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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.

* **If you are performing outside of your school premises, for example in a local theatre, please contact us as further conditions apply. For more information, visit www.edgyproductions.com/licences**

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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.

File Sharing

You are not permitted to share any of our copyrighted material, either in printed form, on disc or in digital file format, with anyone who is not a pupil or teacher within your school or organisation. We will take immediate action should an incident of illegal file-sharing be reported or discovered.

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

Tel: 01858 288081
Email: info@edgyproductions.com

PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of ‘An Out-Of-This-World Christmas’ 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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If you are recording any performance, and/or selling copies of the recording, you will **also** need a recording and duplication licence.

Recording and Duplication Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)

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.**



PLOT SUMMARY

Following the opening song (***Out Of This World***) we join four mechanics making final adjustments to a super hi-tech intergalactic spaceship! They discuss the mission, the hiccups and set-backs that have delayed the launch, and wonder how the astronauts will cope being many light-years from home so close to Christmas. The mission controllers then call for the launch site to be cleared as the four astronauts enter and prepare to board. They are slightly concerned that they may not be back in time for turkey and trimmings, but are assured that the mission will run smoothly. (***song – Back On Earth For Christmas Day***)

After a supersonic lift-off the ship speeds through the Earth’s atmosphere and into deep space. Once Mission Control has informed them that they’re on course, the astronauts relax and enjoy a space-walk outside, where they dance with the beautiful array of stars that light their way. (***song – Starry Night***)

It soon becomes clear to Mission Control and the crew that all is not well. They lose control of the ship, which hurtles towards an unknown planet! Having miraculously survived the crash-landing, the astronauts activate the on-board robots to assess the ship’s damage and explore outside. (***dance – Robot Dance***) Once they are given the all-clear the astronauts leave the ship, but soon get the feeling they are being watched! When they bump into the fearsome alien inhabitants of what they learn is the planet Zork, they’re pretty sure their numbers are up! (***song – We Are Zorkonians***)

However, once the Zorkonians are satisfied that their visitors have come in peace, they welcome them, keen to find out all about them. The Astronauts explain about the crash and how, sadly, it seems unlikely they will back on Earth for Christmas. Of course, the word ‘Christmas’ means nothing on Zork, so it’s up to the astronauts to demonstrate just what a wonderful thing it is, and why they are so desperate not to miss it! (***song – Christmas Ditty***) Having heard about Santa Claus, carol singing, crackers, family meals and all the ways in which Christmas is celebrated, the Zorkonians are impressed, but want to know *why* such celebrations happen. The astronauts go on to explain the true meaning of Christmas. (***Nativity tableau and song – Carol Medley***)

Convinced that Christmas is something not to be missed (***song – The Place We Call Home***) the alien hosts agree to help. With the astronauts ship beyond repair the Zorkonians offer them Zork’s one and only space craft, as a Christmas present! When asked how they can ever be repaid for their kindness, the Zorkonians request just one thing in return..... to be allowed to travel back with the astronauts to enjoy Christmas on Earth!

And who can blame them? With a rousing reprise of the song ‘***Out Of This World***’ it’s time to show the Zorkonians just what all the fuss is about!

CHARACTERS

(28 speaking parts in order of appearance)

4 Mechanics – *trying not to throw a spanner into the works*

6 Mission Controllers – *except they’re not really ‘in control’*

4 Astronauts – *far from home, and far from happy*

4 Robots – *the mission’s metallic muscle*

10 Aliens – *weird and wonderful inhabitants of the planet Zork*

(Ensemble Characters – for featured songs and choreography)

Stars

More Robots

More Aliens

Christmas Shoppers

Carol Singers

Diners with crackers and paper hats

Santa Claus and Elf/Elves

Traditional Nativity Characters

Scene 1

(As **intro music** plays (**track 9**) the cast members enter and take their places for the opening song – see **staging suggestions p22**.)

Song **Out Of This World** (*tracks 1 & 10, lyrics p14*) (Whole Cast)

(As **intro music** plays again (**track 11**) the cast members sit. The main stage is empty, but has a ‘starry’ backdrop. To one side, on a separate stage, is the rocket, with four mechanics in attendance, and four stationary robots. On the floor in front of the rocket are six mission controllers, either sitting at computers or with clip boards.

