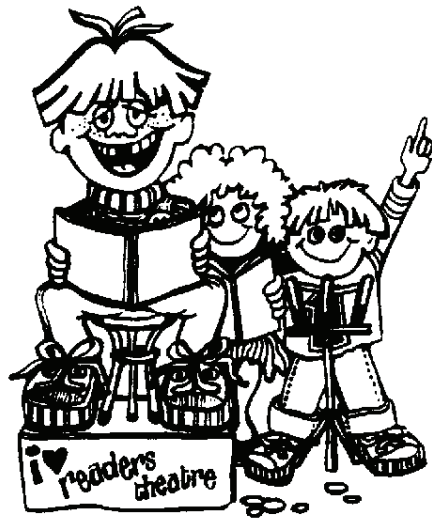# HERB and LOIS WALKER'S

TAKE PART!™
Read Aloud Scripts

THE CREAKY DOOR

TEACHER'S SCRIPT

BY

LOIS WALKER

READING LEVEL: PRIMARY

THE CREAKY DOOR

CAST OF SIX

TEACHER/NARRATOR

READER 1

READER 2

READER 3

GRANDMA

BOY

Teacher/Narrator

Grandma

Boy

A

B
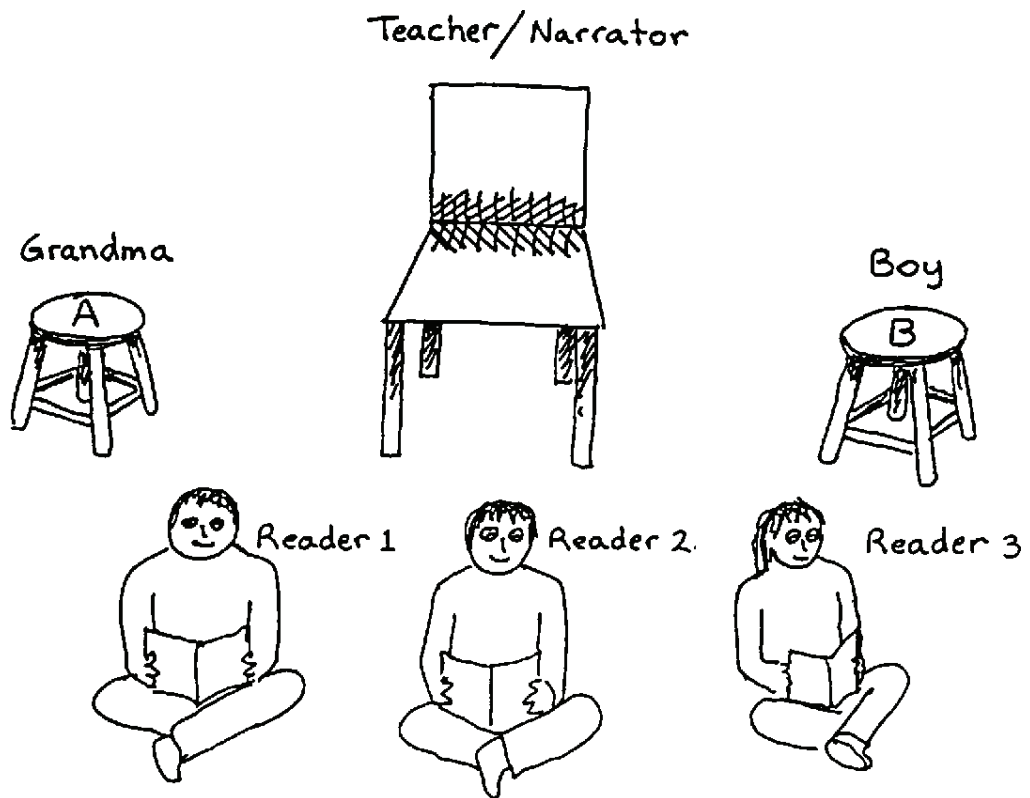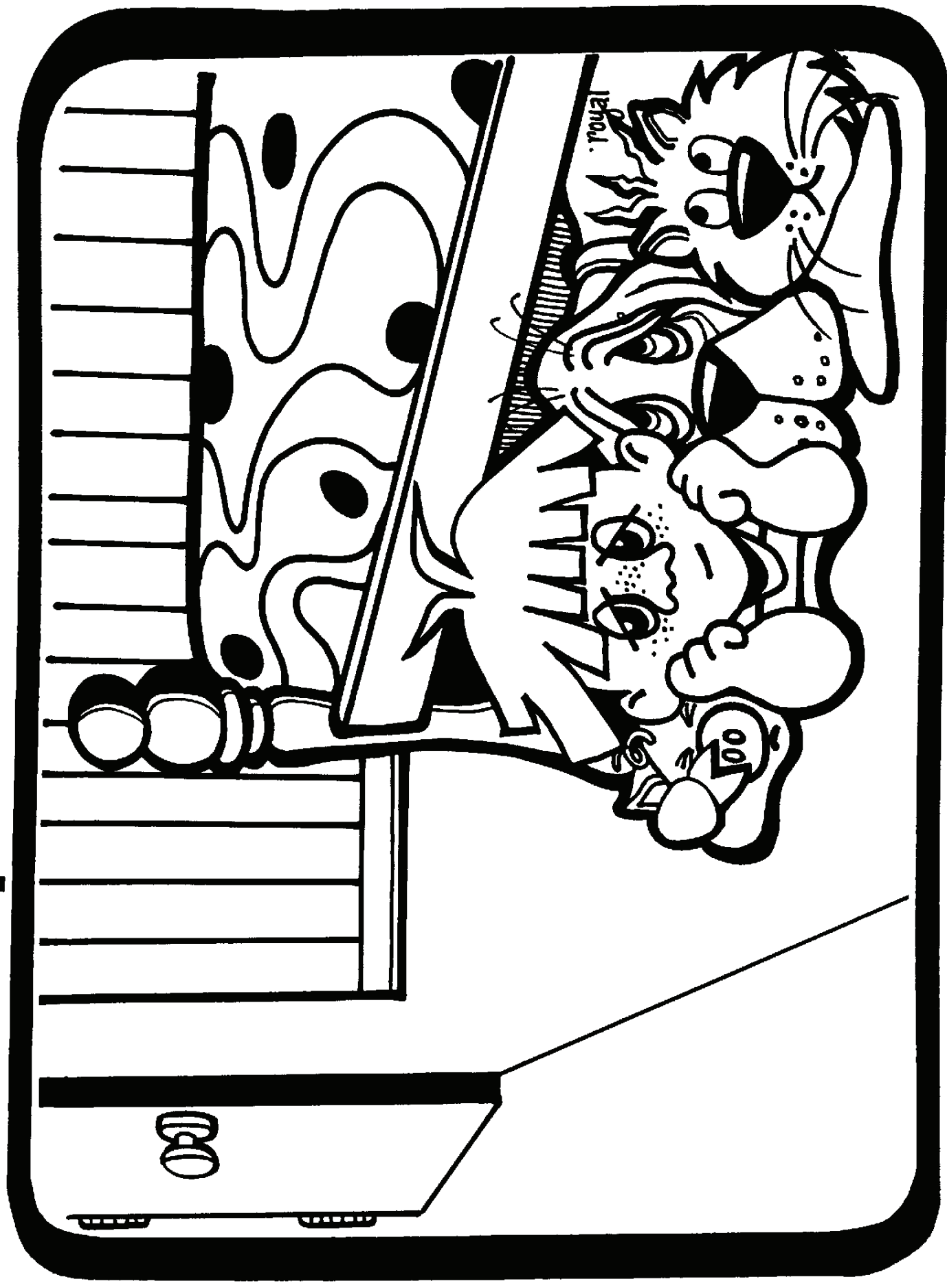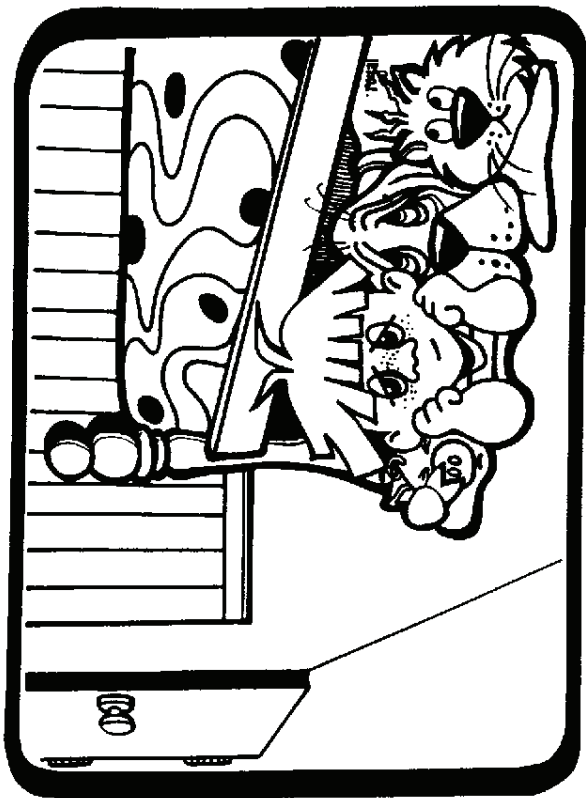
Reader 1   Reader 2   Reader 3

