

What I Want For Christmas

By Lois Walker

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this rhyming 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.

READERS: You can use from 5 to 22 solo readers to perform this script. As you will see below, I've numbered the first 5 reader parts only. The rest of the reader numbers have been left blank so you can pencil in as many reader parts as you need. If you wish to use only 5 readers, those 5 can perform the entire piece by following the Verse 1 model and sharing the extra lines in the last verse. The script is formatted for SOLO READERS, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, AND ALL.

READER 1: A few weeks before Christmas Mother asked

me...

READER 2: "So, (pause) what do you want for Christmas?"

READER 1: And \underline{I} began to \underline{think} ...

READER 3: <u>May</u>be I'd <u>like</u> a <u>sup</u>er spy <u>kit</u>,

Or inflatable backyard skating rink.

READER 4: And <u>may</u>be, just <u>may</u>be, a <u>Play</u>Station <u>Three</u>

READER 5: And <u>LEGO Mindstorm NXT</u>

ALL GIRLS: Yes, all of that sounds just about right

ALL BOYS: For <u>spec</u>ial de<u>livery</u>, <u>Christmas Eve night!</u>

ALL: <u>Hannah Montana Acoustic Guitar</u>,

Ipod, Little Superstar,

And a gift from Fisher Price,

At Christmas time that would be nice!

<u>Pok-</u>e-<u>mon</u> and <u>Play</u>mo<u>bile</u>?

All on sale, and what a deal!

Trendy clothes or trendy shoes,

At Christmas time we have to choose!

READER 2: Then Father asked me...

READER "So, (pause) what do you want for Christmas?"

READER 2: And \underline{I} began to \underline{think} ...

READER Of <u>Bratz</u>, <u>Webkinz</u>, Nintendo <u>Lite</u>

And Barbie dolls in pink.

READER And <u>I</u> wouldn't <u>mind</u> a <u>mon</u>ster <u>kite</u>,

READER Or a <u>super</u>, <u>shiny ten</u> speed <u>bike</u>.

ALL GIRLS: Yes, <u>all</u> of <u>that</u> sounds <u>just</u> about <u>right</u>

ALL BOYS: For <u>spec</u>ial de<u>livery</u>, <u>Christmas Eve night!</u>

ALL: <u>Hannah Montana Acoustic Guitar</u>,

Ipod, Little Superstar,

And a gift from Fisher Price,

At Christmas time that would be nice!

<u>Pok-e-mon</u> and <u>Playmobile?</u>
<u>All</u> on sale, and <u>what</u> a <u>deal!</u>

Trendy clothes or trendy shoes,

At Christmas time we have to choose!

READER 3: Then Grandma asked me...

READER "So, (pause) what do you want for Christmas?"

READER 3: And <u>I</u> began to <u>think</u>...

READER Of "Bananagrams" and DVD's

A <u>checker board</u>, and <u>Slinky</u> slink.

READER And <u>I</u> would <u>love</u> a "<u>Lov</u>ing <u>Pup"</u>,

READER And a <u>cos</u>tume <u>box</u> for <u>dres</u>sing <u>up</u>.

ALL GIRLS: Yes, all of that sounds just about right

ALL BOYS: For <u>special delivery</u>, <u>Christmas Eve night!</u>

ALL: <u>Hannah Montana Acoustic Guitar</u>,

<u>Ipod</u>, <u>Lit</u>tle <u>Superstar</u>,

And a gift from Fisher Price,

At Christmas time that would be nice!

<u>Pok-</u>e-<u>mon</u> and <u>Play</u>mo<u>bile</u>?

All on sale, and what a deal!

Trendy clothes or trendy shoes,

At Christmas time we have to choose!

READER 4: Then Grandpa asked me...

READER "So, (pause) what do you want for Christmas?"

READER 4: And I began to **think**...

READER Of remote control cruiser planes

<u>Fly</u>ing <u>high</u> in <u>sync</u>.

READER And mini gliders riding a breeze,

READER The <u>kind</u> that <u>never crash</u> in <u>trees</u>.

ALL GIRLS: Yes, <u>all</u> of <u>that</u> sounds <u>just</u> about <u>right</u>

ALL BOYS: For <u>special delivery</u>, <u>Christmas Eve night!</u>