See staging suggestions p22.)

Mechanic 1 I just need to fine-tune this dial. Pass the hammer, mate.
(*Mechanic 2 passes a hammer, and Mechanic 1 whacks the rocket!*) There, that should do it. And this robot too. (*S/he hits Robot 1, who lets out a robotic ‘Ouch!’*)

Mechanic 2 Take it easy! You’ll break something!

Mechanic 3 Yeah! We’re six months behind because of technical problems! This was going to be a summer mission into space, but now it’s less than two weeks to Christmas!

Mechanic 4 (*buffing the rocket with a rag*) There, done. Isn’t she fantastic?
(*They all stand back and admire the rocket.*)

Mechanic 1 Built to boldly go where no rocket has gone before!

Mechanic 2 (*putting a hand on Robot 2’s shoulder*) And these robots! So life-like. They’ll be a big help to the astronauts!
(*The action switches to the mission controllers.*)

MC 1 (*if possible into a microphone*) This is Mission Control. All mechanics must now exit the launch site.

(*The mechanics leave the rocket and robots, and stand near Mission Control.*)

MC 2 We are about to make history! This will be the first ever mission to the edge our universe!

MC 3 I never thought we’d make it, but here we are!

MC 4 And at Christmas too! I couldn’t think of a better Christmas present than seeing that beauty blast off!

MC 5 I just feel sorry for those poor astronauts. They’ll be millions of light years away from home at Christmas time.

MC 6 But they should be back for Christmas Day itself. They’ll still get to open their presents and eat their turkey.

MC 2 Countdown is only moments away. Call the astronauts.

MC 1 *(into a mic)* This is Mission Control. Flight crew to the boarding platform.

MC 3 Ooooh! How exciting!

*(To the **Astronauts’ Entrance (track 12)** four astronauts enter the main stage.)*

Astronaut 1 This is it then, everyone! How are you feeling?

Astronaut 2 Over the moon! Ha! You get it? Over the moon!

Astronaut 3 I’m scared stiff! I just found out how far we’re going!

Astronaut 4 *(holding up a sachet)* I’m more worried about the food. How are we going to live on these tiny packets of dried stuff?

Astronaut 2 Up in space everything we eat will be an unidentified frying object! Ha! You get it? An unidentified frying object!

Astronaut 4 I’m just thinking of the lovely Christmas dinner that’ll be waiting for me when we get back.

Astronaut 3 That’s if we get back! What if something goes wrong?

MC 1 *(into a mic)* This is Mission Control. Astronauts please board the craft.

(To the opening bars of the next song, the astronauts move to the rocket and each stand by a robot. Mission controllers and mechanics stand centre stage to sing. The cast stands.)

Song Back On Earth For Christmas Day

(tracks 2 & 13, lyrics p15)

(Mission Controllers and Mechanics, supported by whole cast)

(As the song finishes, the astronauts sit on the rocket. The mechanics join the MCs in the mission control area.)

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Commencing countdown!

*(The **countdown music** plays (**track 14**) and the whole cast joins in, 10..9..8..etc. On the words ‘We have lift-off’ the astronauts and robots lurch back. Everyone cheers.)*

MC 2 A successful lift off! They’re on their way!

*(As **intro music** plays (**track 15**) the lights come down.)*

Scene 2

(As the music fades, the lights come up. The Stars enter and take their positions on and in front of the main stage.)

Astronaut 1 *(pointing at the stars)* Wow! Look at the Milky Way!

Astronaut 4 Milky Way? Where? I’m starving!

Astronaut 1 Not that sort of Milky Way! I mean the Galaxy.

Astronaut 4 I don’t care, it’s still chocolate!

Astronauts 2 & 3 *(sighing)* Oh, for goodness’ sake!

Astronaut 1 I know, let’s go out there for a space-walk!

Astronaut 2 I prefer it in here. There’s more of an atmosphere! Ha! You get it? Atmosphere....

Astronaut 3 A space-walk! Is it safe?

