

SAMPLE PAGES: The Christmas Treasure

By Lois Walker

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this Readers Theater poem, first read-aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each ***underlined word or word part*** falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance.

DRAWING THE SHAPES

If the children are old enough to draw the required shapes to complete the angel drawing, assign these jobs and place artists near the drawing pad or easel. If not, teacher/narrator or featured artist may draw these required shapes as the story is read.

ADDING MORE READERS

You will notice the script is only numbered for 6 Solo Readers, 2 Mice Solo Readers, a Narrator, a few All Lines and an ALL CHORUS. After the first 6 solo reading lines, the parts are not numbered. This is done so you may easily add as many more readers as you'd like. If you wish to use only the original 6 solo readers, please divide the remaining lines up between them.

NARRATOR: Two little mice went out to play
 On an icy cold December day.

READER 1: And in the snow they found a bell,

READER 2: The kind of bell we all know well.

(Draw **Bell Shape A**. This will be the angel's dress)

READER 3: It was wide at the bottom and round at the top -

READER 4: And that's when the first mouse called out,

ALL: STOP!

The Christmas Treasure

A Read and Draw Readers Theater Script for Readers Who Can Read Simple Phrases and Sentences

NARRATOR: This bell is perfect, can't you see?
A perfect bell for the Christmas tree.

READER 5: The bell we've found is such a treasure,

READER 6: It's bound to give us lots of pleasure!

(Point to bell shape)

ALL: **So, here is the bell,**
Perfect bell, we agree.
A perfect bell for the Christmas tree!

NARRATOR: Then the two little mice carried their treasure
Through ice and cold and snowy weather.

READER: They came to a hill covered with powder,

(Draw long **Wing Line B** down one side of angel's shoulder area. This should look like a steep ski hill)

READER: Then the first spoke again, but the second spoke louder:

ALL: **STOP!** (Pause)

MOUSE 2: Let's climb inside this bell!

MOUSE 1: O.K., fine, but you don't have to yell!

READER 2: It will be our sled, down the hill we'll go..

MOUSE 1: Through this white and perfect, sugary snow!

(Draw second shorter **Wing Line C**, just inside Wing Line B)

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