



## THE MONSTER MAD

By Lois Walker

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**OVERVIEW:** This script was written to introduce the concept of taking control and managing anger at the elementary grade school levels. “The Monster Mad” symbolizes extreme anger in a child. When the monster takes over, he puts the angry child in a spell and messes with the child’s head as described by Reader 1 below. Of course, everyone wants to “run that monster out of town” and to do that, the script suggests using visualization as a tool to letting the monster go: Imagining the monster in the stomach, inside the fists, and inside the eyes. I found a number of education sites online dealing with anger management in children and learned about the process of visualization from: <http://www.angriesout.com>

### **ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM:**

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. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readings will not clap throughout the entire piece during performance (*unless claps are programed into the script*).

**NOTE:** if you have trouble establishing the rhythm, email Lois and she will email you an mp3 sound file to help you establish the proper beat. (loiswalker@hotmail.com).

**FORMATTING:** This Choral Reading adaptation is formatted for 4 Solo Readers, an ALL chorus, ALL GIRLS and ALL BOYS lines.

**ALL CHORUS:**       The Monster Mad, (pause), Oh yes the Monster Mad  
                               Is really bad! (pause), It's sad, he's really bad!  
                               And when he comes around, we'll run him out of town  
                               The Monster Mad. (clap, clap, clap)

**ALL BOYS:**         This monster, so - what does he do?

**SOLO READER 1:**   What does he do?  
                               Well, I'll give you a clue –  
                                 
                               When I get angry, he puts me in a spell.  
                               He messes with my head, I don't feel so well.

**ALL GIRLS:**        You get madder and madder, and once you're on a roll,  
                               You have a temper tantrum and go out of control!

**SOLO READER 1:**   I'm not proud of myself, and I feel really gloomy,  
                               But if I apologize, no one listens to me.

**ALL BOYS:**         So you'd like to keep this monster far away.

**SOLO READER 1:**   Yes, that would really make my day!

**ALL CHORUS:**           The Monster Mad, (pause), Oh yes the Monster Mad  
                                   Is really bad! (pause), It's sad, he's really bad!  
                                   And when he comes around, we'll run him out of town  
                                   The Monster Mad. (clap, clap, clap)

**SOLO READER 1:**       So I ask you now, what can be done?

**ALL GIRLS:**           What can be done?  
                                   Well, just try this for fun -

**ALL:**                    Next time you get mad, before you're out of control,  
                                   Use your imagination and imagine a bowl.  
                                   Put the monster in that bowl and drink him down fast.

**SOLO READER 2:**       Then you'll have that monster trapped, at last!

**ALL:**                    Just feel him in your stomach, and then become aware  
                                   Of just how bad it feels in there.  
                                   Then once you've felt it, breathe him out.  
                                   Just breathe that monster right out of your mouth.

**ALL CHORUS:**           The Monster Mad, (pause), Oh yes the Monster Mad  
                                   Is really bad! (pause), It's sad, he's really bad!  
                                   And when he comes around, we'll run him out of town  
                                   The Monster Mad. (clap, clap, clap)