Rhyming Christmas Carol

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 13. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of Dickens' A Christmas Carol in rhyme, minimal set requirements.

Outline On Christmas eve, miserly Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his old business partner and three other ghosts. Being shown the error of his ways, he then sets out to make Christmas happy for others.

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Rhyming Christmas Gift

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 9. Minimum total without doubling = 18. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple verse play. Assumed to be done with minimal set - imagination substituting for scenery. Simple props.

Outline A liberal adaptation (updated and versified) of the O. Henry story 'The Gift of the Magi'. An arguing couple demonstrate their love through Christmas gifts.

Rhyming Cinderella

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 15. No chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of the Cinderella story in rhyme, minimal set requirements.

Outline Cinderella is banned from the ball - a point at which a fairy godmother, a pumpkin and mice really come in handy...

Rhyming Goldilocks

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 6. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming drama for kids. Single set, complete with collapsing chair.

Outline The time-honoured tale of burgling blonde meets ursine breakfast!

Rhyming Hansel and Gretel

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 21. No chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style A modern version of the Grimm Brothers' Hansel and Gretel told as a verse play. Simple props, no specific set requirements.

Outline In an update to the original fable, Hansel and Gretel's parents want to get rid of them, not because the family is poor, but because the parents are selfish. This leads to the encounter with the witch with the confectionary cottage.

Rhyming Jack and the Beanstalk

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 14. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Jack and the Beanstalk told in rhyme by a narrator and small cast. Minimal set requirements.

Outline Through a combination of poverty and gormlessness, Jack sells the family cow for a handful of magic beans, from which grows a beanstalk reaching to the clouds. Up climbs Jack, with girlfriend Nancy, and at the top they find a giant, a goose, a golden egg and a lot of trouble!

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Rhyming Magic Goose

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 6. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 14. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming fairytale (adapted from a Grimm Brothers story) for performance by kids. Simple set and props.

Outline The King promises half his riches to anyone who can cause his cursed daughter to laugh. Can humble Peter and his Magic Goose release the Princess from her sadness?

Rhyming Mother Goose

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 11. Minimum total without doubling = 11. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Mother Goose (the British pantomime version, more-or-less) told in rhyme by a narrator and small cast. Minimal set requirements.

Outline As a favour from a fairy, Mother Goose acquires a bird that lays golden eggs. Unfortunately, it's a second hand goose, and its previous owner wants it back...

Rhyming Nativity

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 30. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Simple nativity play told in rhyme. No specific requirements for set or props.

Outline See the Gospels according to St. Luke and St. Matthew (chapter 2 in each case). Taxation, Bethlehem overcrowded, no room at the inn, baby laid in a manger, shepherds in the fields, wise men bringing gifts. All of that - and a stable of talking animals.

Rhyming Pied Piper

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 7. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 17. Minimum total without doubling = 17. Chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style The story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin told as a simple verse play. Minimal set requirements.

Outline Rats are taking over the rich town of Hamelin, so when an eccentrically dressed stranger offers to drive them away, the Mayor offers to heap him with gold. However, when the rats have disappeared, so has the Mayor's promise, till the stranger reminds the town of his musical prowess.

Rhyming Pinocchio

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 11. Minimum total without doubling = 13. No chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of the story of Pinocchio in rhyme, minimal set requirements. Not quite a full-blown pantomime, but in the same comedic area.

Outline Geppetto makes Pinocchio, whom the Blue Fairy brings alive, however, as part of the spell, if Pinocchio tells lies, his nose will grow! Pinocchio is tricked into joining Stromboli's puppet show. Stromboli plans a show for the Duke which will make him rich, he tries to get Pinocchio to flatter the Duke's court, with disastrous results for the puppet's nose. Pinocchio is trapped, but who will rescue him?

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Rhyming Red Riding Hood

Author Stuart Arden

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 5. Minimum total without doubling = 6. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Not so much a pantomime as a humorous horror story for children! Told in rhyming couplets, including a brief nod to Monty Python.

Outline Red Riding Hood is getting in her mothers way, and is sent off to visit her grandma. Unfortunately, a wolf gets to grandma's house first - unfortunately for the wolf, as he more than meets his match.

Rhyming Robin Hood

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 17. Chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style English pantomime (more or less) as a short verse play.

