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- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

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If you wish to make an audio or video recording of the performance of any of our musicals, you will need an additional **recording and duplication licence** from Edgy Productions. This will also allow you to make and sell copies of your recordings if you wish to do so. We no longer request that you pay a commission to us on the money you raise from the sale of recordings.

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You can, of course, phone or email us for advice – we are more than happy to discuss all your licensing needs.

PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of ‘**Puss In Boots**’ to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this. **Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

- by post – Edgy Productions, 8 Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 7PQ
- by FAX – 0845 833 33 49
- by email – info@edgyproductions.com

The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

Contact name:

Name of school / organisation:

Address:

..... **Postcode:**

Tel: **email:**

Number of performances: **Performances Dates: from** **to**

By ticking, select one of the performance licence options below:

Standard Performance Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)
(no admission charged and no tickets sold)

or

Performance Licence with charges ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)
(admission is charged and/or tickets are sold)

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By ticking, select one of the payment options below:

☐ I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Edgy Productions Ltd

☐ Please send me an invoice for £..... (payment terms 30 days)

**Writers rely on payments from public performances for their livelihoods.
Please ensure they receive their dues.**

INTRODUCTION

Plot Overview

Our tale begins with a humble farmer, who unfortunately one day over-exerts himself and ‘pops his clogs’, (***song – Where There’s A Will...***) leaving his squabbling daughters ownership of the farm and its one cow. His honest, kindly son is bequeathed Puss, the farm cat! However, the young man quickly discovers that this is no ordinary cat – it can talk! Puss also claims he can make the farmer’s son wealthy, if his instructions are followed to the letter. Having asked for some clothes and a swanky pair of boots (***song – Puss In Boots***), Puss leaves the baffled man and sets about doing as he’s promised.

Firstly, he catches a pair of rabbits (***song – Think Twice***) which he duly takes to the royal palace. This proves to be great timing, as the royal family are without the meat course for their lunch (***song – A Meaty March***). As well as being shocked at the arrival of a talking cat in boots, the king, queen and princess are grateful he has provided them with something to eat. Puss tells them he is the servant of the ‘Marquis of Carabas’, from whom the rabbits are a gift. (***song – The Marquis Of Carabas***) Puss sets off to complete the next stage of his plan, leaving the royal family intrigued as to the identity of the mysterious Marquis.

Puss then fetches the farmer’s son and takes him to a river, where he instructs him to strip and jump in! He also tells him that he must, from now on, believe himself to be this Marquis of Carabas, a wealthy nobleman, and only answer to that name, if he wants to make his fortune! Just then, coincidentally, the royal family and entourage pass by in their carriage (***song – A Lovely Day For a Ride***) and see Puss frantically waving for help. Puss explains that the man in the water is his master, the Marquis of Carabas, and that thieves have stolen his clothes. Eager to help the man who gave them the rabbits, the king, queen and princess offer him a lift, and the use of their driver’s clothes – the poor driver having to endure the rest of the journey in his underwear!

Meanwhile, Puss has run on ahead where he meets a group of jolly harvesters, busy in the fields. (***song – That’s The Life For Me***) He threatens them with an eye-gouging unless they tell everyone who asks that the fields are owned by someone called the Marquis of Carabas! Frightened of the talking cat they agree. When the royal carriage coincidentally stops by, the king enquires of the harvesters as to whom these lush fields belong, and they reply as Puss has instructed. Believing him to be the Marquis, the princess starts taking a shine to farmer’s son sitting next to her, impressed by his supposed wealth!

Puss’s final destination is the castle of a wealthy but evil ogre, who has amassed his fortune by foul means. (***song – What A Rotter***) He also possesses magical powers and can transform himself into any animal he chooses. Puss arrives and dupes the ogre into transforming into a mouse, whereupon he literally makes a meal of him. With the castle and money up for grabs, Puss declares it is the property of the Marquis of Carabas, which impresses the royal family who, coincidentally, pay a visit! Now a very eligible bachelor, the farmer’s son is pursued down the aisle by the princess, and wedding bells bring our story to a very happy, if predictable, ending! (***song – He’s The Cat’s Whiskers***)

CHARACTERS

Speaking parts in order of appearance

3 Narrators – *maintaining the pace, if not the peace*

Farmer – *where there's a will there's a way*

Lawyer – *where there's a will there's a bill*

Daughter 1 – *where there's a will, someone does well*

Daughter 2 – *where there's a will, well...not great but still does quite well*

Son – *where there's a will.....nil*

Puss – *a real cool cat*

3 Courtiers – *royal hangers-on*

King – *would kill for a sausage*

Queen – *would kill for a juicy steak*

Princess – *would kill for a wealthy husband*

2 Cooks – *well, they would be if they could get hold of any ingredients*

Gamekeeper – *caught sleeping on the job*

Carriage driver – *a cushion, and some clothes would make the job bearable*

2 Footmen – *enjoying a 'day out'*

5 Harvesters – *jolly yokels, despite their aching backs*

Ogre – *rotten to the core...and smells like it*

Mouse – *ogre's squeaky alter-ego*

Priest – *up for a bit of knot-tying*

Ensemble characters for featured songs and scenes

Rabbits

Male and Female Courtiers

More Cooks

Servants

More Harvesters

Party Guests

Scene 1

*(As **Intro Music** plays (track 10) the cast enters – fade when ready. The lights come up on the main stage, the backdrop to which is a rural scene with fields, distant farm buildings, a castle, an orchard and a river cutting through the landscape. Narrators stand to one side, reading from old books or manuscripts.)*

Narrator 1 Welcome everybody! If you all could settle down,
We’d like to get proceedings underway.
(pointing at the audience) So you stop chatting, you stop coughing, and you lot over there
Sit still, or you’ll be asked to leave! OK?