Astronaut 1 Of course it is. The robots can control the ship while we’re gone. Come on!

(The astronauts activate the robots, who sit down to control the ship. To the opening bars of the next song the astronauts cross over to the main stage and, mimicking the effects of zero-gravity, move around the stars. During the instrumental section of the song the stars dance with the astronauts.)

Song **Starry Night** *(tracks 3 & 16, lyrics p16)* *(whole cast)*

*(After the song finishes, **intro music** plays (**track 17**) and the lights come down. The astronauts return to the rocket, and the robots move to allow them to sit. The stars resume their seats, and rocks and boulders are set around the main stage – **see staging suggestions/scenery p22**. As the music fades the lights come up.)*

Scene 3

MC 3 They’re holding their speed and direction. All signs are good.

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Mission Control to crew. You’re looking good, guys.

Astronaut 1 Hearing you loud and....

(All astronauts and robots suddenly start shaking, trying to control the rocket!)

MC 4 We’re losing contact and my computer says they’re going off course!

Mechanic 2 *(quietly to Mechanic 1)* I told you to go easy with that hammer! Now look what you’ve done!

MC 6 We need to find out what’s going on up there!

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Mission Control to crew. Come in crew!

MC 3 It’s no use! We’ve lost radio contact! *(pointing at computer)* And look! They’re headed towards a strange planet! They’re out of control! They’re going to crash!

Astronaut 3 It’s no use! We’ve lost radio contact! And look! We’re headed towards a strange planet! We’re out of control! We’re going to crash!

Mechanics 2, 3 & 4 *(to Mechanic 1)* This is all your fault!

*(As the **crash** sound effect plays (**track 18**), everyone screams and the lights come down.)*

Scene 4

(As the lights come back up we see the astronauts and robots in a heap. Steadily they all stand up and dust themselves down.)

Astronaut 3 Is anyone hurt?

Astronaut 2 *(patting him/herself all over)* I don’t think anything’s broken.

Astronaut 4 *(holding up a broken Kit-Kat biscuit)* Apart from my emergency Kit-Kat that I was keeping in my back pocket!

Astronaut 1 Robots, any damage to you?

All Robots *(in robotic voices)* All our circuits are working.

Astronaut 3 What about damage to the ship?

Robot 1 *(looking at dials)* Fuel tanks destroyed.

Robot 2 *(looking at dials)* Navigation system down.

Robot 3 *(looking at dials)* Serious body damage.

Robot 4 In other words, the whole craft is now a useless pile of junk!

Astronaut 1 Nobody panic. First we need to know exactly where we are, and whether it’s safe out there for humans.

Astronaut 4 And whether there’s anywhere I can get a burger!

Astronaut 2 *(looking out)* Well, judging by the landscape out there we’ve landed at the Hard Rock Café! Ha! You get it? Hard Rock Café!

Astronaut 3 Let’s send the robots out to explore.

*(To the **Robot Dance (track 19)** the robots cross to the main stage, joined by more robots if numbers allow. They perform a robotic dance routine, examining rocks and testing the ground etc. As the music ends they return to the rocket.)*

Robot 1 This planet’s gravity is the same as on Earth.

Robot 2 The surface is solid and the air is breathable.

Robot 3 No life-forms are visible, but we have detected an alien presence.

Robot 4 In other words, you’ll be fine out there but keep your eyes peeled for little green men!

(The astronauts cross to the main stage and nervously begin to look around.)

Astronaut 3 Errrm...do you get the feeling we are not alone?

*(The **alien music (track 20)** begins. The following action is similar to a game of Grandmother’s footsteps. The astronauts cautiously move down from the stage and walk amongst the audience. The aliens, brandishing ray-guns, enter and tiptoe behind them.*

When there is a gap in the music the astronauts turn round, but the aliens duck down behind audience members, or stand still, unseen by the astronauts. As the music starts again the astronauts continue exploring, and the aliens continue tiptoeing behind. Again the music stops, the astronauts turn round, and the aliens duck down. As the music stops for a third and final time, the aliens don’t manage to hide and the astronauts see them!)