Outline Robin Hood and his Merry Men hatch a plan to rob the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and give back to the poor. The Sheriff finds out about Robin's plan and invents a scheme of his own to catch the outlaws. A few rhymes, imprisonments and swordfights later, good triumphs once again.

Rhyming Snow White

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 13. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves in verse. Minimal set requirements.

Outline On the run from the wicked queen, Snow White becomes housekeeper to a bunch of diminutive miners. The queen finds her and poisons her, but Snow White is saved by a handsome prince. The sort of thing that could happen to anyone.

Rhyming Storyteller

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 12. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Simple story, told in verse. Minimal set and props.

Outline A group of children are bored with stories with moral endings. The Storyteller introduces the tale of the perfect girl who comes to an imperfect end. (Based on 'The Story Teller' by Saki.)

Rhyming Three Little Pigs

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 18. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Simple verse play. No set requirements, a few simple props.

Outline It's the age-old battle of wolf against pig, only nowadays all that huffing and puffing has stopped and the wolves have become confidence tricksters. Meanwhile, some of the pigs have become fat and lazy - easy pickings - but finally the wolves are confronted with a choice of fresh bacon or vegetarianism...

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Rhyming Three Sillies

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 14. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style The story of The Three Sillies told as a simple verse play. Minimal set requirements.

Outline A prince discovers that his fiancée comes from a family totally lacking in common sense. He resolves to marry her only if he can find three sets of sillier people.

Rhyming Wind in the Willows

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 15. Minimum total without doubling = 30. No chorus.

Runtime Around 35 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming plays for a medium to large group of kids. Nominally six locations but no real set requirements.

Outline An accident on a caravanning expedition leaves the flighty Mr. Toad with an obsession with motor cars and inflated opinions of his own driving. Despite the attentions of his friends, Toad ends in jail and the stoats and weasels of the Wild Wood take over his house. After Toad escapes, Badger, Mole and the Water Rat set about recapturing Toad Hall.
Kenneth Grahame's children's classic retold as a verse play.

Samson & Delilah (Verse)

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 10. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style A narration in verse of the story of Samson. It is assumed the verses will be read or recited by one or more narrators, whilst the action is mimed.

Outline See the book of Judges, chapters 13 to 16.

Sticky Snail and the Fire Dragons

Author Richard Morris

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 11. Minimum total without doubling = 17. No chorus.

Runtime Around 30 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming script aimed at an audience of young children (UK years 1-3, US K-2).

Outline The animals are cold, damp and miserable - they need fire to warm them up, but for that, they must persuade the fire dragons to help. Unfortunately, the fire dragons only want to fight!

The Adventures Of Goldilockpick [Family Edition]

Author Todd Barto

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 18. Minimum total without doubling = 18. No chorus.

Runtime Around 65 minutes.

Music None.

Style Comedy play in two acts and in verse. This edition designed for performance by a company of kids. (There is also a version designed to be performed by adults.)

Outline *The Adventures Of Goldilockpick And Little Red Riding Hoodlum*
A rhyming romp for some familiar characters in unfamiliar juxtaposition.

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The Adventures Of Goldilockpick [Robust Edition]

Author Todd Barty

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 18. Minimum total without doubling = 18. No chorus.

Runtime Around 80 minutes.

Music None.

Style Comedy play in two acts and in verse. This edition is designed for performance by adults.

Outline *The Adventures Of Goldilockpick And Little Red Riding Hoodlum*

A rhyming romp for some familiar characters in unfamiliar juxtaposition.

(It's a family show, but there is stage business including bottom pinching and flashing of comedy underwear, which may be inappropriate for a performing company of kids, therefore there is a separate [family edition](#) of the show designed for performance by kids.)

The Billy Goats Gruff

Author Sharon Stace-Smith

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 12. Chorus.

Runtime Around 35 minutes.

Music The Producer's Copy of the script comes with piano and vocal scores for an overture and 14 original songs (including a couple of reprises).

Style One-act musical - rhyming script plus songs - for kids (and children!). Multiple locations, but can be done with minimal scenery and very few props.

Outline The time-honoured tale of troll meets goats given an additional twist as we learn of the history of how the troll became what he is (and the goats have more talents than just butting-in).