(The Farmer enters carrying an axe, and begins chopping.)

Narrator 2 Once there lived a farmer, a poor but decent chap,
Who one day felt the need to chop some logs.
This wasn’t such a great idea – dodgy ticker, see.....

Farmer Oh cripes, I think I’m gonna pop me clogs!
(he comically falls to the floor)
I need my children by my side, and call my lawyer too,
’Cause seeing as I’m feeling rather ill,
I need to divvy-up my few and meagre worldly goods.
I think the time has come to make a will!

(He reaches inside his pocket and pulls out a scroll. He then croaks and dies with the scroll rigidly extended in his hand. His son, two daughters and his lawyer enter, and stand round his body. The lawyer takes the scroll.)

Narrator 3 The lawyer read the will as the farmer’s children waited...

Daughter 1 Ooh! I’m so excited! Tell me now,
What did Daddy dearest leave to me, his eldest child?
Some cash? Some land? Or his best milking cow?

Daughter 2 Well, I’m nearly as old as you, so I think we’ll be sharing
Between the two of us what’s in the pot.
(to the son) But as for you, you little squirt, the youngest of us all,
I reckon he’ll have left you diddly-squat!

Son Is that all you can think about? Our dear old father’s dead!
That’s the thing that really bothers me.

Lawyer Well, squabbling aside, there’s only one way to find out
Just what he’s left to each of you. Let’s see.....

Song 1 – Where There’s A Will *(track 11, lyrics p16)*
(Lawyer, Daughters and Son, supported by the whole cast)

(The Lawyer and daughters exit. Puss enters and sits next to the son.)

Narrator 3 So, not a lot to celebrate, I think you'll all agree.
OK, the girls had reason to be pleased –
One got livestock, the other land, but as for little bro'....
The sole heir to a mangy mog with fleas!

Narrator 1 Though it seemed the young man got the rough end of the deal,
His father had been quite a clever bloke.
He'd left his son this feline fur-ball, knowing that it would
Bring him fame and fortune. Then it spoke!

Puss Pull yourself together, mate! Things are looking up!
You have a real exciting time in store!

(The son is open-mouthed with shock!)

Narrator 2 The farmer's son was struck quite dumb. He wanted to reply,
But couldn't 'cause his chin was on the floor!

Puss Now listen very carefully. There's lots of work to do,
And I've a list of things that need arranging.
Fetch some boots, a bag, a hat, a waistcoat...oh, and please,
The kitty litter in my tray needs changing!

(The son exits, then quickly returns with the boots, a large bag, a hat and a waistcoat – see staging suggestions/costumes and props.)

Son Here you are; a hat, a bag, a waistcoat, and some boots.
I bet you'll look quite fetching with them on.

(Puss puts on the boots, waistcoat and hat.)

Narrator 3 And so the cat dressed up (he looked a real bobby-dazzler),
Then unexpectedly broke into song!

Song 2 – Puss In Boots! *(track 12, lyrics p17)* *(Puss supported by the whole cast)*

Son I'm kinda guessing from now on things might get quite bizarre!

Narrator 1 With this, he'd hit the nail on the head!
Puss told him....

PussNow don't you worry, everything's.....in hand.

Narrator 2 But, being a cat, he meant "in paw" instead!

*(As **Intro Music** plays (track 13) they exit.)*

Scene 2

(When ready, fade the intro music, Puss enters and lays the bag - a large duvet cover - on the ground. He pulls his hat down over his eyes and snoozes.)

Narrator 3 Next morning, bright and early, the dandy cat went out
To a woodland glade, leafy and sunny.
He laid the bag wide open with some bits of veg inside,
Hoping to entice a passing bunny!

(To the opening bars of the next song, the Rabbits enter and sniff around.)

Song 3 – Think Twice (track 14, lyrics p18) *(Rabbits supported by the whole cast)*

(Towards the end of the song two rabbits get into the bag and Puss pounces, closing the open end. The remaining rabbits scarpers as the song finishes. Puss struggles to heave the bag off-stage.)

Narrator 1 Like humans, rabbits get confused and slow down quite a bit,
By the time they reach a certain age.
They also tend to put on weight, just like you lot out there,
Which makes it hard to drag them off a stage!

*(As **Intro Music** plays (track 15) the lights fade and all exit. The stage is made ready for the next scene.)*

Scene 3

(Fade the music when ready, and bring the lights back up. We are in the palace of the King and Queen, who sit at a banqueting table with their daughter, the princess, and courtiers. Servants stand idly by, as no food is on the table.)

