

Playstage

Junior

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THE ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS JIGSAW



A musical romp through Christmas traditions around the world

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THE ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS JIGSAW

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CAST

CHILD 1

The Hawaiians

CHILD 2

HAWAIIAN 1

CHILD 3

HAWAIIAN 2

CHILD 4

Other Hawaiians

CHILD 5

(Singing and dancing)

The Australians:

The French

SHEILA

PAPA

BRUCE

JEAN

Other Australians (could be animals)

CLAUDETTE

(singing/dancing but not speaking)

MAMA

The Indians

The Mexicans

INDIAN CHILD 1

MEXICAN GIRL

INDIAN CHILD 2

MEXICAN BOY

INDIAN CHILD 3

Other Mexicans

INDIAN CHILD 4

(Singing but not speaking)

The Chinese

CHINESE CHILD 1

CHINESE CHILD 2

Other Chinese children

25 speaking parts.

(singing/dancing but not speaking)

Unlimited singing/dancing

The Russians

NARRATOR 1

NARRATOR 2

APPROXIMATE RUNNING

TRAVELLER 1

TIME 30 MINUTES.

TRAVELLER 2

TRAVELLER 3

BABUSHKA

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artiste's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then 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. Below we give the song title and source of backing tracks. We also give the link to You Tube which can be very useful for the purposes of rehearsals and teaching the children the tune and lyrics of a song.

SUGGESTED SONGS AND DANCE MUSIC:

1/ General Christmas music for the opening of the play.

2/ AUSSIE JINGLE BELLS

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnJ8jsw4BS0>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.com/mp3-backingtrack/children-s-chorus/jingle-bells.html>

3/ BOLLYWOOD CHRISTMAS TREE DANCE

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhmfW4klrOM>

Mp3 (This is a very fast song, it may be better to play the mp3 and just have the children dance to it) <https://zippyaudio11.com/mp3/xmas-tree-bollywood-santa>

4/ CHRISTMAS IN CHINA

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjiupe0m60I>

5/ RUSSIAN STORY OF BABUSHKA (background music)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4iDAqTglzQ>

Mp3: <https://dbfiechter.bandcamp.com/track/russian-winter>

6/ MELE KALIKIMAKA

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yb5e73j4NZU>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.co.uk/instrumental-mp3/jimmy-buffett/mele-kalikimaka.html>

7/ IL EST NE LE DIVIN ENFANT

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co1gq2n-qKM>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.co.uk/free/christmas-carol/il-est-ne-le-divin-enfant-version-dance.html>

8/ MI BURRITO SABANERO

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTJqHtR2eQU>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.co.uk/free/christmas-carol/con-mi-burrito-sabanero.html>

9/ CHRISTMAS ALL AROUND THE WORLD

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MH3sIavNxqI>

Five CHILDREN push a cardboard box on to the stage, open it and look inside.

There is an undecorated Christmas tree at the back of the stage. (NOTE: If it is not possible to do this scene on front of a set of curtains that can open and close, then the 'visitors' from other countries will have to come from the side of the stage or even through the audience.)

CHILD 5

Miss Baker said that we must sort out the classroom Christmas decorations and throw away any that are broken.

CHILD 4

Righto. Let's see what there is.

CHILD 1

What's this? *(Bringing out a box containing jigsaw pieces)*

CHILD 2

Just a load of rubbish. Put it in the bin.

CHILD 3

Wait, it's got pictures on it. I think it's a jigsaw.

CHILD 4

A what?

CHILD 3

Like a...game.

CHILD 5

For the x-box?

CHILD 3

No. You put the pieces together to make a big picture.

CHILD 2

Sounds rubbish!

CHILD 1

I used to have one of those. Can we do it?

CHILD 3

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We can try. Usually you know what the big picture is before you start, but we can give it a go.

CHILD 2

If we must!

(The CHILDREN empty out the pieces on the floor and began to sort through them.)

CHILD 4

Look, if you put these two together, it makes a picture of one of those animals that jump.

CHILD 5

A rabbit?

CHILD 4

No, a kangaroo.

(The AUSTRALIANS appear – either the curtains open or they come in from offstage)

SHEILA

G'day Bruce!

BRUCE

G'day Sheila!

SHEILA

It's a bonzer day for the Christmas barbie

BRUCE

Fair dinkum, let's grab the esky and our togs and get down there!

SHEILA

Don't forget your sunnies.

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BRUCE

No worries. I'm looking forward to some Christmas tucker.

(While the song is being sung, the CHILDREN watch and clap but, occasionally, one or two of them put some decorations on the tree)

SONG: AUSSIE JINGLE BELLS

Verse 1

Dashing through the bush,
in a rusty Holden Ute,
Kicking up the dust,
esky in the boot,
Kelpie by my side,
singing Christmas songs,
It's Summer time and I am in
my singlet, shorts and thongs

Chorus

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Christmas in Australia on a scorching summers day, Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut !,
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden Ute.

Verse 2

Engine's getting hot;
we dodge the kangaroos,
The swaggie climbs aboard,
he is welcome too.
All the family's there,
sitting by the pool,
Christmas Day the Aussie way,
by the barbecue.

Chorus

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Christmas in Australia on a scorching summers day, Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut !,
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden Ute.

(The song finishes, the AUSTRALIANS take a bow and everyone applauds. The extra AUSTRALIANS, if you have them, leave the stage and just BRUCE and SHEILA remain).

CHILD 2

Excellent!

BRUCE

G'day mate!

CHILD 1

Are you real?

SHEILA

Too right we're real. What are you up to?

CHILD 4

Making a jigsaw, that's how you...appeared.

CHILD 5

Can you help us do the next bit?

BRUCE

I reckon! What about...putting this bit with, that one and there look! *(He puts a couple of pieces of the jigsaw together)*

CHILD 4

What is it?

SHEILA

It's some sort of tree!

(INDIAN CHILDREN appear, looking around.)

INDIAN CHILD 1

We need to find a tree to decorate

INDIAN CHILD 2

We have a mango tree outside.

INDIAN CHILD 1

Great, let's decorate that one then.

INDIAN CHILD 3

We can use some of the mango leaves to decorate our house too.

INDIAN CHILD 4

Why are you decorating a tree and your house?