The Cautionary Tale of Miss Lucy Lockett

Author Ray Lawrence

Roles Minimum Male roles = . Minimum Female roles = . Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 2. No chorus.

Runtime Around 3 minutes.

Music None.

Style Comedy monologue - a cautionary tale told in verse

Outline Desperate for a life on the stage, Lucy Lockett tragically over-stretches herself!

The Complete Short Pants

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 80. Chorus.

Runtime Around 95 minutes.

Music None.

Style Collection of seven short rhyming pantomime scripts (ten to 15 minutes each)

Outline The tales of Cinderella, A Christmas Carol, Snow White, Jack and the Beanstalk, Whittington and his Crazy Cat, Ali Baba and Mother Goose told in rhyme.

The Crime Done in Rhyme

Author tlc Creative

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 4. Minimum total without doubling = 9. No chorus.

Runtime Around 8 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming skit (parody of Dr. Seuss) no set requirements, a few common props.

Outline There's been murder afoot, but who can have done it? If there's a prize for rhymed mystery, this one has won it! The victim's a cat, but much more than that, He's a cat that has often been seen in a hat. A detective is called and a Mistress is found, (while the corpse of the cat is left there on the ground). It's funny, irreverent and won't take much time, and the best of it is, every line is in rhyme!

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The Elves and the Shoemaker [Verse Play]

Author Peter Bond

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 7. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short rhyming play. Single set (mainly a workbench).

Outline A Grimm Fairytale brought to the stage.
An honest cobbler is helped to make ends meet by a pair of hard-working elves.

The Gossip

Author Gerald P. Murphy

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 6. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 10. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Simple play in rhyming couplets. No specific set requirements. One prop (a wedding cake!)

Outline Mrs. Grey tries to stop a rumour spreading by telling everyone that it isn't true. The result is that the rumour spreads rapidly, and her daughter's wedding is ruined.

The Haunting of Hardup Hall

Author David Lovesy & Steve Clark

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 6. Minimum total without doubling = 7. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short humorous ghost story told in verse

Outline Lord and Lady Hardup are at their wits end. Their mansion is being haunted by a fearsome spook and soon they will be forced to flee! Mystic Maureen, psychic extraordinaire is called to save them from the spirits!

The Journey of the Magi

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 19. Minimum total without doubling = 21. No chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming nativity play (from the perspective of the Magi). Lightly humorous take. No set requirements, simple props (give or take the camel).

Outline The story of the Three Kings told as a rhyming Christmas story.

The Musical Scottish Play

Author Bill Siviter with Lea Anderson

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 16. Chorus.

Runtime Around 35 minutes.

Music Sheet music for six original songs (Music by Lea Anderson, Lyrics by Bill Siviter) supplied with the Producer's copy of the script.

Style Irreverent play in verse and song, told by the protagonists and by narrators with the action mimed. A good introduction to Shakespeare's story! (The specified run-time is the minimum - banquets, battles and bopping will add to the run time!)

Outline The Musical Scottish Play - or 'Kids in Kilts' The complete story of Shakespeare's Macbeth (witches, murder, walking trees, revenge - that sort of thing) told as in verse and songs as a play for kids. [Note that there is also a version of this play without the songs, called The Scottish Play. It is identical except that the songs have been omitted.]

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A 'rehearsal CD' with piano arrangements of all the songs from the show

Section 2: Plays for Kids

Part 1: Rhyming Plays

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The Musicians of Bremen

Author Tony Best

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 16. Minimum total without doubling = 26. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music The script includes songs set to well-known music. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style A one-act rhyming play for Junior School pupils.

Outline Four unwanted animals, a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster, meet up and believe they have amazing singing prowess. Though everyone they meet disagrees, the band accidentally put to flight a band of robbers, and live ever afterward in the robber's house with their ill-gotten gains.

The Norman Conquest

Author Richard Morris

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 13. No chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music One set of song lyrics embedded in the script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style Verse play, fitting with the English National Curriculum Key Stage 3 History syllabus.

Outline We travel back in time to England in 1066 where William sails from Normandy (bringing an army and 'beaucoup fromage'), defeats King Harold and sets about building fortifications and surveying his new kingdom.

The Roman Invasion of Britain

Author Richard Morris

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 29. Chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act play in irregular verse, fitting with the English National Curriculum Key Stage 2 History topic - The Romans.