Narrator 2 Now, the royal family of this land was very well-to-do.
We join them in their splendid dining room.
But even though they were so very fabulously rich,
There was still an apparent air of gloom.

Courtier 1 What is wrong, your Majesties? You all seem quite depressed.
What's the cause of this unhappy mood?

**King, Queen
& Princess** Well, isn't it quite obvious? Take a look around –
It's lunchtime and there isn't any food!

Courtier 2 Ask that bunch of wretched cooks to come and show their faces.
They'd better have a suitably good reason!
'Cause failing to provide his nibs and family with their grub
Can be described as nothing less than treason!

(The cooks enter.)

Cook 1 Now look, you lot, before you start having a go at us,
We’re completely blameless in this matter.

Cook 2 Ask that bumbling gamekeeper of yours to tell you why
There’s not an ounce of meat upon your platter.

(The gamekeeper enters, rubbing his eyes and yawning.)

Gamekeeper I’m sorry that I haven’t bagged a pheasant, grouse or rabbit.
The thing is I’ve been feeling rather tired.

Narrator 3 The royalty were not impressed, and like Sir Alan Sugar,
Pointed at him and declared.....

**King, Queen
& Princess** You’re fired!

(The gamekeeper exits.)

Narrator 1 Domestic staff don’t last if they refuse to pull their weight,
And so this lazy fellow hit the street!
However, there was still another problem left to sort.....

**King, Queen
& Princess** WE’RE FAMISHED! PLEASE, SOMEBODY, BRING US MEAT!!

Song 4 – A Meaty March *(track 16, lyrics p19)*

(Royal household supported by the whole cast)

(The song finishes with the sound of a doorbell.)

King I hope whoever’s at the door, paying us a visit,
Hasn’t come expecting to be fed.

(Puss enters carrying two rabbits – see staging suggestions/props. He bows.)

Narrator 2 They all looked on astonished, as a curious cat in boots
Entered, and graciously bowed his head.

Queen Well now, what do we have here?! Isn’t it well-dressed!
I’d kill for boots like that upon my feet!

Courtier 3 Good idea, your majesty – I’ll gladly wring its neck,
And then, at least, we’ll have something to eat!

Puss There won’t be any need for that, for I’ve come bearing gifts
Of rabbits fit for any royal stew.
A present from my master, the Marquis of Carabas,
On whose behalf I pay respects to you.

Princess The Marquis of Carabas? I’ve never heard of him,
But he sounds extremely posh and grand!

Narrator 3 So Puss began describing his imaginary boss,
The most suave and debonair in all the land!

Song 5 – The Marquis Of Carabas *(track 17, lyrics p20)*
(Puss and the royal household, supported by the whole cast)

Narrator 1 Now the royal court was in a state of such excitement,
At the very mention of this guy!
Phase-one of his plan complete, Puss straightened his whiskers,
Bowed, then bid them all a fond goodbye.

(As Intro Music plays (track 18) the lights fade and all exit. The stage is cleared ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready)

Scene 4

(The farmer's son enters, followed by his two sisters.)

Narrator 2 The farmer's son, meanwhile, was hit hard by a credit crunch,
And his prospects seemed somewhat restricted.

Daughter 1 Listen here, you owe me money for your board and lodging!
Pay up, or you'll find yourself evicted!

Daughter 2 And don't think we've not noticed how strangely you are acting!
For goodness' sake, your one and only friend
Is a cat who you've dressed up in patent leather boots!
It seems you've gone completely round the bend?

(Puss enters and they exit, laughing and pointing at him.)

Narrator 3 Puss assured the farmer's son that all was running smoothly
Under his inspired leadership.
But his next instruction was quite weird, to say the least...

Puss Now, do you trust me?

Son Yes.....

PussOK then...strip!

(The farmer's son hesitantly strips to his underwear, then Puss picks up his clothes and leads him to the edge of the stage.)

Narrator 1 Puss told him to take a swim in a nearby river,
And then he threw his ragged clothes away!

(The farmer's son steps down off the stage as if into the water. Puss throws his clothes off-stage, then kneels down to speak to him.)

Puss Pretend you’re rich and that your name’s the Marquis of Carabas!
Apart from that, just nod and smile. OK?

Son But I don’t understand! Who is this Marquis of Carabas?
And by the way, this water’s kinda cold!
If it’s all the same to you I think I’ll just get out....

Narrator 2But Puss told him to do as he was told!

Narrator 3 So as the farmer’s son was standing submerged to his neck,
Shivering and slowly turning blue,
He heard the sound of wheels and horses’ hooves upon the road.
The royal entourage came into view!

(Puss stays crouched down. The King, Queen, Princess enter in a horse-drawn carriage – see staging suggestions/pros and costumes. They are accompanied by an entourage.)

Song 6 – A Lovely Day For A Ride (track 19, lyrics p21) *(The royal entourage, supported by the whole cast)*

(As the song finishes, Puss waves frantically at the carriage.)

