

Shadow, Shadow!

A Story About A Child and A Shadow

By Lois Walker

FORMATTED FOR 16 READERS:

8 Solo Readers, 8 Shadow Readers, and an All Chorus of as many readers as desired.

NOTE: Depending on the size of your class, you can use fewer or more readers than the original 16 by re-assigning a few of the lines.

This version contains a repetition of the same verse each time the All Chorus speaks. A second version contains different verses each time the All Chorus speaks. Both versions are included in this package so that you may decide which works best for your particular readers.

STAGING SUGGESTIONS

Each reader has his/her special shadow. Ask readers to wear signs that say either READER 1, READER 2, etc. or their names: Mark, Mary, etc. In turn, the shadows will wear signs that say either SHADOW 1, SHADOW 2, etc. or Mark's Shadow, Mary's Shadow, etc. Readers and Shadows will stand in pairs during the performance. Encourage gestures, small movements, and facial expressions. The shadows, of course, must mimic everything their readers do!

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this Readers Theater poem, 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.

READER 1: Hi! What is your name?

SHADOW 1: Hi! What is your name?

READER 2: Why did that sound the same?

SHADOW 2: Why did that sound the same?

READER 3: Hey, are you going to copy me?

SHADOW 3: Well, I'm your shadow, can't you see?
I just do what you do.

ALL READERS: You do?

ALL SHADOWS: We do!

ALL: Shadow, Shadow
 On the wall.
 Shadow, Shadow
 Short or tall.
 If I move from A to B,
 Will you move along with me?

READER 4: If I stand up straight and tall,
 Then turn around upon my toes,
 You'll do the same?

- SHADOW 4: That's what I do.
 That's how it goes.
- READER 5: And if I fall down to the floor
 Then do a somersault,
 You'll do the same?
- SHADOW 5: Yes, (pause)
 But skinned up knees
 Are not my fault!
- ALL: Shadow, Shadow
 On the wall.
 Shadow, Shadow
 Short or tall.
 If I move from A to B,
 Will you move along with me?
- READER 6: If I climb a mountain peak,
 Sit at the top and touch the sun,
 You'll do it too?
- SHADOW 6: It's true, it's true.
 That sounds like fun.
- READER 7: And if I sing a song out loud,
 And sing the tune off-key
 You'll sing with me?

SHADOW 7: Well, quietly.

ALL: Shadow, Shadow
On the wall.
Shadow, Shadow
Short or tall.
If I move from A to B,
Will you move along with me?

ALL READERS: If I shake like Skooby-Do?

ALL SHADOWS: I will Skooby-shake it too.

ALL READERS: If I walk like Donald Duck?

ALL SHADOWS: I will waddle too, with luck.

ALL READERS: If I fly like Superman?

ALL SHADOWS: I'll fly with you,
If I can!

ALL: Shadow, Shadow
On the wall.
Shadow, Shadow
Short or tall.
If I move from A to B,
Will you move along with me?