

Playstage

Junior

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A fun Class Assembly or Presentation



Written by

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AESOP'S FABLES

PRODUCTION NOTES

This school assembly has been written for a class of approximately 30, to be performed over approximately 30 minutes. It includes factual comments, an acting element (2 fables), and 3 nursery rhyme songs. For a longer assembly a poem (of a fable) has also been included which can be performed by the whole class or split into different sections across the class. To shorten the presentation, simply remove some of the text. Although the assembly has been written for 30 students, the assembly can easily be adapted for a smaller class of 15, or larger of 45 by reallocating the lines between the children.

COSTUMES

Costumes are not necessary for the short sketches within the assembly, but they may add to the impact of the assembly. Should full costumes not be possible, or practical as part of the assembly, hats/headbands or half masks could be worn. Masks or headbands could either be made in class or they can be purchased very cheaply from various sources. We give an example below from Amazon.co.uk but do see if you can get them cheaper from educational suppliers.



Just some of astonishing variety of masks available online for very little money!

VISUALS

Pictures are not essential to this presentation but they would enhance it. We have given some examples in the text. Depending on what equipment available to you, or how much you want the class to have an input to producing the visuals, these images can either be hi-tech or low tech. In other words, you could source images to your computer and display them remotely on a display unit on the stage or you could have a flipchart that displays artwork the children have done which is flipped over by one of the children to reveal the next image to

illustrate the presentation. Or you could have a mixture of both. Suitable images can easily be accessed from the internet by typing “Images of (subject matter)” into your search engine.

SONGS

The songs suggested within the assembly include the following. Any of which can be substituted for other relevant songs. Where possible we suggest where you can purchase backing tracks online (for a very modest fee).

1/ The Animal Fair

Complete song: http://www.amazon.co.uk/The-Animal-Fair/dp/B002RIC7JU/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1433154424&sr=8-3&keywords=Animal+Fair+mp3

2/ Who’s afraid of the Big Bad WOLF?

Complete song: http://www.amazon.co.uk/Whos-Afraid-Big-Bad-WOLF/dp/B003H3L46G/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1433154347&sr=8-2&keywords=Who%27s+Afraid+of+the+Big+Bad+WOLF+mp3

3/ Peter Had a Little Lamb (*Different words to the tune of Mary had a little lamb*)

Complete song: http://www.amazon.co.uk/Mary-Had-a-Little-Lamb/dp/B00CJ3MACC/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1433154247&sr=8-3&keywords=Mary+Had+a+Little+Lamb+mp3

AESOP'S FABLES

A KEY STAGE 1 CLASS ASSEMBLY

The Children walk onto the stage/front of assembly, singing 'Animal Fair' in an order so that they stand on the stage in 2 or 3 rows. (Perhaps first row sitting, second row standing and third row standing on a bench.) It would help if the order that they stand are the order that lines are assigned to help remind them that it is their turn to speak.

ALL CHILDREN (*sing THE ANIMAL FAIR as they are taking their places on stage*)

I went to the animal fair,
 The birds and the beasts were there,
 The big baboon by the light of the moon
 Was combing his auburn hair,
 The monkey bumped the skunk,
 And sat on the elephant's trunk;
 The elephant sneezed and fell to his knees,
 And that was the end of the monk,
 The monk, the monk, the monk,
 The monk, the monk, the monk

(repeat song until everyone is in place. Visual displayed of an Ancient Greek picture of a fable or the cover of a book of Aesop's Fables)



CHILD 1

Welcome to our assembly.

CHILD 2

We have been learning about Aesop's fables, and would like to tell you all about what we have learnt.

CHILD 3

Aesop was a man who lived thousands of years ago in Ancient Greece, and who liked telling stories. All of the stories that he told, were about pretend characters, and all of his stories gave the listeners a lesson in life. These types of stories were called fables.

CHILD 4

Because Aesop made up his stories in the years before people wrote things down, his fables were passed on verbally from parent to child, and from family to family for many years.

CHILD 5

The first time Aesop's Fables were written down was by a man called Demetrius of Phalerum, many years ago in the 4th century BCE. He wrote the fables down in the Greek language in a set of ten books.

CHILD 6

As time went by, the fable stories changed slightly in the way that they were written, and the titles that they were given. But each story ended with a moral – a sentence that summed up the point of the fable.

(Crab visual)