Driver Your Majesties, look over there! I recognise that cat.
Didn’t he bring rabbits yesterday?

Footman 1 He looks slightly agitated! Maybe something’s wrong!
Shouldn’t we hear what he has to say?

Queen Call him over to the carriage. Maybe we can help.
After all we are still in his debt.

(Footman 2 approaches Puss.)

Footman 2 Come here, Kitty Kitty! Her Majesty the Queen
Would like to know why you are so upset.

(Puss approaches the royal carriage and points at the farmer’s son in the water.)

Narrator 1 Puss made up a story that shocked the entourage –
Thieves had stolen all his master’s clothes,
Then beaten him and thrown him in the raging, icy waters,
Naked from his head down to his toes!

King Goodness me! So that’s the famous Marquis of Carabas,
The one to whom we owe such gratitude.
Well pull the fellow out, and let him ride up here with us.

Princess But father, he’s completely in the nude!

(The footmen help the farmer’s son back onto the stage)

Queen You there, Driver, be a sport – the Marquis needs some clothes,
So do the decent thing and get undressed.

Driver This isn't in my job-description! Such indignity!
I have to say I'm really not impressed!

(The driver begrudgingly undresses down to his pants, vest and comedy garters, and gives his jacket and breeches to the farmer's son, who puts them on. The footmen snigger. The farmer's son bows and takes a seat in the carriage. The embarrassed driver resumes his position.)

Narrator 2 Phase-two of his plan complete, Puss ran off ahead
And left his master safe in royal care.

(Puss bows and exits.)

The driver cracked his whip and the carriage jolted forward,
Leaving splinters in his derrière!

*(As **Intro Music** plays (track 20) the entourage exits, with the poor driver wincing in pain!)*

Scene 5

(Fade the music when ready. The Harvesters enter, carrying scythes and sheaves of wheat.)

Narrator 3 A few miles up the road there were some harvesters at work,
Toiling in the fields, cutting wheat.
Simple souls they were, just trying to earn an honest living,
And trying to ignore their aching feet!

Song 7 – That's The Life For Me *(track 21, lyrics p22)* *(The Harvesters, supported by the whole cast)*

Harvester 1 Wouldn't you just know it – I've gone and slipped a disc!
(sitting down) I reckon that it's time to take a break.

Harvester 2 Good idea. I think I've gone and put my shoulder out!
There ain't one bit of me that doesn't ache!

Harvester 3 Well, with my knees the way they are, I won't be sitting down,
'Cause standing up again would be too hard!

Harvester 4 Dear oh dear, just look at us! What a sorry bunch.
Fit for nothing but the knackers' yard!

(Puss enters.)

Narrator 1 Into this merry gathering Puss in Boots appeared,
Much to the harvesters’ surprise!

Puss Now, listen here you lousy bunch, do exactly as I say,
Or I’ll take pleasure gouging out your eyes!

(The harvesters gasp in shock!)

A carriage will arrive here soon, with royal passengers,
And when they ask you who owns all this land,
Say that it is owned by the Marquis of Carabas,
Or else....*(Puss draws a finger threateningly across his neck)...*

Harvesters *(fearfully)*... Errrr...yes! We understand!

(Puss exits and the harvesters shiver in fear. The royal entourage, with the farmer’s son, enters and stops by the harvesters, who bow.)

King What beautiful and luscious fields – the finest I have seen!
(to Harvester 5) Pray tell, good sir, to whom do they belong?

Harvester 5 I believe the Marquis of...of...the carrots owns them all!
(to Harvester 1) Or have I got that name completely wrong?!

(Harvester 1 cuffs Harvester 5.)

Harvester 1 Your Majesties, the Marquis of *Carabas* owns this land,
And everything that is contained within it.

(The King, Queen and Princess look admiringly at the farmer’s son.)

Queen Well, you are a dark horse, and obviously rich!

Princess And getting more attractive by the minute!

(Intro Music plays (track 22). The entourage exits as the Harvesters bow. They then exit and the stage is set for the next scene. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 6

(We are now in the castle of an Ogre! A sumptuous banquet is laid out on tables. This should look different to the set-up in scene 3, to distinguish between the locations. The Ogre enters and swaggers around the stage, a chicken leg in each hand.)

Narrator 2 The real owner of those fields was a rich but wicked ogre,
Who was feared and loathed in equal measure.

Ogre I’ve terrorized the local folk, I’ve stolen and I’ve cheated,
And filled my castle up with loads of treasure!

Narrator 3 He was so unsavoury and rotten to the core,
That friendships were completely out the question.
And so he’d feast on vast and lavish banquets on his own,
Ignoring the effects on his digestion!

(The Ogre nonchalantly lets out a large belch (track 23), then sings!)

Song 8 – What A Rotter! *(track 24, lyrics p23)* *(The Ogre, supported by the whole cast)*

(As the song finishes, we hear the castle door knocker. The Ogre is surprised.)

Ogre That’s something I seldom hear – knocking at my door!
Perhaps someone has come to visit me?
Someone I can scare, and maybe torture for a while!
Who can this unfortunate soul be?

(He exits then returns, grinning and rubbing his hands together. Puss follows.)

