

An Early Visit From Santa Claus

By Lois Walker

NOTE: This script is formatted for 17 SOLO READERS, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, and ALL. One of the solo reading parts is the part of Santa. You might want to assign this part to an older student or a teacher. The script is very flexible and allows a director to use as few or as many readers as required by dividing the reading parts between all available readers. If the class is very small, double up on solo reader parts. If the class is very large, you can still include everyone by assigning all readers to the ALL GIRL, ALL BOY, ALL lines.

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this choral piece, 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. After you have established the beat, it is time to start interpreting, experimenting, and having fun with the words by varying tempo, volume, inflection, and expression.

ALL: At (*insert your school name*) school, just before
 Christmas break,

ALL GIRLS: No snow was falling, not even a flake,
 But we were all ready for winter vacation

ALL BOYS: Happy, excited, and filled with elation!

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
 It comes once a year on the very same date.
 But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 1: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

ALL GIRLS: Little did we know, when we went home that day,
 Santa was already well on his way.

ALL BOYS: Good old Santa, so red, round, and burly
 Had decided to visit (*insert your school name*) school
 early.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
 It comes once a year on the very same date.
 But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 2: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

ALL GIRLS: That night, while we were safely in bed,
 Santa flew to (*insert your town/city name*) and
 cruised overhead.

ALL BOYS: He knew he was early, didn't want to be caught,
So he quietly parked in our school's parking lot.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
It comes once a year on the very same date.
But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 3: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

ALL GIRLS: He couldn't find the chimney, so this old practitioner
Looked for a way in through the school air
conditioner.

ALL BOYS: When that didn't work, he carried his sack
Around to a small unlocked door in the back.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
It comes once a year on the very same date.
But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 4: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

ALL GIRLS: The elf had come early, to thank the adults
For tireless service and sterling results.

ALL BOYS: The teachers, the staff, the school secretary,
Deserved a gift and deserved to be merry.

ALL GIRLS: And he had to thank them before they left school.
Before they went off on break for the Yule.

ALL BOYS: Before all the grown-ups went home to rest,
He wanted to thank them for doing their best.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
It comes once a year on the very same date.
But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 5: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

READER 6: For our principal, *(insert your principal's name)*, he
left something extraordinary.

(Be creative! Go wild with these gift names)...

READER 7: It was *(insert an extraordinary gift name)* and too
large to carry.

READER 8: For our teacher, *(insert your teacher's name)*, he left
something unique.

(Optional. If you want to include all the teachers in the school, you can substitute the above line with the following. READER 8: For every teacher, he left something unique).

READER 9: It was, *(insert a unique gift name)*, and really quite chic.

READER 10: For our secretary, *(insert your secretary's name)*, he left something nice.

READER 11: It was *(insert a very nice gift name)* and worth twice the price.

READER 12: For our librarian, *(insert your librarian's name)*, he left something sweet.

READER 13: It was *(insert a very sweet gift name)*, and really a treat.

ALL GIRLS: And for all of the staff, he left plenty of cash,

ALL BOYS: With the hope it might finance a wild Christmas bash!

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
It comes once a year on the very same date.
But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 14: Well, he did one year. He came to...

ALL: ***(insert your school name) school!***

ALL GIRLS: Then dear Santa went off to scrounge
For leftover treats in the small teacher's lounge.

ALL BOYS: He brewed himself a cup of coffee
Then ate Christmas cookies and leftover toffee.

ALL: And while he did this, he sat and thought,

SANTA/

READER 15: "The adults at this school sure go through a lot.
They are caring and kind, devoted and true,
And there's very little they wouldn't do

To teach and support, keep each child in line,
Encourage and nurture, help every child shine.
So when these children are finally grown,
They'll be ready to stand on their own.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
It comes once a year on the very same date.
But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 16: Well, he did one year. He came to...