Arrange large chair, two stools, and three small chairs (or floor space,) as shown.

Color me poster:—

the creaky door
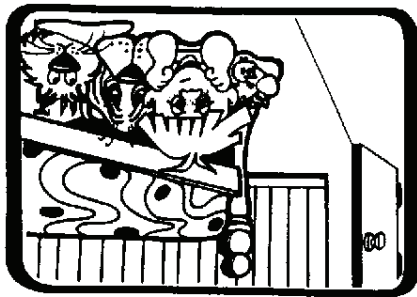
presented by:

admission
presented by:

the creaky door

VOCABULARY LIST

nervous	adj.	excitable, anxious, high-strung
disgusting	adj.	revolting, offensive
rubble	n.	rough, irregular pieces of broken stone
hinges	n.	a movable joint on which a door or gate swings

FOCUS AND FOLDERS

Ask your readers to speak directly to the audience, not to each other. This is called "storyteller focus." Readers will focus upon the audience just as a storyteller focuses upon the listeners. (It is sometimes helpful for readers to focus eyes slightly above heads of audience members.)

Place cast scripts in colorful folders. (Ring binders allow for smooth and easy page turning.) Place folders in front of or on chairs and on music stand before reading begins. Readers should hold folders at chest level and away from their bodies so that listeners can see facial expressions and hear clearly.

MOVEMENT AND ACTION

This Teacher Script version of "The Creaky Door" includes movement and action directions which may be used if preparing readers for a more formal, elaborate performance of the story. These directions appear only in the Teacher Scripts. Disregard directions, if you have chosen a more simplified readers approach.

COLOR-ME POSTER, PERFORMANCE PROGRAM COVER, THEATRE TICKET

Included in this package are black and white drawings which are meant to be colored by your students.

Duplicate the Color-Me Poster and ask each student to color it in any way he or she might like. The posters may also be used as publicity posters which can be posted around your school or library to publicize a reading performance of the story.

The program cover is also designed to help you when planning a reading performance for an audience. Simply duplicate the program cover, copying as many as your audience will need.

Fold duplicated sheets into program shape, and ask students to fill insides with the important details (cast list and reader names, synopsis of the story, director, etc.). Students may also color the front of each program. As audience members enter the room before the performance, ask student ushers to hand each a program.

If time allows, also duplicate the special theatre tickets and ask your students to color them. Cut out each ticket and make the tickets available to audience members a few days before the performance. Again, ask student ushers to collect the tickets as audience enters.

ENTRANCES

NARRATOR enters, sits in large chair, and opens folder. NARRATOR looks into folder, then at audience and says, "Now let's see. For today's story, I'll need a grandmother."

GRANDMA enters reading area and sits upon stool A. NARRATOR says, "Oh good! Here's a grandmother!" NARRATOR looks into folder again and says, "Now I need someone to play the part of the boy."

BOY enters reading area and climbs upon stool B. NARRATOR says, "Wonderful! The boy is just where he's supposed to be. Now I need three good readers with very loud voices!"