Narrator 1 The visitor, of course, was Puss, with phase-three of his plan
About to be put into operation!

Puss *(bowing)* Having heard so many wondrous things about you, Sir,
I’ve come to offer my felicitations.

Narrator 2 This ogre was indeed quite skilled in doing magic tricks!
With just a single twitch of his fat nose,
Miraculously he could transform his entire body
Into any animal he chose!

Ogre *(proudly)* I can change into a mighty elephant or lion?
I bet you’d just love to witness that!

Puss But being so majestic as you are, that would be simple.
Here’s a challenge, change into.....a rat!

Ogre Easy peasy, lemon squeezy! This’ll be a breeze!
A chance to show the talents I possess! *(he exits)*

Narrator 3 Puss patiently waited to make his final move,
Which would be.....well, I’m sure you all can guess!

*(A mouse enters – see staging suggestions/costumes. It perhaps wears the ogre’s hat or another item of clothing which shows it is, though now transformed, still the ogre. Use either the actor’s own voice or the **Mouse Voice** (track 25).)*

Mouse You said ‘a rat’, but look, I’m now a mouse – that’s even smaller!
This transformation took a lot of skill!

Narrator 1 Puss just smiled and casually flicked open his claws,
Then like cats do, he moved in for the kill!

(Puss pounces on the mouse, who gives a squeak before lying motionless.)

Puss My hunting instinct still seems sharp - that came quite naturally,
And easier than I'd anticipated.

(Puss drags the mouse off stage.)

Narrator 2 Puss cleared up the evidence of what had just transpired,
Then pulled a chair up, sat back, and just waited.

(Puss returns and lounges in a chair. The royal entourage enters along the front of the stage, everyone admiring the castle. Puss stands forward on the stage.)

Narrator 3 It wasn't long before the royal carriages arrived,
And Puss, of course, was there to meet and greet.

Puss Welcome to the castle of the Marquis of Carabas.
Come in! But everyone, please wipe your feet.

(Everyone wipes their feet then they step up onto the stage, looking in awe at the surroundings. Impressed, the princess takes the farmer's son to one side.)

Princess Just to let you know, I've got a real crush on you!
And with all this I'm certainly impressed.
I'm tired of the single life, so if you wanted to
Propose to me, well.....go on, be my guest!

(He kneels. One by one people notice him and turn to watch. A hush descends.)

Son OK, here goes....we've only known each other half an hour,
But your sweet love, I cannot live without it!
And so, my dearest darling Princess...will you marry me?

(All gasp and look expectantly at the couple! The princess feigns surprise.)

Princess Gosh, young man! I'll have to think about it!

(She considers it.....then nods enthusiastically at him. Everyone cheers.)

Queen Oh! I can't believe it! Our daughter is engaged,
And will become the lady of these lands!

King She'll certainly be minted – that's a bonus I suppose.
(aside) I'm just glad to get her off my hands!

Narrator 1 With the banquet hall already set up for a feast,
They thought they'd have the wedding straight away.
Guests were summoned hastily, and they turned up in droves,
To celebrate the couple's happy day.

(The stage fills with guests, including the whole cast of characters from previous scenes – dead ones obviously dressed differently! The farmer's daughters push to the front and look jealously at their brother. Fussily, the queen gives the princess a bouquet and a veil, and the farmer's son a buttonhole flower. Puss takes a chair and sits cross-legged, watching proceedings from the side. He smokes a pipe, picks grapes from a bunch, or does any other activity implying relaxation. A priest steps forward and the couple kneel.)

Priest

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today
To celebrate the nuptials of these two.
(to the couple) Do you take one another for better or for worse,
Until you're dead as doorknobs?

Couple

.....Yes! We do!

(Everyone cheers again, and the princess throws her bouquet. It is caught by both the farmers' daughters who grapple with each other to claim it!)

Narrator 2

So all is well that ends well! The farmer's son's now rich,
And has a brand new wife upon his arm.
She does seem quite 'high maintenance', but anything is better
Than those two dreadful sisters on the farm!

Narrator 3

And what of Puss in Boots, you ask. Well, he came out on top,
His skill and cunning handsomely rewarded.
He lived a life of luxury, though did become quite fat
With all those little treats that wealth afforded!

Narrator 1

Is there a moral to our tale? Well yes, try this for size;
If your life's full of hardship and despair,
All you need is one good trusted friend to watch your back.....

All

AND YOU'LL FEEL RICHER THAN A MILLIONAIRE!

Song 9 – He's The Cat's Whiskers! *(track 26, lyrics p24)*
(The whole cast)

THE END

Where There's A Will

Verse 1

(Lawyer)

Well, this is very interesting,
I'll read it in a while.

One of you might be upset,
The other two will smile!

(to Daughter 1)

The gist is.. you've been left the farm

(to Daughter 2)

And you'll receive the cow.

(to Son)

Your father's given you the cat

And you can have it now!

Chorus

(All)

She's got this – she's got that
And all you got was the mangy cat!
Maybe things will change one day!
Where there's a will there's a way!
Where there's a will there's a way!