All Astronauts Aaaaaaagh! *(They run back to the stage)*

Alien 1 Stop, or we shoot! *(The astronauts cower on the stage and the aliens surround them.)* Intruders! Why have you landed on Zork?

All Astronauts On where?

Alien 1 Zork. The greatest planet in the universe!

*(Start the next song (**track 21**) now. The following lines should be spoken over the instrumental introduction.)*

Alien 2 We are Zorkonians, proud and powerful! You will soon wish you hadn’t come here.

All Astronauts W...w...why?

Alien 3 Well, let us explain.....

Song **We Are Zorkonians** *(tracks 4 & 21, lyrics p17)*
(Zorkonians supported by whole cast)

Alien 3 See our fearsome weapons!

Alien 4 My finger is itching to pull this trigger!

Astronaut 2 No! We come in peace!

All Aliens Peace?

(The mood of the aliens suddenly changes. They relax and sigh in relief.)

Alien 4 Oh, thank goodness for that! I thought things were going to turn nasty for a moment there.

Astronaut 4 I don't get it! You're terrifying Zorkonians! You have fearsome weapons!

Alien 5 Oh, these are just water pistols, look. *(S/he squirts the astronauts.)*
We're not really fierce! We just pretend when we have new visitors!

Alien 6 So if you're not here to fight, what are you here for?

Astronaut 4 Well, it's a very long story.....

(To the intro music (track 22) the astronauts and aliens huddle in conversation.)

Scene 5

Alien 6 So the loud bang we heard was your spacecraft crash-landing?

All Astronauts Yes.

Alien 7 And you are only in this part of the universe for a short time, to gather scientific information?

All Astronauts Yes.

Alien 6 But you fear your spacecraft is damaged beyond repair?

All Astronauts Yes.

Alien 7 Which means you will not be home in time for...

All Astronauts Christmas!

Alien 8 What is this 'Christmas' you talk of? Why is it so important to you?

Astronaut 4 Well, there's the turkey and stuffing, potatoes, parsnips, carrots and brussels!

Astronaut 2 Late night shopping! Santa Claus!

Astronaut 4 Christmas pudding!

Astronaut 3 The Christmas tree and all the decorations!

Astronaut 4 Mince Pies!

Astronaut 1 Films to watch on the TV!

Astronaut 4 With a box of chocolates on your lap!

Alien 8 Stop! I am confused. What are all these things? Please explain!

Astronaut 2 Let’s see if we can make it any clearer!

(The aliens sit to one side as the astronauts take centre stage. They are joined by an ensemble of shoppers, carol singers, diners with crackers and paper hats, Santa Claus and an elf or two!)

Song Christmas Ditty *(tracks 5 & 23, lyrics p18)*
(Astronauts and ensemble, supported by whole cast)
(The ensemble characters then resume their seats.)

Scene 6

Alien 8 Your ‘Christmas’ sounds very exciting!

Alien 9 Decorating your homes, sitting down to eat with your families and friends, singing joyful songs, giving and receiving gifts!

Alien 10 But *why* do you do all these things? What is it you are celebrating when you have this ‘Christmas’?

Astronaut 3 Ah, now that’s a different story.

All Aliens Tell us, please.

All Astronauts Well, it all happened a very long time ago.....

*(To the **intro music (track 24)** the astronauts and aliens again huddle in conversation. The nativity characters enter and take centre stage – first Mary and Joseph, then the shepherds and three kings, and finally the angels.)*

Song Carol Medley *(track 6 & 25, lyrics p19)*
(Nativity ensemble, supported by whole cast)
(The Nativity characters then resume their seats.)

Alien 10 Now it’s clear why Christmas is special to you.

Alien 9 How sad you must feel, not being able to spend it with your own people.

Alien 1 But I’m sure we can help you get home? We are expert engineers.
We can repair your space craft.

Alien 2 Come on Zorkonians! Our visitors need our help. To the space craft!

(The astronauts wait expectantly as the aliens cross over to look at the rocket. They inspect it closely and there is a lot of murmuring and shaking of heads. They then cross back to the main stage looking sorry and disappointed.)

All Astronauts Well?