Outline A dramatised (and abbreviated) history of Romans in Britain (from Caesar to Honorius)

The Scary Tale of Count Dracula of Transylvania

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 7. Minimum total without doubling = 7. No chorus.

Runtime Around 12 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short, rhyming Gothic horror comedy play for kids!

Outline Count Dracula has got dental problems - his once proud fangs are wearing down. Could dentures be the answer?

The Scary Tale of Frankenstein

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 7. Minimum total without doubling = 8. Chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short, rhyming Gothic horror comedy play for kids! Single laboratory set!

Outline Professor Frankenstein creates a new life from recycled body parts. Unfortunately, his assistant, Egor, drops the brain, so a substitute has to be used. Whilst the brain seems to work, the locals see Frankenstein's creation as a monster and they really aren't happy!

Section 2: Plays for Kids

Part 1: Rhyming Plays

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The Scary Tale of The Mummy's Curse

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 11. No chorus.

Runtime Around 13 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short, rhyming horror comedy play for kids!

Outline An archaeologist in search of treasure finds the mummy of an ancient Egyptian pharaoh in a cursed tomb. (A good time is had by all.)

The Scary Tale of The Werewolf

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 15. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Short, rhyming Gothic horror comedy play for kids! Multiple locations, but not intended to be staged naturalistically!

Outline There's a Werewolf on the loose! But when the culprit finds out what happens to him by the light of the full moon, he seeks medical help (and hairdressing).

The Scottish Play

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 16. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Irreverent verse play, told by the protagonists and by narrators with the action mimed. A good introduction to Shakespeare's story! (The specified run-time is the minimum - banquets, battles and bopping will add to the run time!)

Outline The Scottish Play - or 'Kids in Kilts' The complete story of Shakespeare's Macbeth (witches, murder, walking trees, revenge - that sort of thing) told as a verse play for kids. [Note that there is also a musical version of this play, called (with great enterprise) The Musical Scottish Play. It is identical except that six original songs have been added.]

The Tudor Times

Author Richard Morris

Roles Minimum Male roles = 7. Minimum Female roles = 6. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 28. Chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music Some song suggestions are made in the Producer's copy of the script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style Rhyming play for schools (designed for the English National Curriculum Key Stage 2 topic 'The Tudors'). No set requirements. Simple props (as long as you don't take the cook too seriously).

Outline A rhyming romp from the last Henry to the first Elizabeth. Wives, discoveries, the Armada and an introduction to Elizabethan cookery.

The Wrong Pantomime

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 17. Minimum total without doubling = 21. No chorus.

Runtime Around 35 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act rhyming British pantomime. Minimal set requirements.

Outline It's panto season once again, but nobody is quite sure which show is happening this year! A jumble of characters turn up, rhyming scripts at the ready, and the villains decide to do away with the heroes once and for all, by means of a poisoned cake! But the heroes, as always, may have the upper hand in the end.

Section 2: Plays for Kids

Part 1: Rhyming Plays

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Three Canterbury Tales

Author Richard James

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 7. Minimum total without doubling = 7. No chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act verse play. No set requirements, few (deliberately rough-and-ready) props.

Outline Three of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, told in verse but adapted for the stage. The Miller, The Pardoner and the Wife of Bath are brought to life with the narration of Chaucer and the help of three other pilgrims (the Friar, the Summoner and the Nun).

We Are Not Amused

Author Richard Morris

Roles Minimum Male roles = 8. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 15. Minimum total without doubling = 22. Chorus.

Runtime Around 25 minutes.

Music Lyrics to three songs (to traditional melodies) are embedded in the script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style Exploration of Victorian society in a mixture of verse and prose.

Outline Museum exhibits come to life to explore aspects of Victorian society.

Whittington and his Crazy Cat

Author Richard Coleman

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 2. Minimum total with doubling = 13. Minimum total without doubling = 15. No chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music One song suggested, but not compulsory! Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style A simple, humorous rendition of the story of Mr. Whittington and his Cat told in verse. Minimal set requirements.

Outline Coming to London, young Richard Whittington is taken in by Alderman Twicenightly. He finds a talking cat, a treasure map and the Alderman's daughter and together they set out to seek their fortune.