Verse 2

(Daughter 1)

I do think I've done rather well,
Inheriting the farm!
Just about what I deserve –
It must have been my charm!

(Daughter 2)

Did daddy think that much of you
To leave me with the cow?

(Son)

At least you two can make some cash –
with Puss I don't know how!!

Chorus

She's got this.....

Verse 3

(Daughters)

You didn't get a lot, did you?
How very, very sad!
Sorry that we had to laugh,
A cat can't be that bad!
So, off we go to celebrate,
Our fortune has been made!

(Lawyer)

He's not the only loser here
Since I've not yet been paid!

Chorus

She's got this.....

Repeat

Where there's a will there's a way!

Puss In Boots

Verse 1

(Puss)

When you first saw me – what did you think?
A mangy moggy, dismissed in a blink?
Look at me now, all dressed up to the nines.
Things are looking up. These are exciting times!

Chorus

(All)

Puss in Boots! Puss in Boots!
Doesn't need tuxedos, or sparkly suits.
In his trade-mark waistcoat, you'll see him walk tall.
He's a glamour-puss. Boots and all!

Verse 2

(All)

Just dig that cat, man! Take in his style!
A feline marvel – the tops, by a mile!
One model dude, a sartorial wow!
Strolling round the farm - he's on a catwalk now!

Chorus

Puss in Boots.....

Verse 3

(All)

He'll make a fortune! That's on the way.
A stack of bank-notes – and more every day!
Can that guy talk! Just you watch his PR!
He will sort you out, 'cos he's a superstar!

Chorus

Puss in Boots.....

Repeat

Boots and all! x 3

Add a whispered 'Yeh'

Think Twice

Verse 1

(Rabbits)

The morning air is fresh and clear,
The skies are blue and sunny.
This really is the kind of day
To suit a happy bunny!

Chorus

(All)

Hello, hello! What is this here?
A bag that smells quite nice.
Perhaps we'd better peek inside.
Hang on – we'd best think twice!

Verse 2

(Rabbit 1)

We forage and we hop about.

(Rabbit 2)

We sniff at pretty flowers.

(Rabbit 3 aside, bored)

Sometimes my mates do rabbit on!

(Rabbit 4 yawning)

And on... and on... for hours!

Chorus 2

(All)

Hello again! What's this again?
That bag – it still smells nice.
So, do we dare to peek inside?
No chance – we will think twice!

Verse 3

(Rabbits)

We always eat our grass and greens,
To make our fur grow sleekly!
Sometimes we have a bad-hair day!
They come around twice weekly!

Chorus 3

(All)

This bag we've found upon the ground
Smells very, very nice!
We're *going* to take a peek inside –
This time, we won't think twice!

(After the chorus two rabbits go into the bag and amidst mad, scambly music, Puss closes it on them!)

A Meaty March

Verse 1

(Household) Do you think that we are truculent,
Wanting special food that's succulent?
Meat is what we all adore!
That's because we're carnivore!
Nothing else will satisfy –
Now, here is the reason why....

Chorus We love the smell – the smell of roasting meat.
That savoury aroma – a whiff you cannot beat!
The tingle of excitement when the oven is first lit!
The thought of all that pleasure, chewing every single bit!

Verse 2

(King) When we hold our outdoor barbecue,
All our guests arrive and form a queue!
(Queen) Pile their plates with ribs and steak,
(Princess) And there's plenty more to take!
(All three) Shish kebabs and chicken wings,
Burgers topped with onion rings.

Chorus We love the smell....

Verse 3

(All) Pork, or beef, or turkey casserole,
Looks so tasty when it's in a bowl!
One day we might even try,
Venison or rabbit pie!
Sausage, bacon, gammon, ham,
Mutton stew or minted lamb!

Chorus We love the smell....

Repeat Chorus

The Marquis Of Carabas

Verse 1

(Puss)

You couldn't find a nicer chap
If you searched through this land!
He's kind, good-looking, generous
And positively grand!!
The great 'Marquis of Carabas' –
A fine upstanding man!

(aside to audience) Oh, by the way, I've made this up!
It's all part of my plan!

Chorus

(All)

This 'Marquis' seems a marvellous bloke,
With quite a claim to fame!
But none of us can truly say
We've ever heard his name!

Verse 2

(Women)

He sounds so rich! We're interested!
But is he single, still?
We'd love to meet him, and quite soon,

(fluttering eyelids)

And perhaps, quite soon, we will!

(Men)

What sort of carriage does he drive?
Does he own lots of land?
How many servants does he have?
And how much cash in hand?

Chorus

This 'Marquis'.....

Verse 3

(King)

When we were famished, he sent food.
We were in a real tizz!
We must reward this mystery man.

(Queen)

And find out who he is!

(Princes)

So, let's invite him here today,
To thank him properly.

(All)

The great 'Marquis of Carabas'
Can come to court for tea!

Chorus

This 'Marquis'.....

Repeat Chorus

A Lovely Day For A Ride

Verse 1

(All)

All of the Royal Household
Enjoy being driven round.
This is the kind of life-style
That suits them to the ground!
One way to keep them happy,
A sure way to make them smile,
Is give them a horse and carriage –
They'll sight-see for a while!

