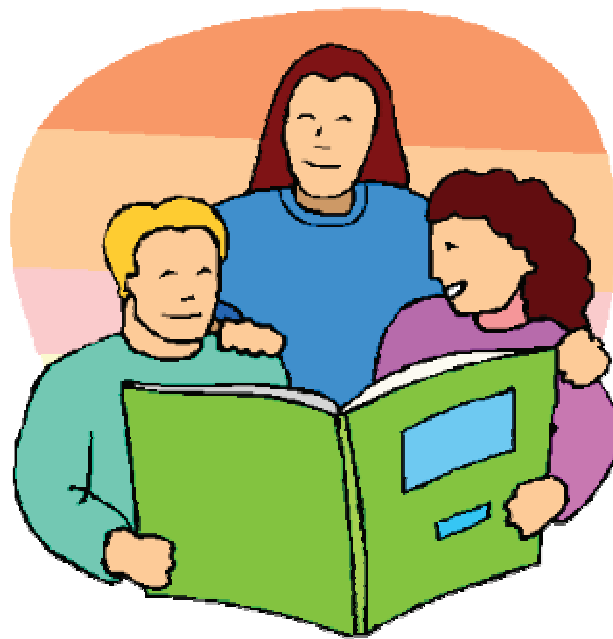Herb and Lois Walker's

SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

IF I LIVED IN AFRICA

READERS THEATER SCRIPT/INTERMEDIATE

BY LOIS WALKER

WWW.SCRIPTSFORSCHOOLS.COM

IF I LIVED IN AFRICA
Written and Formatted for Readers Theater
By Lois Walker
Scripts For Schools
http://www.scriptsforschools.com

(To find the proper rhythm, first read-aloud and clap through the piece 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 (except for the occasional spot where the rhythm is temporarily abandoned). Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout the entire piece during performance.

The below repetitive "chorus" parts may be read by all readers or a selection of your choice. If performing the piece for an audience, you might even invite the audience to join in. Be aware that the last chorus verse is a bit different from the others).

("Teacher Tips" for Readers Theater can be found under "Free Teacher Aides" at the Scripts For Schools website mentioned above).

READER 1:   If I lived in Africa

                 I'd be a dog, I think.

READER 2:   A wild dog, because I hear

                 They're nearly extinct.

READER 3:   A fat dog, skinny dog,

READER 4:   A tall or short dog.

READER 5:   But then again, I might decide

READER 1:   To <u>be</u> a **wart<u>hog</u>!**

ALL READERS: **A WARTHOG?**
(EXCEPT #1)

                        CHORUS:
ALL READERS: There are <u>oh</u> so many <u>choices</u>

                        Of <u>ani</u>mals, I <u>find</u>

                        That <u>if</u> I lived in <u>Afri</u>ca,

                        I <u>might</u> just change my <u>mind</u>.

READER 1:   <u>If</u> I lived in <u>Afri</u>ca

                        I'd <u>be</u> a **wart<u>hog</u>.**

READER 6:   <u>Rooting</u> in the <u>des</u>ert sand

                        Be<u>tween</u> each rock and <u>log</u>.

READER 7:   <u>Sport</u>ing warts and <u>brist</u>les,

READER 8:   A <u>phys</u>ique that's clearly <u>fat</u>,

READER 9:   But <u>then</u> again, I <u>might</u> decide

READER 1:   To <u>be</u> a **meer<u>kat</u>!**

ALL READERS: **A MEEKAT?**
(EXCEPT #1)

	CHORUS:
ALL READERS:	There are <u>oh</u> so many <u>choices</u>
	Of <u>ani</u>mals, I <u>find</u>
	That <u>if</u> I lived in <u>Afri</u>ca,
	I <u>might</u> just change my <u>mind</u>.

| READER 1: | <u>If</u> I lived in <u>Af</u>rica |
| | I'd <u>be</u> a **meer<u>kat</u>.** |

| READER 10: | <u>Stand</u>ing guard while <u>other</u>s |

| READER 2: | Ate their <u>lunch</u> or baby<u>sat</u>. |

| READER 3: | I'd <u>dig</u> for grubs and <u>ter</u>mites, |

| READER 4: | <u>No</u> food could be <u>sweet</u>er. |

| READER 5: | But <u>then</u> again, I <u>might</u> decide |

| READER 1: | To <u>live</u> life as a **<u>cheetah</u>!** |

| ALL READERS:
(EXCEPT #1) | **A CHEETAH?** |

	CHORUS:
ALL READERS:	There are <u>oh</u> so many <u>choices</u>
	Of <u>ani</u>mals, I <u>find</u>
	That <u>if</u> I lived in <u>Afri</u>ca,
	I <u>might</u> just change my <u>mind</u>.

READER 1:   <u>If</u> I lived in <u>Af</u>rica

                       A **<u>cheet</u>ah** I might <u>be</u>.

READER 6:   I'd <u>wear</u> a coat of <u>black</u>ened spots

                       For <u>all</u> the world to <u>see</u>.

READER 7:   I'd <u>crouch</u>, approach, and <u>sprint</u>,

READER 8:   Scaring <u>every</u> other <u>mamm</u>al,

READER 9:   But <u>then </u>again, I <u>might</u> decide

READER 1:   To <u>simp</u>ly be a **<u>cam</u>el!**

ALL READERS: **A CAMEL?**
(EXCEPT #1)

                       CHORUS:

ALL READERS: There are <u>oh</u> so many <u>choices</u>

                       Of <u>ani</u>mals, I <u>find</u>

                       That <u>if</u> I lived in <u>Afri</u>ca,

                       I <u>might</u> just change my <u>mind</u>.

READER 1   <u>If</u> I lived in <u>Af</u>rica

                       A <u>cam</u>el could be <u>me</u>.

READER 10:   A <u>true</u> ship of the <u>desert</u>

                       Sailing <u>sand</u>, not sailing <u>sea</u>.