

SAMPLE PAGES

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this readers theater piece, first read- aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady.

Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance. After you have established the beat, it is time to start interpreting, experimenting, and having fun with the words by varying the tempo, volume, inflection, and expression.

CHORAL FORMATTING

This script is formatted for 8 SOLO VOICES, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, and ALL. 7 pages of reading text.

BEHAVIORS FEATURED IN THIS SCRIPT

In this script, the readers tell of meeting a number of storybook characters who display some inappropriate behaviors. These behaviors lead the "readers chorus" to encourage the audience to do the following:

ALL BOYS: Please pass the message on,
 And let the message grow:

ALL GIRLS: Good manners count!

ALL: Tell everyone you know.

Near the end of the script, the readers finally meet a storybook couple who display appropriate behaviors:

They were gentle, clean, and thoughtful,
Considerate and kind.
And that type of behavior
We wish for all mankind!

Inappropriate behavior words: Crude, rude, unfriendly, loud, pushing, teasing, kicking, stealing a person's property, telling lies, eating with dirty hands, and not sharing.

Appropriate behavior words: Gentle, clean, thoughtful, considerate, and kind.

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SAMPLE script below:

CH-84 Good Manners Count!
A Choral Reading/Speaking Script
By Lois Walker

SOLO VOICE: Once Upon a Time...

ALL GIRLS: We met three little pigs.

ALL BOYS: Did they act like pigs?

ALL GIRLS: Oh, yes they did.
They were crude and rude,
Unfriendly and loud.

ALL BOYS: Bad manners like that
Shouldn't be allowed.

ALL: Crude and rude,
Unfriendly and loud.
Bad manners like that
Shouldn't be allowed!

ALL GIRLS: Please pass the message on,
And let the message grow:

ALL BOYS: Good manners count!

ALL: Tell everyone you know.

SOLO VOICE: One day we met...

ALL BOYS: Three Billy goats gruff!

ALL GIRLS: And were they tough?

ALL BOYS: They were tough enough.
They pushed and teased,
Then kicked us in the knees.

ALL GIRLS: Bad manners like that
Are like a disease!

ALL: Pushed and teased?
Kicked us in the knees?
Bad manners like that
Are like a disease!

ALL BOYS: Please pass the message on,
And let the message grow:

ALL GIRLS: Good manners count!

ALL: Tell everyone you know.

SOLO VOICE: Last month we met...

ALL GIRLS: Rumplestiltskin!

ALL BOYS: Did he smile and grin?

ALL GIRLS: No, with him you couldn't win.

SOLO GIRL: He stole my hat!

SOLO GIRL: He told me lies!

ALL BOYS: That kind of behavior
Is not very wise.

ALL: Stole a hat?
And then told lies?
That kind of behavior
Is not very wise.

ALL GIRLS: Please pass the message on,
And let the message grow:

ALL BOYS: Good manners count!

ALL: Tell everyone you know.

SOLO VOICE: Last week we met...

ALL BOYS: A large hairy troll.

ALL GIRLS: Was he under a bridge?

ALL BOYS: Yes, hiding in a hole.
His hands were black with dirt,
But he was eating a snack.

ALL GIRLS: Sounds a bit like
A "Bad Manners Attack".

ALL: His hands were black with dirt,

But he was eating a snack?

Sounds a bit like

A "Bad Manners Attack".

ALL BOYS: Please pass the message on,

And let the message grow:

ALL GIRLS: Good manners count!

ALL: Tell everyone you know.

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