Chorus

And we have to say, in the nicest way,
It's a lovely day for a ride!
What a perfect way to enjoy your stay
In the beautiful countryside!

Verse 2

(King)

I like this carefree feeling!

(Queen)

And I like this splendid view!

(Princess)

I like to put my feet up

And listen to these two!

(Footmen)

We've got to do our duty,
While they get the special treats!

(Driver)

They also get all the cushions,
To soften up their seats!!

Chorus

And we have to say.....

Verse 3

(All)

Give us a life of leisure
And give us a life of ease!
Coach tours in these surroundings
Are guaranteed to please!
Now that we have a moment,
There's something we'd like to say.
This outing is so relaxing,
We'd drive around all day!

Chorus

And we have to say.....

Repeat Chorus

That's The Life For Me

Verse 1

(Harvesters) It's Harvest time, the fields are full,
The wheat is ripe and ready.
(Harvester 1) But when you chop the season's crop,
(shaking scythe) You need a hand that's steady!

Chorus

(All) Foll, loll, loll, riddle, diddle-dee!
Foll, loll, loll, loll, foll da ree!
Outside in the open air –
That's the life, the life for me!!

Verse 2

(Harvester 2) Our work begins when dawn first breaks,
(yawning) But getting up's not funny!
(Harvester 3) And every day we slave away,
For very little money!!

Chorus Foll, loll, loll.....

Verse 3

(Harvester 4) I suppose this beats an office job!
(Harvester 5) Well, yes - unless it's raining!
Life can be tough.....
(Harvester 4)Now, that's enough!
Just stop all that complaining!

Chorus Foll, loll, loll.....

Verse 4

(Harvesters) Our cereal is one to watch!
Let's sing its praise for ever!
We'll plough and sow then reap and mow,
And never mind the weather!

Chorus Foll, loll, loll.....

Repeat Chorus

What A Rotter

Verse 1

(Ogre)

I don't like you – you don't like me,
A feeling I have constantly!
I am not so nice to know,
Never mind! So what! Ho, ho!!
I steal and cheat and terrorize,
I tell the most outrageous lies!

Chorus

(All)

This ogre's someone to avoid.
Our advice is don't go near!
He's far worse when he gets annoyed!
What a rotter! Keep well clear!

Verse 2

(Ogre)

I have huge wealth –I love it lots.
I count it then hide it in pots.
I've no friends but I don't care –
I won't ever have to share!

(aside)

I gorge myself – a daily trend,
Which gives me wind at either end!

Chorus

This ogre's someone.....

Verse 3

(All)

We know he'll always be the same.
He'll plague our lives, 'cos that's his game!
He's a real unpleasant guy!
We'll explain the reason why -
He makes a stink when he's around!
His personal hygiene lets him down!

Chorus

This ogre's someone.....

Repeat Chorus

He's The Cat's Whiskers

Verse 1

(All)

Now that the ogre's gone,
Here is our final song.
And it won't be long 'til the fun begins
And the party swings!
Everything's turned out great!
We're going to celebrate!
No one wants to wait, so let's sing and dance,
While we have the chance!!

Chorus

Puss is the 'crème de la crème' – shout 'HOORAY'!
Give him a round of applause!
What more could anyone else have to say?
He's the cat's whiskers, of course!

Verse 2

(All)

What of the farmer's son?
He is the lucky one,
With the lands he's won and a castle too!
How would that suit you?
He's landed on his feet!
That means his life's complete!
It's right up his street - with a princess wife,
He's set up for life!

Chorus

Puss is the 'crème de la crème'.....

Verse 3

(All)

Puss simply used his brain!
He needn't work again!
And it's very plain he's a real cool cat!
Tell the Marquis that!
Wealthy, beyond his dreams,
Following all those schemes,
He's a hit, it seems – and we all know how!
He's one 'fat cat' now!