Alien 2 We are so sorry, but your spacecraft is beyond repair. It seems you will not be spending this or any Christmas back on Earth.

Alien 3 We understand this must be hard for you. We will give you some time alone to discuss matters.

(The aliens exit.)

Song The Place We Call Home

(tracks 7 & 26, lyrics p20)

(Astronauts supported by whole cast)

Astronaut 1 So we’ll be spending the rest of our days on Zork.

Astronaut 4 Eating rocks!

Astronaut 3 *(to Astronaut 2)* Say something funny to cheer us up.

Astronaut 2 Even I can’t see the funny side of this one.

(The aliens enter, looking excited.)

Alien 4 Visitors, your spacecraft can not be repaired, but you can still go home!

Alien 5 We have just held an emergency meeting of the Zorkonian Council.
We have a spacecraft which will get you back to Earth.

All Astronauts Really!

Alien 6 Yes! It’s the only one we have, but it’s in good condition. Call it a...
what was it...a ‘Christmas present’ from us to you!

Astronaut 1 So we won’t miss Christmas!

Astronaut 4 I’ll get my Turkey!

Astronaut 2 I’ll get to pull crackers and read the jokes inside!

Astronaut 3 How can we ever repay you?

Alien 7 Well, there is one thing you can do for us.

All Astronauts What is it?

All Aliens Take us with you!

Alien 8 We’d love to see your Christmas for ourselves!

Alien 9 It would make a lovely change. Things can get a bit dull on Zork!

Alien 10 So, what do you say?

All Astronauts What do we say? You betcha!

(To the intro music (track 27) the astronauts and aliens exit gleefully.)

Scene 7

(The mission controllers and mechanics gather.)

MC 2 We’re picking up something. It’s some sort of message!

MC 3 It’s a bit jumbled.

MC 4 Look, here it comes! And....and....yes! It’s from them!

All Mechanics What does it say? What does it say?

MC 5 *(reading a print-out)* “Mission accomplished! We’re heading home!”

All HURRAY!

MC 6 Wait! There’s more! *(reading another print-out)* Eh! I don’t understand!
“And by the way.....we are not alone!”

All Huh?

(The astronauts and aliens make a joyful entry. All cheer.)

MC 1 *(into a mic)* Mission Control to crew. Mission Control to crew. We just want to say that it’s good to have you back, and.....

All MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Out Of This World - Reprise

(Whole Cast)

(tracks 8 & 28, lyrics p21)

THE END



Out Of This World

Chorus *We have for you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Verse 1 A big warm welcome, everyone!
You’re in for such a lot of fun!
Our little Christmas play
Is a million miles away
From any other that’s been done!

Chorus *We have for you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Verse 2 Thank you for sitting patiently.
It will be worth it, wait and see!
We’ve put the hours in,
And worked so hard to bring
To you a truly cosmic treat!

Chorus *We have for you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Repeat Chorus *We have for you.....*

Repeat *It’s out of this world!*

Back On Earth For Christmas Day

Verse 1 Turn on the big computers!
Fire up the rocket boosters!
Flick all the switches, iron out the glitches,
It's a mission which is going to take you far away,
Into outer-space!
But we promise you'll be back on Earth
For Christmas day!

Chorus *You'll be flying to the stars,
Way past Jupiter and Mars,
Imagine what adventures lie ahead!
But soon you will be homeward bound,
When Christmas morning comes around
You'll be waking up in your own bed!*

Verse 2 Tighten your seatbelt buckle,
This one's a real white knuckle!
A thousand miles an hour takes a lot of power!
Blast off is now a moment or two away!
Soon you'll be in space!
But we promise you'll be back on Earth
For Christmas day!

Chorus *You'll be flying to the stars,
Way past Jupiter and Mars,
Imagine what adventures lie ahead!
But soon you will be homeward bound,
When Christmas morning comes around
You'll be waking up in your own bed!*

Starry Night

Chorus *Starry night, such a heavenly sight.
Sparkling diamonds and crystals that shine
With a pure and a dazzling light,
On a starry night, a starry, starry night.*

Verse 1 There's peace and there's quiet,
And no gravity.
There's nothing quite like it,
We're floating so free.
And out of the window
Is a glorious view.
A blanket of black
Studded with glistening jewels. It's a....

