

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

SCRIPT SAMPLE

Scene 1

*(As the **intro music** plays (track 10), the cast enters for the opening song.)*

Song

Primary School Christmas Musical

*Track 1 - vocal demo
Track 11 - backing track
Lyrics p18*

*(As **continuity music** plays (track 12) all exit the stage, where there is a V-shaped arrangement of 10-15 chairs, representing a staffroom. Headteacher, Miss Bright, stands centre-stage to address the audience. She has lots to say, so she uses cue cards for this and further addresses.)*

Miss Bright Good evening everyone. My name is Miss Bright, Headteacher, and I'd like to welcome you all to our school's Christmas musical. I guarantee you're in for a real treat! The children and staff have worked incredibly hard to put this show together and I know they've found it a thoroughly enjoyable experience...*(pausing, ignoring cue cards)*...actually, that's not entirely true! There have been one or two ups and downs...in fact that's not entirely true either; there have been *lots* of ups and downs, which all began at a staff meeting way back in September...

*(We hear a **harp** (track 13) indicating a brief journey back in time. Miss Bright sits on the middle chair of the V. The other teachers, speaking and non-speaking, enter and sit either side of her, creating a visible divide between KS1 and KS2 staff – see character list.)*

Miss Bright Well, that's all the items on the agenda dealt with. Is there any other business? *(Mrs Jolly raises her hand.)* Mrs Jolly?

Mrs Jolly Yes, this year's Christmas production. I myself, Mr Keen and Miss Swift here think it's maybe time that we in Key Stage 2 had a bash and gave Key Stage 1 a rest this year?

Mr Keen We've lots of ideas! I'm sure we'd make a good job of it.

Miss Swift So, *(gesturing across to the KS1 staff)* what do you lot think of that?

Mrs Curtly Err...it's a no-brainer! Give up the stress of putting on a Nativity? Yes please!

Mr Short If you lot think you can handle it, then by all means go for it! You won't hear me complaining!

(The other KS1 teachers enthusiastically murmur their agreement.)

Mrs Jolly *(gesturing to the KS2 staff)* I know we'd all relish the opportunity, wouldn't we?

Miss Swift & Mr Keen Indeed we would!

(The other KS2 teachers murmur their disapproval, in particular Mr Thorn and Miss Picket)

Mr Thorn Just hang on a minute! What about the extra work it'll create? Finding costumes and props, making scenery, sitting through excruciating auditions and excruciating rehearsals!

Miss Picket We don't have the time in Key Stage 2 to do a Christmas show!

Mr Keen But Mr Thorn, Miss Picket, if we do a Nativity musical we'll have most of the things we need in school already!

Mrs Jolly And with the Key Stage 2 children involved, it'll be a Nativity with a bit of glitz! It'll be a lot more 'showbiz' than the run-of-the-mill productions we usually see at Christmas!

KS1 Staff Oh! Thanks a lot!

Mrs Curtly Go ahead then, be our guests. At least there are plenty of wigs in the costume cupboard for when you've all pulled your hair out in frustration!

Mr Short *(laughing mockingly)* Well, I for one think it's a great idea – a Key Stage 2 Nativity! *(to all the KS2 staff)* Good luck you lot...you're gonna need it.

(Mr Short and the rest of the KS1 teachers snigger. Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift give encouraging smiles to their nervous KS2 colleagues, then take centre stage to lead everyone in the next song.)

Song

Let's Get This Show On The Road

*Track 2 - vocal demo
Track 14 - backing track
Lyrics p19*

(As continuity music plays (track 15), all exit and the stage is made ready for the next scene.)

Scene 2

(To one side of the stage Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Mr Swift sit at a table, on which stands a sign reading 'AUDITIONS IN PROGRESS'. Miss Bright takes centre-stage to address the audience.)

Miss Bright So it was decided: Key Stage 2 would do a Nativity. The enthusiastic teachers didn't waste any time and set about holding auditions in the school hall, which proved...erm...eventful!