Chorus

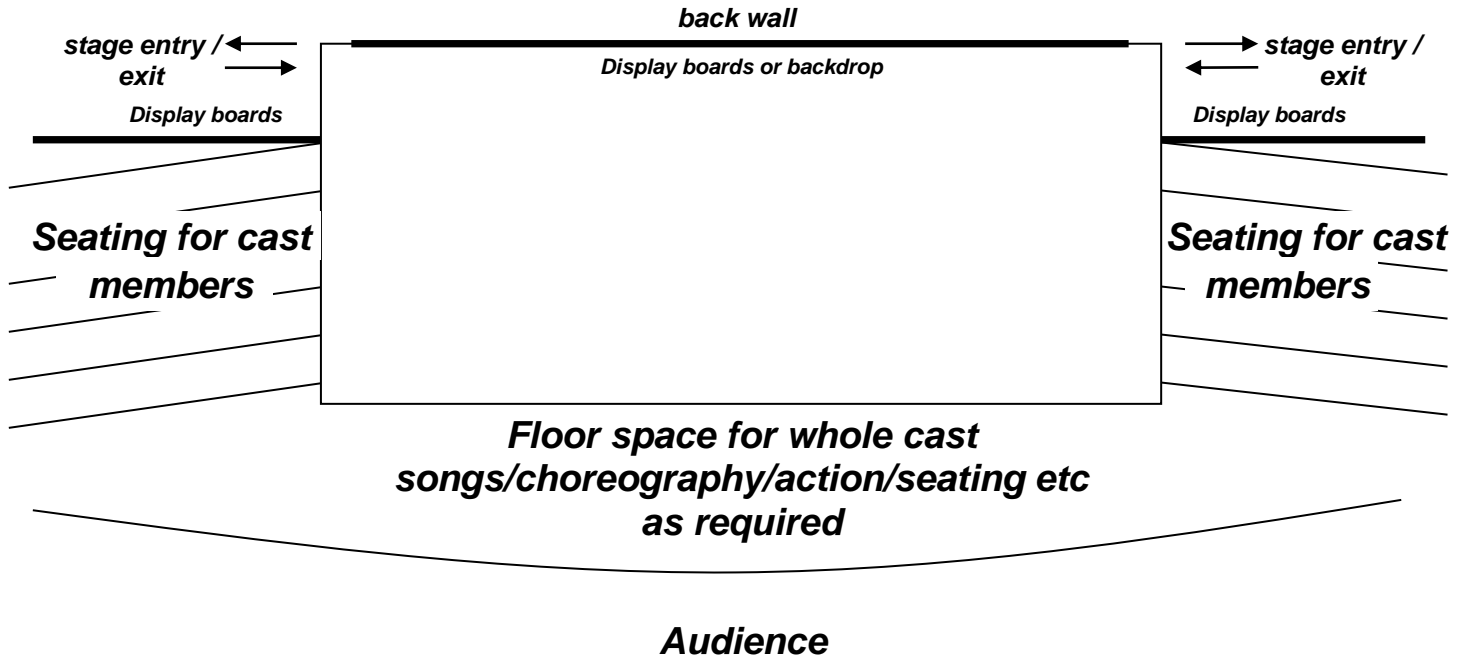
Puss is the 'crème de la crème'.....

Repeat Chorus

HOORAY!

STAGING AND PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS

'Puss In Boots' has been written to be adaptable to most school hall set-ups, whether you have a stage or not. Below is just one representation of a possible staging layout.



- **Scenery** – At the back of the main stage (either on display boards or as a wall-mounted backdrop), and on display boards behind the seating areas, should be a scene (painting or collage) depicting rural images, with fields, distant farm buildings, a castle, an orchard and a river cutting through the landscape. If using display boards as the backdrop, suitable artwork to depict the castle and palace (turrets, ornamental windows, flags, statues, coats of arms, suits of armour etc) could be depicted on the reverse side, and the boards turned round for the specific scenes.
- **Props** – The narrators will need to read lines, as there are too many to memorize, so these could be stuck into a large old book or ledger. You will need the following props for individual characters: for the farmer an axe and scroll, Puss a duvet cover for scene 2 and two soft-toy rabbits for scene 3, the king a sceptre, the queen and princess a fan each and perhaps parasols for the carriage ride, the gamekeeper a shot gun, the cooks rolling pins and ladles, the driver a whip, and the harvesters scythes. Both the palace scene and the ogre's castle scene will require a range of crockery and cutlery, glasses, table decorations, candelabra etc, to represent sumptuous dining. To represent the carriage, the footmen at the front and back could carry an 'axle' (a long cane) with card wheels attached, which they spin as they and the passengers walk or trot in formation. If you intend not to cast a child as the mouse, and use the voice on the CD, a toy mouse pulled across the stage with a string would be very effective...and funny!

- **Costume** – The traditional costumes for this story tend to be in the style of Charles 1st/cavalier-type garments. By all means stick to this for all or a selection of the characters if you have the resources, but feel free to modernise or adapt the look if not. Obviously Puss should have leather boots, waistcoat and extravagant hat. Crowns and gowns will give the royals the necessary status. Knee-length trousers and stockings, with various smocks, tunics and waistcoats will add authenticity to the other major characters. The mouse (if played by a child) and rabbits will simply need ears on a headband, grey or brown simple clothing and some imaginative face paint.
- **Use of Space** – The whole cast will probably want to be involved in the performance of most of the songs and choruses. A space on the floor in front of the main stage could be used to accommodate extra bodies. In this space, for some songs, the cast could perform dance routines or act out the lyrical content. A seating area for resting performers could be allocated to one side of the stage. This lets them enjoy the performance as part of the audience, allows easy movement on and off the stage, and of course eliminates the need for back-stage supervision.
- **Content** – You can personalise your performance by adding to or changing parts of the script to suit your particular needs. Different songs that the children know and enjoy could replace, or be added to those on the track list.
- **Audience seating** – The audience could be in one block facing the stage, or maybe in two blocks separated by an aisle wide enough for perhaps the entrance of some of the characters, or to allow some of the drama and choreography to be performed on the floor.

Our final suggestion, as always, is to have fun with this production. There are plenty of opportunities to ‘play for laughs’, so please enjoy yourselves!