

Name _____ Date _____

Spotlight on Performance Script

Honoring Our World

Costume/Prop Suggestions

Principal Malloy should be dressed in jacket, slacks and tie. Add some glasses and grey hair to create an older persona. The children should each be dressed and include props to represent the country or ethnic group they are introducing; for example, Africa—agbada-style shirt with fila hat, shekere or djembe; Native American—headdress, smock, Navajo rug; United States—rapper clothes, aluminum can, and so on.

Set Suggestions

Decorate the stage for a school assembly complete with American and state flags as well as a podium. Add plants and artificial trees for color. Locate pictures of the Seven Wonders of the World in addition to other scenic photos you'd like to include to hang on the walls. Create a giant globe to attach to the back wall. Across the globe write "Honoring Our World" in large letters.

Script Begins

(The scene begins with all of the students sitting in chairs on one side of the stage. They applaud to welcome Principal Malloy as he makes his way to the opposite side of the stage to address the group.)

Principal Malloy: Thank you very much for being here today as we celebrate the earth with this "Honoring Our World" ceremony. As you know, several students will be sharing information found about different parts of our planet. Karen and Rick will be our first presenters.

(All applaud as Karen and Rick make their way to the front for their presentation. Principal Malloy sits in one of the chairs.)

Karen: With many of us having ancestors that came from the continent of Africa, we felt like this would be a good focus area.

Rick: In particular, we will talk about the southern tip of this continent with a song from the Xhosa tradition. The people of this area enjoy a strong tradition of singing to celebrate special events or to just pass the time during daily chores. Mouth harps, clapping and rattles are popular instruments found there.

Karen: Let us share with you an interesting and popular Xhosa folk song called "Oh Mama Bakudala."

Song 1: Oh Mama Bakudala, p. 328

Principal Malloy: *(making his way to the podium as students applaud)* That was wonderful, Karen and Rick! Next we have Jamie Walkingstick.

(All applaud as Jamie makes her way to the front and Principal Malloy has a seat.)

Jamie: As many of you know, my great, great grandfather was a Navajo chief. The Navajo people are part of a group that make up what is commonly referred to as the Southwest Native Americans, occupying the areas of Arizona, New Mexico, Southern Colorado and the northern part of Mexico. This group of people created many unique artifacts. *(holding up blanket)* This blanket is one of those.

Principal Malloy: It's very beautiful, Jamie!

Jamie: The music of these people is equally as beautiful. In fact, for the Navajo people beauty means living in harmony with the world. Let me share with you a song written by a Navajo woman. It is called "I Walk in Beauty."

Song 2: I Walk in Beauty, p. 329

Principal Malloy: *(making his way to the podium as the students applaud)* Fine job, Jamie. Last, we have Marcus. Let's welcome him to the front.

(All applaud as Marcus comes forward and Principal Malloy has a seat.)

Marcus: I did a lot of research on different parts of our world and found that the spot I liked best is my own country...the United States! From the Appalachian Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, we have so many beautiful sites in the U.S.A. But there's one thing we all need to do to make sure this place stays healthy and clean.

Principal Malloy: What's that, Marcus?

Marcus: We all need to recycle!

Song 3: Recycle Rap, p. 332

(All applaud as Principal Malloy makes his way to the podium.)

Principal Malloy: It was wonderful watching all of you present your ideas on keeping with the theme "Honoring Our World." Wherever we go, let us not forget that we're only given one earth on which to live and we need to take good care of each and every part.

(All of the children come forward as they say their lines.)

Karen: Thanks, Principal Malloy, for giving us an opportunity to celebrate today.

Rick: I've enjoyed learning about other places and cultures.

Jamie: It was an honor being able to represent my great, great grandfather and his people.

Marcus: And I had fun learning about recycling.

Principal Malloy: Let us all join together as we sing our final song, "Evergreen, Everblue."

<p><i>Song 4: Evergreen, Everblue, p. 330</i></p>

(Principal Malloy and children lock arms and sing the song together swaying to the music.)