*(We hear the **harp (track 16)** again and Miss Bright exits.)*

Miss Swift It's been a mixed bag so far. We've filled some of the lead roles, but I'm worried there's not enough talent out there to fill the rest.

Mr Keen Well, let's see what the next two are like. It's Sonia and Craig from Year 5. They're certainly not short on attitude!

(Sonia and Craig enter, wearing hoodies and baseball caps. They stand back-to-back, arms folded.)

Mrs Jolly So Sonia, Craig, what do you think you'll bring to our musical?

Sonia *(clicking fingers)* We'll keep it real, bruh, yeah. Peng!

Craig We're bringin' dis to ya from da street!

Miss Swift Errr...yes...very nice, I'm sure. Well, would you like to begin?

(Sonia and Craig perform a short unaccompanied rap, perhaps something current and slightly inappropriate for a school musical audition! The three teachers are stunned!)

Mrs Jolly Okay, that was very...interesting! Sonia, Craig, we'll let you know. Please send the next two in.

(Sonia and Craig exit as the flamboyant Leona and Kyle enter. Kyle whispers to Leona...)

Kyle Our Saturday morning stage school training in singing, drama, and modern dance will give us the edge over the other auditionees.

(They exaggeratedly flounce over to the teachers and assume theatrical poses.)

Mr Keen Ah, Kyle and Leona, nice to see you. So, tell us, why do you want a main part in this musical?

Leona To share with the world this unique talent God has given me.

Kyle *(with a fake dab of the eyes)* I'm doing it for my dear Grandmother who's lying in a hospital bed. This is her dream too.

Mrs Jolly Ah yes, she's having an in-growing toenail removed isn't she? Give her my best when you next visit her. Okay, in your own time.

(Kyle and Leona perform an unaccompanied verse and chorus of a well-known west-end number, complete with cheesy dance moves. Their vocals are passable, though the whole thing is slightly cringey. They finish with a 'jazz-hands' pose!)

Miss Swift *(hiding a smile)* Thank you very much. That was a very confident audition. We'll let you know. Please send in the final pair.

(Leona and Kyle exit, high-fiving each other, as Jamie and Lily enter. As they cross paths, Kyle and Leona do an 'L for loser' sign on their foreheads, directed at Jamie and Lily.)

Mr Keen Right! Jamie, Lily, we're a bit short on time, so let's hear you.

(Lily and Jamie take a nervous deep breath and begin singing a popular carol or Christmas song, but they stumble on their first line.)

Jamie I'm so sorry. We're both really nervous.

Mrs Jolly Well, do try and get over it. We're in a bit of a hurry.

Lily Yes, of course. Sorry.....

(They take another deep breath and sweetly sing a verse and chorus, but with little confidence.)

Mr Keen Well, it was very pleasant, but I do wonder how you'd cope in the spotlight. We'll let you know. Please ask all the children to come back in now.

(Jamie beckons all the KS2 children – as many as your numbers allow – who excitedly enter and gather expectantly as the teachers discuss the auditions, consulting their clipboards. Kyle and Leona push their way to the front, while Jamie and Lily are lost in the crowd.)

Miss Swift Thank you for your patience everyone. We've made our final decisions. We've given leading roles to those who not only have talent, but to those we feel will be able to perform with confidence.

Mr Keen So will the following people pop back here during lunchtime break, and we'll tell you more about the parts you've been given. *(The named 'chosen ones' step forward and punch the air.)* Alice, Oliver, Sam, Megan, Daniel, Charlotte, and...*(looking at Mrs Jolly and Miss Swift)*...if you're sure about this...*(they nod at him)*...okay then...and Kyle and Leona.

Mrs Jolly Now the rest of you, don't be down-hearted. You'll all be in the chorus line, which is the backbone of any musical production.

Alice But you haven't told us yet what the actual production is.

Oliver Is it something really glamorous, cool and exciting?

Mrs Jolly It certainly is! This year, Key Stage 2 will be performing...a Nativity!

All Children WHAT! A NATIVITY? YOU MUST BE KIDDING!

Miss Swift Now, now! Don't be like that. It'll be fabulous!

Sam But it means we'll be wearing tea-towels on our heads!