READERS 1, 2, and 3 run in yelling loudly. READER 1 sits at position C, READER 2 sits at position D, READER 3 sits at position E. NARRATOR says, "Perfect! We're all here now. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, please help me open the creaky door!"

NARRATOR reaches out with hand and mimes turning an invisible knob and opening the door. As the door is opened, three sounds are made. First sound is Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! As door reaches its widest swing, the sound changes to Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! Finally, the door slams shut with a loud clap of the hands as NARRATOR calls out "Oh!"

Rehearse these sounds and movements with all readers and listeners, until the progression runs smoothly. Then, start the story.

NARRATOR: Once upon a time there was a boy

(BOY STANDS AND SALUTES AUDIENCE).

who lived with his grandmother.

(GRANDMA STANDS AND WAVES TO AUDIENCE).

The boy and his grandmother lived in a very old house. Everything in the house was old. The walls were old.

(BOY AND GRANDMA PLACE FOLDERS ON STOOLS, THEN POINT TO THE WALLS AROUND THEM).

The roof was old!

(BOY AND GRANDMA POINT TO ROOF ABOVE THEM).

The hinges on all of the doors were old!

(BOY AND GRANDMA STICK FINGERS IN THEIR EARS).

Now the boy slept in a bedroom which had on it the creakiest, squeakiest, noisiest door in the entire world.

(BOY AND GRANDMA TAKE FINGERS FROM EARS, PICK UP FOLDERS AND SIT BACK DOWN ON STOOLS).

NARRATOR: Every time this door was opened or closed, it made a sound just like this,

(ALL READERS REACH OUT WITH ONE HAND AND MIME OPENING OF THE CREAKY DOOR. ALL READERS AND LISTENERS JOIN TOGETHER TO MAKE THE SOUNDS OF THE DOOR):

ALL: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! OH!

NARRATOR: Well, you can imagine that sleeping in the room with the creaky door made the boy very nervous. He had trouble falling asleep at night. He thought monsters lived in his closet. Every night his grandmother stood beside his bed and said,

GRANDMA: "You're not going to be afraid tonight, are you?"

NARRATOR: And the boy said,

BOY: "Nah! Not me!"

READER 1: So the grandmother kissed him goodnight,

(ALL READERS THROW A KISS TO THE AUDIENCE).

READER 2: she turned out the light,

(ALL READERS REACH OUT AND MIME CLICKING A LIGHT SWITCH. ALL SAY, "click").

READER 3:   and she closed the creaky door!

(ALL READERS REACH OUT WITH ONE HAND AND MIME CLOSING OF THE CREAKY DOOR. ALL READERS AND LISTENERS JOIN TOGETHER TO MAKE THE SOUNDS OF THE DOOR).

ALL: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! OH!

NARRATOR: Every night, the boy jumped under his bed!

(BOY JUMPS OFF STOOL AND PLACES FOLDER OVER HIS HEAD).

Then the grandmother ran back up the stairs, and cried out,

(GRANDMA JUMPS OFF STOOL AND MIMES RUNNING IN PLACE. SHE STOPS AND CRIES OUT):

GRANDMA: "You're driving me crazy!"

(BOY TAKES FOLDER FROM OVER HEAD. BOTH HE AND GRANDMA SIT).

NARRATOR: Well, one night the grandmother had an idea. She did not want the boy to be alone and afraid. She knew what to do! She said,

GRANDMA: "Tomorrow night I will put the cat in bed with you!"

BOY: "Not the cat!"

NARRATOR: The cat sometimes scratches.

GRANDMA: "The very thing!"

NARRATOR: And the next night grandmother put the cat in bed with the boy. Then she said,

GRANDMA: "You're not going to be afraid tonight, are you?"

NARRATOR: And the boy said,

BOY: "Nah! Not me!"

READER 1: So the grandmother kissed him goodnight,

(ALL READERS THROW A KISS TO THE AUDIENCE).

READER 2: she turned out the light,

(ALL READERS REACH OUT AND MIME CLICKING A LIGHT SWITCH. ALL SAY, "click").

READER 3:   and she closed the creaky door!

                             (ALL READERS REACH OUT WITH ONE HAND AND MIME
                             CLOSING OF THE CREAKY DOOR. ALL READERS AND
                             LISTENERS JOIN TOGETHER TO MAKE THE SOUNDS OF THE
                             DOOR).

