

OGUN DIGICLASS

CLASS: PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUBJECT: ENGLISH STUDIES

TOPIC: WRITING

SUB-TOPIC: Writing a Play Script



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Learning Objectives

List the main features of a play script

Identify the main features of play scripts in stories

Create play scripts from stories

What is a play script?

A script is like a story that has been written for actors to perform. 'Play' is theatrical performance.

It is a piece of writing written for the stage

Writing Play Scripts

Knowing the main features to use.



Story

Setting

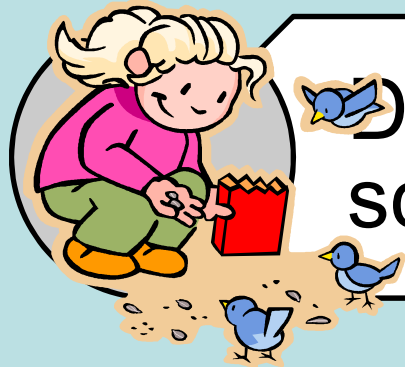
Character

Layout

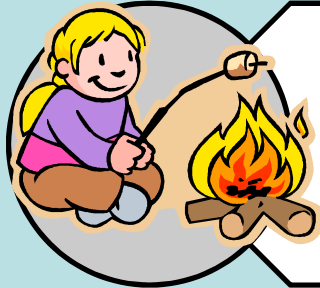
Story

- Know the story before you begin
- Have the different scenes in mind
- The dialogue, or the narrator, has to tell the story
- Keep the story line simple

Setting



Decide where the scene will take place



Write an introduction that describes the place



Or, have the Narrator describe the scene

Characters

- Decide who the characters will be
- Write a short description of each character
- Keep the number of main characters as small as possible
- Give the characters distinctive features



Layout

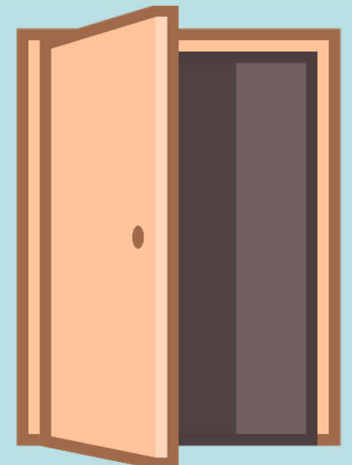
- Set the scene (As a short paragraph)
- Start a new line each time a new character speaks
- Put the name of the speaker in a left hand margin, followed by a colon (:)

Peter:

- Give instructions to the character in brackets (*often in italics too*).

(Opening the door to let the King in.)

The words in brackets are not spoken.



Red Riding Hood

List of characters:

Mother: a fussy young lady, wearing an apron

Red Riding Hood: a little girl who wears a red cloak with a hood. Kind and helpful.

Grandma: An old lady who is ill

Wolf:

Woodcutter:



Little Red Riding Hood

by *Leanne Guenther*

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who lived in a village near the forest. Whenever she went out, the little girl wore a red riding cloak, so everyone in the village called her Little Red Riding Hood.

One morning, Little Red Riding Hood asked her mother if she could go to visit her grandmother as it had been awhile since they'd seen each other.

"That's a good idea," her mother said. So they packed a nice basket for Little Red Riding Hood to take to her grandmother.

- When the basket was ready, the little girl put on her red cloak and kissed her mother goodbye.
- "Remember, go straight to Grandma's house," her mother cautioned. "Don't dawdle along the way and please don't talk to strangers! The woods are dangerous."
- "Don't worry, mommy," said Little Red Riding Hood, "I'll be careful."

Title

Scene 1

Kitchen of a little cottage

Set the scene

In the kitchen, Mother packing a basket on the kitchen table, whilst Red Riding Hood puts on her cape.

Now the script (*directions in brackets*)

Mother: (*Firmly*) Be sure to carry the basket carefully so as not to damage the cakes.

RRH: (*Kindly*) Of course mother, they are so prettily decorated. I wouldn't want to spoil them.

Mother: You know the way? We've been so many times together, you should do.

RRH: Yes, mother I know the way.

Mother: Be sure to keep to the path now, don't wander off and get lost.

RRH: No mother. I'll keep to the path.

Mother: And don't talk to any strangers.

RRH: I won't. *(As an aside to the audience.)* Not that there is ever any one in the woods.

Mother: *(Giving the basket to RRH and kissing her on the cheek)* Do be careful, and give Grandma my love won't you. Tell her I'll be along tomorrow to see that she's alright.

RRH: *(With hand on door handle, turning to face mother)* I'll be back before you know it.
Bye!

Mother: Bye love! Take care! *(Quietly to self)* I do hope she'll be O.K. I don't like her being in those woods all alone. You never know what might happen.



Your task:

To write the next scene of Red Riding Hood when she meets the Wolf in the forest on her way to Grandma's house.

- Follow the same format as Scene 1
- Title
- Set the scene
- Dialogue
- *(directions in brackets)*

Little Red Riding Hood cont....

But when Little Red Riding Hood noticed some lovely flowers in the woods, she forgot her promise to her mother. She picked a few, watched the butterflies flit about for awhile, listened to the frogs croaking and then picked a few more.

Little Red Riding Hood was enjoying the warm summer day so much, that she didn't notice a dark shadow approaching out of the forest behind her...

Suddenly, the wolf appeared beside her.

"What are you doing out here, little girl?"
the wolf asked in a voice as friendly as
he could muster.

"I'm on my way to see my Grandma who
lives through the forest, near the
brook," Little Red Riding Hood replied.

Then she realized how late she was and
quickly excused herself, rushing down
the path to her Grandma's house.

Little Red Riding Hood cont....

But when **Little Red Riding Hood** noticed some lovely flowers in the woods, she forgot her promise to her mother. She picked a few, watched the butterflies flit about for awhile, listened to the frogs croaking and then picked a few more.

Little Red Riding Hood was enjoying the **warm summer day** so much, that she didn't notice a dark shadow approaching out of the **forest** behind her...

Suddenly, the **wolf appeared** beside her.

"What are you doing out here, little girl?" the wolf asked in a voice as **friendly** as he could muster.

"I'm on my way to see my Grandma who lives through the forest, near the brook," Little Red Riding Hood replied.

Then she realized how late she was and **quickly excused herself**, rushing down the path to her Grandma's house.

Title **Scene 2**
Forgot Promises

Set the scene

In the forest. It was a warm summer day.
Butterflies are flitting while the frogs are
croaking

Now the script (*directions in brackets*)

Wolf: (*in a friendly voice*) What are you
doing out here, little girl?

Little Red Riding Hood: I'm on my way to see my
Grandma who lives through the forest, near the
brook (*she quickly excused herself*)

Further Practice

Write a play script from any short story you like and send to:

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