Megan Dressing gowns, white sheets and too much tinsel!

- Daniel** And the songs will be really naff! Stuff that little kids sing!
- Charlotte** Please, not a Nativity!
- Mr Keen** Well, there's no time to discuss it now, and anyway, the decision has been made. We'll see you lot at lunchtime. Don't be late.

(The teachers make a swift exit, leaving the disgruntled children to perform the next song.)

Song Don't Wanna Do No Nativity

*Track 3 - vocal demo
Track 17 - backing track
Lyrics p20*

(As continuity music plays (track 18), all exit and the stage cleared for the next scene.)

Scene 3

(Miss Bright takes centre-stage to address the audience.)

- Miss Bright** Now, in spite of the children's protests at doing a Nativity play, things went ahead as planned. First things first, parents had to be notified of their children's involvement, so letters were sent home.

(We hear the harp (track 19) again and Miss Bright exits. Eight mums and/or dads gather on the stage, a couple with pushchairs, some with shopping etc. We then hear a school bell (track 20). The eight children who were given main parts rush towards their parents, waving a letter each. They give the letters to their parents, dump their school bags with them then exit the stage as noisily as they've just entered. The parents call after them, all shouting different things, eg...)

- All Parents** Am I expected to carry your bag home? / Don't run off, I need help with this shopping! / Wait for me by the gates etc etc...
- Parent 1** *(looking at the letter)* What do we have here then? *(reading)* Ha! My Oliver is second wise man in the play, 'with a singing solo' it says here! Well, I never! When I hear him singing in the shower, on the few occasions he actually has a shower, the noise is awful!
- Parent 2** *(looking at the letter with pride)* Oh, she's made it! My Charlotte's made it! All she ever managed before was third sheep or the back end of the donkey! But she's first Shepherd...*(reading)*... 'a speaking part with three lines.'
- Parent 3** *(anxiously scanning the letter)* Come on...come on...*(finding the important bit)*... Yes! Oh Yes! He's done it! My Kyle's got Joseph, the leading role! Of course, he's used to getting leading roles in his stage-school productions, so it's no real surprise.
- Parent 4** *(pointing smugly at his/her own letter)* Ahem! I think you will find that it's a co-leading role, alongside my Leona as Mary! I'm going to film the performance and use the footage to get her an audition for next year's Britain's Got Talent!

- Parent 5** *(looking at the letter)* Oh look, my Alice is going to be first Angel! Now, where does it say about tickets? *(scanning the letter)* I can't find any information about it...I'll need at least ten if all the family's going to see her...I wonder if I can reserve the whole of the front row...*(carrying on scanning the letter.)*
- Parent 6** *(looking at the letter)* I don't believe it! My Megan's playing an angel too! How about that! My own little angel...is an angel! Oh, I'm so proud....I don't....I can't...*(sobs emotionally into a hanky!)*
- Parent 7** *(looking at the letter)* Third wise man? Why only *third* wise man? Why's my Daniel not *first* wise man?
- Parent 8** *(waving letter)* Because the teachers, in their wisdom, have given that part to my Sam. *(reading)* Ooh, look! It says here we'll need to help with costumes and other bits and bobs.
- Parent 7** Oh we will, will we? The cheek of it! They give my boy the part of third wise man, which is an insult in itself, then expect me to spend my valuable time making his costume! Ha! They can think again!
- Parent 3** Well, I'm going to go to town on my Kyle's costume; sequins, silk head-dress with diamante headband, patent leather sandals, the whole works! He'll be the most 'glam' Joseph there's ever been!
- Parent 4** And I'm going to dress my Leona up like the star she truly is. I can't wait! Right, *(scanning letter)* let's double-check the details.

(All the parents read their letters as the music to the next song starts. If your numbers allow, more letter-wielding parents can join the eight on stage to sing.)

Song Yours Sincerely

*Track 4 - vocal demo
Track 21 - backing track
Lyrics p21*

(As continuity music plays (track 22), all exit and the stage is made ready for the next scene.)

END OF SCRIPT SAMPLE
