

Playstage

Junior

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THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS BOX



Every Christmas, the family get out the box of decorations...
...and every year the decorations come to life and sing!



Written by
Christine Hope

THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS BOX

Cast List

Toby

Abby

Holly

Dad

Mum

Gran

Grandad

Bell (at least 2)

Toy Soldiers (at least 4)

Lights (at least 6)

Spanish or Mexican dancers (at least 4)

Santa

Rudolph

Reindeer (at least 5 plus Rudolph)

Fairies (at least 4)

Christmas Trees (at least 4)

32 speaking parts. Unlimited chorus/singing parts.

Running time approximately 30 minutes.

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artist's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. Amazon sell very cheap downloadable MP3 tracks for hundreds of thousands of songs. These can be purchased, downloaded on to a computer and then burnt on to a CD for performance. Songs can be trimmed to whatever length required. Free sound effects sources are given below. Videos of the songs below can be found on You Tube for rehearsal purposes in class.

SUGGESTED SONGS AND SOUND EFFECTS

1/ DECK THE HALLS Various

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Deck+the+Halls+mp3

2/ Sound effect of sleigh bells

http://www.freesfx.co.uk/soundeffects/sleigh_bells/

3/ JINGLE BELL ROCK Bobby Helms

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Jinge+Bell+rock+mp3&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3AJinge+Bell+rock+mp3

4/ STOP THE CAVALRY Jona Lewie

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Stop+the+Cavalry+mp3&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3AStop+the+Cavalry+mp3

5/ TWINKLE LITTLE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdxqhpQKQck>

6/ FELIZ NAVIDAD Jose Feliciano

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Feliz+Navidad+mp3&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3AFeliz+Navidad+mp3

7/ SLEIGH RIDE

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Sleigh+Ride+mp3&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3ASleigh+Ride+mp3

8/ THE FAIRY ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE Guildford Vox

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evKTglYP3-I>

9/ I'M THE HAPPIEST CHRISTMAS TREE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gk_mtddVmo4

THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS BOX

(Before the lights go up or curtains open, the audience can hear SONG 1. DECK THE HALLS playing. Then we see a scene of the family sitting at the front of the stage. Behind them is a bare Christmas tree (on a box so that it is clearly visible above the family's heads) and enough empty space for the singers/dancers who come on later. DAD brings on a large box of Christmas decorations and puts it in the centre of the family, on the floor. GRANDAD is asleep in a chair. MUM and GRANDMA are sitting on a sofa or separate chairs. The children are sitting on the floor.

TOBY

Let me see!

ABBY

I want to – I said first!

HOLLY

I'm the oldest so I'll open it!

DAD

Alright, just let me put it down first, it's heavy.

MUM

Careful with it Dan.

DAD

Okay, okay....there we go.

(The children all shove each other to get at the box)

GRAN

This will all end in tears, mark my words

GRANDAD

(waking up) Mmmm, what? What was that about the birds?

GRAN

Nothing dear, go back to sleep.

MUM

Stop! You're going to break something if you're not careful. There's a lot of old decorations in this box. One at a time, take turns to bring something out. Holly you go first and open the box.

TOBY & ABBY

Awwwww!!

DAD

Come on you 2, it's Christmas remember, no long faces.

HOLLY

It's so exciting! Ok here we go....

(They open the lid of the box and peer inside)

KIDS

Wow!

TOBY

Look at the colours!

HOLLY

My turn to pick a decoration first! Now what will I choose? The Christmas Bells! I've always loved these bells. They always made me feel Christmassy!

(She takes some bells out of the box and the sound of sleigh bells is heard. (SEE MUSIC PAGE) The BELLS come on stage. They are each carrying a little bell to put on the tree.)

BELL 1

Lovely. What about a chorus of Jingle Bells?

(The BELLS all cheer, except BELL 2, who looks a bit glum)

BELL 1

Don't tell me you don't like Jingle Bells!

(The BELLS all gasp in shock)

BELL 2

Course I do. It's just I get a bit bored of it sometimes. Can't we shake it up and do something a bit different?

BELL 1

What do you suggest?

BELL2

How about a bit of rock?

BELL 1

Rock music for bells?

BELL 2

The Jingle Bell Rock – Hit it!

SONG 3 - JINGLE BELL ROCK – everyone sings. *(During the song, the BELLS put their bells on to the Christmas tree.)*

Jingle bell, jingle bell

Jingle bell rock

Jingle bell swing

And jingle bells ring

Snowin' and blowin'

Up bushels of fun

Now the jingle hop has begun

Jingle bell, jingle bell

Jingle bell rock

Jingle bells chime in

Jingle bell time

Dancin' and prancin'
In jingle bell square
In the frosty air

What a bright time
It's the right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell, time
Is a swell time
To go glidin' in a
One horse sleigh

Giddy-up, jingle horse
Pick up your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and mingle
In a jinglin' beat
That's the jingle bell rock

(Applause. BELLS take a bow and exit)

GRAN

Oh I do love a Christmas song. Cheers me right up it does. Brings back all those memories of Christmases years ago, when your mum was little girl.

MUM

Happy times. It's so lovely to have you and Dad spend Christmas with us.

GRAN

Where else would we be. Christmas is all about family isn't it Gerald?

GRANDAD

What? Oh yes, yes, absolutely.

GRAN

He can't hear a thing. Refuses to wear his hearing aid though, stubborn old goat!

GRANDAD

I heard that!

TOBY

My turn now.

TOBY

This is my favourite....the Christmas Soldier. *(Takes it out of the box)*

GRANDAD

Let me see. I didn't know you still had this, after all these years. Your Great Grandad got this to remind us of all the soldiers who fought for us in the wars. Christmas must have felt like the loneliest time of all.

TOBY

Don't they go home for Christmas?

GRANDAD

No, but in the First World War, they did stop fighting. Many came out of their trenches to meet with the enemy, exchange gifts and even play a game of football. But they didn't see their families or loved ones.

SONG 4. STOP THE CAVALRY. *(Each SOLDIER carries a small 'nutcracker' soldier which they put on the tree as they march around in time to the music.)*

Hey, Mr. Churchill comes over here
 To say we're doing splendidly
 But it's very cold out here in the snow,
 Marching to win from the enemy
 Oh I say it's tough, I have had enough
 Can you stop the cavalry?

I have had to fight, almost every night
 Down throughout these centuries
 That is when I say, oh yes yet again
 Can you stop the cavalry?
 Mary Bradley waits at home
 In the nuclear fall-out zone