

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Spotlight on Performance Script

# All Creatures Great and Small

### Costume/Prop Suggestions

Children should dress in school clothes as if attending a field trip. Some can wear hats or visors, as well as sunglasses. A few students can carry backpacks. Mrs. Martin, the teacher, should be dressed in jeans and shirt, wear a hat, have a whistle around her neck, and carry a clipboard.

### Set Suggestions

Decorate the stage with pictures of zoo animals drawn by the children. Place various live plants and trees around the stage. Create a large sign to hang in the center of the back wall which reads "City Zoo."

### Script Begins

Please note: *This script is created for a small cast but can be expanded to fit any number of children you would like to use.*

*(A group of children and their teacher walk on stage.)*

**Shelly:** Thanks for bringing us to the zoo today, Mrs. Martin. You're the best teacher ever!

**Mrs. Martin:** It's my pleasure, kids. Besides, I love the zoo as much as you do.

**Mark:** This place is so big how will we ever know which way to go first?

**Jeremy:** And there are so many animals to see! I can't wait to go to the monkey's cage.

**Lauren:** I want to see the seals.

**Mrs. Martin:** You know, children, you can see the most fascinating things here at the zoo without having to look in a cage.

*(presenting hands all around)* Why, use your eyes and ears and you'll discover all that nature brings.

*(During the song, have three children dressed as grasshoppers, with fiddles in hand, pretend to play as the song is sung.)*

***Song 1: Grasshoppers Three, p. T284***

**Shelly:** (*pointing to the distance*) Oh, look! There's a petting zoo!

**Mark:** I see all kinds of animals that we can actually touch and feed.

**Mrs. Martin:** Yes, children, these are fascinating animals, as well. Which ones are your favorites?

**Jeremy:** I like the pigs!

**Lauren:** I like the rabbits.

**Shelly:** (*pointing*) I like that black lamb over there. I wonder how he got such a dark coat of fur.

(*During the song have "Mary" and her "lamb" reenact the story as it is sung.*)

***Song 2: Mary's Coal Black Lamb, p. T286***

**Mark:** Come on, Mrs. Martin. Let's keep going. There's still so much to see.

**Jeremy:** (*turning to Mrs. Martin*) How many animals do you think there are at this zoo?

**Lauren:** Yes, Mrs. Martin, and how are we ever going to remember the names for all of them when we write our zoo report?

**Mrs. Martin:** Well, I can't name them all for you, but I do have a song that might help you remember some.

(*During the song have two children dressed as a "cat" and a "rat" pantomime the song.*)

***Song 3: Animal Song, p. T288***

**Shelly:** (*pointing to the distance*) Hey, everyone! Did you see those leopards over there? The sign said they are from the Philippines.

**Mark:** They are "purrrrr-fect" looking, aren't they?

(*All laugh.*)

**Jeremy:** They remind me of my cat at home...except a whole lot bigger!

**Lauren:** I wonder if those cats would be any better at catching rats and mice than my cat!

*(During the song have two children dressed as a “cat” and a “rat” pantomime the song.)*

**Song 4: Pusa’t daga (Cat and Rat), p. T289**

**Mrs. Martin:** *(clapping hands several times to get everyone’s attention)* Alright, everyone, it’s time for our picnic.

**Jeremy:** Now this is my favorite part of visiting the zoo!

**Lauren:** Somehow that doesn’t surprise me, Jeremy!

**Shelly:** Let’s go sit at that picnic table over there.

**Mark:** *(looking at the table)* It looks like it’s already taken.

**Mrs. Martin:** What do you mean, Mark?

**Mark:** It looks like there’s a group of ladybugs that beat us to it.

*(During the song have twelve children dressed as ladybugs appear one at a time with lunch pails and proceed to have a picnic at the table as the children eat their lunch on the ground.)*

**Song 5: Ladybug’s Picnic, p. T290**

**Mrs. Martin:** Ok, kids. It’s time to pick up your lunch trash before we continue our zoo tour. Be sure you clean up the things you dropped on the ground.

*(All of the children begin picking up their trash quickly.)*

**Shelly:** *(laughing and pointing to the others)* Look, Mrs. Martin! We look like chickens pecking at grain on the ground.

**Mrs. Martin:** *(stops picking up trash and looks around)* You’re right, Shelly!

**Jeremy:** This reminds me of the chicken song we sang in school the other day.

**Mrs. Martin:** I’ve got a great idea. Why don’t we all sing this song while we work. It will make the time go faster.

**Lauren:** That’s good thinking, Mrs. Martin!

*(During the song Mrs. Martin and the children all sing the song as they continue to clean up the picnic area.)*

***Song 6: Chickery Chick, p. T292***

**Mark:** Do we have time to go look in the amphibian house?

**Mrs. Martin:** Certainly, Mark!

**Shelly:** (*making a terrible face*) Ewww! I'm not so sure about that place. It scares me.

**Mrs. Martin:** What the problem, Shelly?

**Shelly:** Well, those "things" are so...cold...and slimy!

**Mark:** And that's just why I like them!

***Song 7: Caribbean Amphibian, p. T294***

**Mrs. Martin:** (*looking at her watch*) Well, students, it looks like it's time to go!

**Shelly:** I had so much fun at the zoo today.

**Mark:** Me, too! Thanks, Mrs. Martin, for letting us come on this trip.

**Mrs. Martin:** You're welcome, children. What was your favorite part about today?

**Jeremy:** I liked the monkeys!

**Mark:** I liked the snakes!

**Lauren:** I liked the bears!

**Shelly:** You know, Mrs. Martin, I think my favorite part about today was being together as a class!

**Mrs. Martin:** Me, too, Shelly. Now come on...I've got to get you animals home!

*(All laugh and exit the stage.)*