Chorus *Starry night, such a heavenly sight.
Sparkling diamonds and crystals that shine
With a pure and a dazzling light,
On a starry night, a starry, starry night.*

Verse 2 The comets shoot by us
With fiery tails.
The sky is alive with
Their glittering trails.
We sit here in wonder,
As the whole Milky Way
Is dancing around us,
Lighting our journey through space. It's a....

Chorus *Starry night, such a heavenly sight.
Sparkling diamonds and crystals that shine
With a pure and a dazzling light,
On a starry night, a starry, starry night.*

Instrumental *(The stars dance with the astronauts)*

Chorus *Starry night, such a heavenly sight.
Sparkling diamonds and crystals that shine
With a pure and a dazzling light,
On a starry night, a starry, starry night.*

Repeat *Starry night, a starry, starry night.*

We Are Zorkonians

Verse 1

(to astronauts) We are Zorkonians,
And we’re the master race!
Our very name is feared
All through outer space!
And any universal voyager who dares
To land his rocket-ship on Zork
Had better say his prayers!

(aside) But here’s the truth which might
Come as a big surprise.....
We’re not fierce, we hate to fight,
We’re really rather nice!

Verse 2

(to astronauts) We are Zorkonians,
A terrifying crew!
The very sight of us
Will scare the pants off you!
And any traveller unlucky to arrive
Without a written invitation,
Won’t get out alive!

(aside) But here’s the bottom line,
Zorkonians live in peace!
We work hard, we love our mums,
We’re really soft as grease!

(to astronauts) So if you mess with us there’ll be a price to pay!
That’s how we’re thought of and
We’d like it kept that way!

Christmas Ditty

Chorus *Christmas!*
Here’s a little ditty ’bout Christmas!
We all get giddy at Christmas!
Isn’t it a pity that Christmas comes just once a year?

Verse 1 Not even half way through November
Those decorations will appear!
Then by the time we hit December...
Wow! What a crazy atmosphere!
People shopping ’til they’re dropping!
It shows no sign of stopping!

Chorus *Christmas!*
Here’s a little ditty ’bout Christmas!
We all get giddy at Christmas!
Isn’t it a pity that Christmas comes just once a year?

Verse 2 The big day soon will be upon us!
It’s hard to get to sleep at night,
As such excitement spreads among us,
We’re filled with seasonal delight!
Decorations! Preparations
For festive celebrations.

Chorus *Christmas!*
Here’s a little ditty ’bout Christmas!
We all get giddy at Christmas!
Isn’t it a pity that Christmas comes just once a year?

Instrumental *(shoppers, carol singers, diners, Santa and elves exchange presents, pull crackers and generally make merry.)*

Turkey dinners! Carol singers!
Oh, what will Santa bring us?

Chorus *Christmas!*
Here’s a little ditty ’bout Christmas!
We all get giddy at Christmas!
Isn’t it a pity that Christmas comes just once a year?

Repeat Chorus

Carol Medley

- Verse 1** Silent night, holy night.
 All is calm, all is bright,
 Round yon virgin mother and child.
 Holy infant so tender and mild
 Sleep in heavenly peace
 Sleep in heavenly peace.
- Verse 2** While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
 All seated on the ground,
 The Angel of the Lord came down
 And glory shone around.
- Verse 3** We three kings of Orient are,
 Bearing gifts we travel afar
 Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
 Following yonder star.
 Oh, star of wonder, star of night
 Star with royal beauty bright.
 Westward leading, still proceeding,
 Guide us to thy perfect light.
- Verse 4** Away in a manger,
 No crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus
 Laid down his sweet head.
 The stars in the bright sky
 Looked down where He lay,
 The little Lord Jesus
 Asleep on the hay.
 The little Lord Jesus
 Asleep on the hay.

The Place We Call Home

Verse 1 So here we are.
 Seems like our journey’s ended
 So very far
 From where we first began it.
 How we long to be (*how we long to be*)
 In the company (*in the company*)
 Of the people we have left behind.