ALL: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! OH!

NARRATOR: The boy jumped under the bed.

                             (BOY JUMPS OFF STOOL AND PLACES FOLDER OVER HIS
                             HEAD).

                             The cat,

                             (READER THREE JUMPS TO A CROUCH POSITION, PLACES
                             FOLDER OVER HEAD, AND CRIES OUT):

READER 3:   "Meow!"

NARRATOR: jumped under the bed. The grandmother ran right back up the
                             stairs and cried out,

                             (GRANDMA JUMPS OFF STOOL AND MIMES RUNNING IN
                             PLACE. SHE STOPS AND CRIES OUT):

GRANDMA: "You're driving me crazy!"

(BOY AND READER THREE TAKE FOLDERS FROM OVER HEADS. GRANDMA, BOY AND READER THREE SIT).

NARRATOR: Then the grandmother had an idea. She knew what to do! She said,

GRANDMA: "Tomorrow night I will put the dog in bed with you!"

BOY: "Not the dog!"

NARRATOR: The dog had bad breath.

GRANDMA: "The very thing!"

NARRATOR: And the next night grandmother put the dog in bed with the boy. Then she said,

GRANDMA: "You're not going to be afraid tonight, are you!"

NARRATOR: And the boy said,

BOY: "Nah! Not me!"

READER 1: So the grandmother kissed him goodnight,

(ALL READERS THROW A KISS TO THE AUDIENCE).

READER 2: she turned out the light,

	(ALL READERS REACH OUT AND MIME CLICKING A LIGHT SWITCH. ALL SAY, "click").
READER 3:	and she closed the creaky door!
	(ALL READERS REACH OUT WITH ONE HAND AND MIME CLOSING OF THE CREAKY DOOR. ALL READERS AND LISTENERS JOIN TOGETHER TO MAKE THE SOUNDS OF THE DOOR).
ALL:	Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! OH!
NARRATOR:	The boy jumped under the bed.
	(BOY JUMPS OFF STOOL AND PLACES FOLDER OVER HIS HEAD).
	The cat,
	(READER THREE JUMPS TO A CROUCH POSITION, PLACES FOLDER OVER HEAD, AND CRIES OUT):
READER 3:	"Meow!"
NARRATOR:	jumped under the bed. The dog,
	(READER TWO JUMPS TO A CROUCH POSITION, PLACES FOLDER OVER HEAD, AND CRIES OUT):

READER 2:   "Arff arff!"

NARRATOR: jumped under the bed. The grandmother ran right back up the stairs and cried out,

(GRANDMA JUMPS OFF STOOL AND MIMES RUNNING IN PLACE. SHE STOPS AND CRIES OUT):

GRANDMA: "You're driving me crazy!"

(BOY, READER THREE AND READER TWO TAKE FOLDERS FROM OVER HEADS. GRANDMA, BOY AND READERS THREE AND TWO SIT).

NARRATOR: Then the grandmother had an idea. She knew what to do! She wondered why she hadn't thought of it before. She said,

GRANDMA: "Tomorrow night I will put the pig in bed with you."

BOY: "Not the pig!"

NARRATOR: The pig made disgusting noises.

GRANDMA: "The very thing!"

NARRATOR: And the next night grandmother put the pig in bed with the boy. Then she said,

GRANDMA: "You're not going to be afraid tonight, are you?"

NARRATOR: And the boy said,

BOY: "Nah! Not me!"

READER 1: So the grandmother kissed him goodnight,

(ALL READERS THROW A KISS TO THE AUDIENCE).

READER 2: she turned out the light,

(ALL READERS REACH OUT AND MIME CLICKING A LIGHT SWITCH. ALL SAY, "click").

READER 3: and she closed the creaky door!

(ALL READERS REACH OUT WITH ONE HAND AND MIME CLOSING OF THE CREAKY DOOR. ALL READERS AND LISTENERS JOIN TOGETHER TO MAKE SOUNDS OF THE DOOR).

ALL: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! OH!

NARRATOR: The boy jumped under the bed.

(BOY JUMPS OFF STOOL AND PLACES FOLDER OVER HIS HEAD).