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The Holidays Are Coming!

By Lois Walker
One Version

A Choral Reading/Readers
Theater Script for
Beginning Readers

CH-31: The Holidays Are Coming!

(Or "Christmas is Coming!")

A Shared Reading Script Featuring
Choral Reading and Solo Reader Parts for Beginning Readers
By Lois Walker

CAST: 2 Girl Solo Readers, 2 Boy Solo Readers,
Readers Chorus: unlimited number

READING PARTS FOR: Solo Readers, All Girls in Unison,
All Boys in Unison, All Chorus

NOTE: This Shared Reading script is based upon an old English Nursery
Rhyme: "Christmas is Coming".

Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat
Please to put a penny in the old man's hat;
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny then God bless you!

The words of the nursery rhyme "Christmas is Coming" are historically
associated with the traditional English Christmas celebration and the serving
of geese for the Christmas feast. The meaning that was conveyed to children
through this rhyme was that during this festive period, each should give to
charity, according to their means.

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this reading, 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 the reading during performance.

Girl Solo Reader 1:   The holidays are coming.

                          (Or "Christmas is coming").

Boy Solo Reader 2:   The turkey's getting fat.

Girl Solo Reader 3:   Please put a penny

Boy Solo Reader 4:   In the old man's hat.

ALL GIRLS: Please put a penny,

                          Any old penny,

                          Please put a penny

                          In the old man's hat!

ALL: Make the hat jingle,

                          Make the hat tingle,

                          Jingle, tingle, penny

                          In the old man's hat!

ALL BOYS: We haven't got a penny!

ALL GIRLS: Is this true?

ALL BOYS: We haven't got a penny!

Girl Solo Reader 1:   Then a <u>can</u>dy cane will <u>do</u>.

ALL BOYS: <u>Please</u> put a <u>can</u>dy,

                        <u>Any</u> old <u>can</u>dy,

                        <u>Please</u> put a <u>can</u>dy

                        In the <u>old</u> man's <u>hat</u>!

ALL: <u>Make</u> the hat <u>sweet</u>,

                        <u>Give</u> him a <u>treat</u>.

                        <u>Sweet</u>, treat, <u>stick</u>y

                        In the old man's <u>hat</u>!

ALL GIRLS: We <u>have</u>n't got a <u>can</u>dy.

ALL BOYS: <u>Is</u> this <u>true</u>?

ALL GIRLS: <u>We</u> haven't got a <u>can</u>dy.

Boy Solo Reader 2:   Then a <u>pres</u>ent will <u>do</u>.

ALL GIRLS: <u>Please</u> put a <u>pres</u>ent,

                        <u>Any</u> old <u>pres</u>ent,

                        <u>Please</u> put a <u>pres</u>ent

                        In the <u>old</u> man's <u>hat</u>!