Chorus *But we’re far from the world we know,
 In a place so dark and cold.
 We can’t remember feeling so alone
 We’re so many light years away
 From the place we call home.*

Verse 2 This time of year
 Is when the ones that we love
 Should all be near,
 To hold and take good care of.
 How we long to be (*how we long to be*)
 Across the galaxy (*across the galaxy*)
 With the people we have left behind.

Chorus *But we’re far from the world we know,
 In a place so dark and cold.
 We can’t remember feeling so alone
 We’re so many light years away.....
 But we’re far from the world we know,
 In a place so dark and cold.
 We can’t remember feeling so alone
 We’re so many light years away
 From the place we call home.*

Out Of This World - Reprise

Chorus *We gave to you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Verse 1 A fond farewell to everyone.
We hope you had a lot of fun!
Our little Christmas play
Was a million miles away
From any other that’s been done!

Chorus *We gave to you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Verse 2 Thanks to you all for being here,
To share a bit of festive cheer!
As you go on your way,
One thing we’d like to say is
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

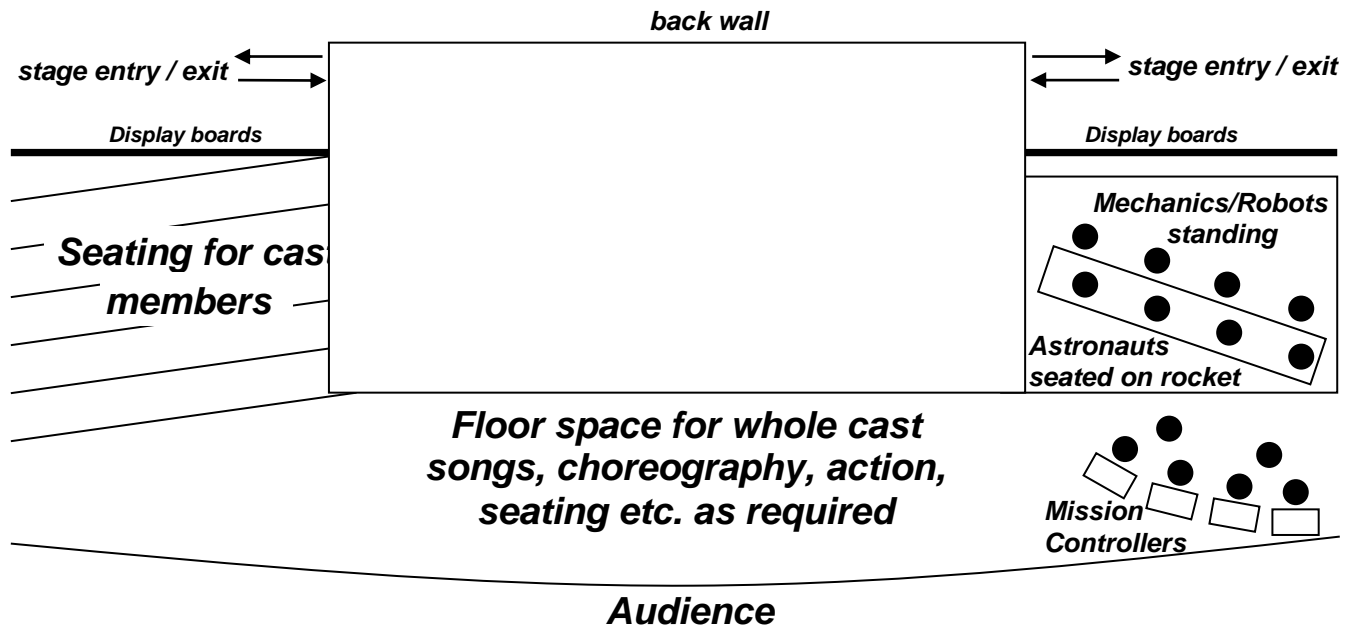
Chorus *We gave to you
Something so ‘off-the-planet’!
This is a Christmas
That’s out of this world!
It’s out of this world!*

Repeat Chorus *We gave to you.....*

Repeat *It’s out of this world!*

STAGING AND PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS

‘An Out-Of-This-World Christmas’ 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** – The back wall behind the main stage and the display boards behind the side stage and the seating area could depict a space scene – a black background with strange planets and star clusters painted or stuck on. The main backdrop could show the rocky and desolate horizon of the planet Zork along the bottom, as if we are looking out into space from the planet’s surface. For scene 4 onwards the main stage should be littered with rocks, boulders and craters. These can be either card cut-outs, larger objects covered in grey material or paper, or adventurous papier maché creations. Whichever you chose, they should be easily moveable. **For the rocket itself**, add a silver or white rocket/shuttle-shaped façade to a PE bench, and paint or stick on features such as windows, a flag, rocket boosters etc.
- **Furniture** – If you have mobile computer tables, wheel three or four into position in front of the rocket stage, to represent mission control. Wheeled swivel chairs could be used for different mission controllers to busily move between the computers.
- **Props – listed by scene**
Scene 1: Clipboards and microphone headsets for MCs, a working microphone (if possible) for MCs to address astronauts, a selection of DIY tools and rags for the mechanics, and a cuppa-soup (or similar) sachet.
Scenes 2 & 3: N/A apart from MCs props as per scene 1.
Scene 4: A Kit-Kat biscuit and a selection of water pistols and ‘super soakers’.
Scene 5: Assorted presents, crackers, paper hats, shopping bags, lanterns, carol sheets and present sacks for the song ‘Christmas Ditty’.

Scene 6: For the nativity tableau, the usual manger, doll, shepherds’ crooks and wise men’s gifts.

Scene 7: Computer print-out sheets.

- **Costume** – see p24 for detailed costume suggestions.
- **Use of Space** – The whole cast will probably want to be involved in the performance of most of the songs. 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 or changing character names, and re-writing any parts of the script to make them more appropriate to your particular school. Different songs that the children know and enjoy could replace, or be added to those on the track list. Don’t feel restricted; make the show your own.
- **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 processional entrance of the astronauts, or to allow some of the drama and choreography to be performed on the floor.
- Our final suggestion, as always, is to have fun and enjoy your Christmas at school!

Character	Number of spoken lines	Costume Suggestions
Mechanic 1	3	Boiler suit, hi-vis bib & hard hat
Mechanic 2	4	As Mechanic 1
Mechanic 3	2	As Mechanic 2
Mechanic 4	2	As Mechanic 3
Mission Controller 1	7	Shirt, tie, smart trousers or skirt
Mission Controller 2	4	As Mission Controller 1
Mission Controller 3	5	As Mission Controller 1
Mission Controller 4	3	As Mission Controller 1
Mission Controller 5	2	As Mission Controller 1
Mission Controller 6	3	As Mission Controller 1
Astronaut 1	11	White boiler suit, clean wellies & helmet with a visor
Astronaut 2	10	As Astronaut 1
Astronaut 3	12	As Astronaut 1
Astronaut 4	14	As Astronaut 1
Robot 1	2	Box helmet or mask, card breast plate & tubular card limb attachments covered in silver foil
Robot 2	2	As Robot 1
Robot 3	2	As Robot 1
Robot 4	2	As Robot 1
NB – all mechanics, mission controllers, astronauts and robots should wear a badge displaying the logo of a fictional space agency, similar to that of NASA		
Alien 1	3	Green leotard, mask, extra eyes & limbs
Alien 2	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 3	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 4	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 5	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 6	4	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 7	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 8	4	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 9	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Alien 10	3	As alien 1, but different coloured leotard & mask
Ensemble characters for individual scenes, songs and choreography		Costume Suggestions
Stars		Black leotard or t-shirt & shorts, silver star-shaped headdress.
More robots		As Robot 1
More aliens		As Alien 1
Christmas shoppers		Coats, hats, scarves, gloves & bags
Carol singers		Coats, hats, scarves, gloves & song sheets
Diners with crackers		Casual clothes, napkins hanging down front & paper crowns
Santa		Traditional outfit
Elves		Tights, tunics, pointy hats and big ears
Traditional Nativity characters		Traditional outfits