

= Adventure Time (season 5) =

The fifth season of American animated television series Adventure Time , created by Pendleton Ward , originally aired on Cartoon Network in the United States . The series is based on a short produced for Frederator 's Nicktoons Network animation incubator series Random ! Cartoons . The season debuted on November 12 , 2012 and finished on March 17 , 2014 . The season follows the adventures of Finn , a human boy , and his best friend and adoptive brother Jake , a dog with magical powers to change shape and grow and shrink at will . Finn and Jake live in the post @-@ apocalyptic Land of Ooo . Along the way , they interact with the other main characters of the show : Princess Bubblegum , The Ice King , and Marceline the Vampire Queen .

The first episode of the fifth season was the two @-@ parter episode " Finn the Human " and " Jake the Dog " , both of which aired on November 12 , 2012 . The episode was viewed by 3 @.@ 435 million viewers ; this marked a dramatic increase from the previous season 's premiere and finale . The season ended with the " Billy 's Bucket List " , which was viewed by 2 @.@ 335 million viewers . The season has been met with largely positive critical reception . In June 2013 , the series was nominated for " Best Animated Series " at the 2013 Critics ' Choice Television Awards , although it did not win . Both " Simon & Marcy " and " Be More " were nominated for Primetime Emmy Awards for Short @-@ Format Animation at the 65th and 66th Primetime Emmy Awards respectively . Former character designer Andy Ristaino and series ' art director Nick Jennings both won Emmys for " Outstanding Individual Achievement In Animation " in 2013 and 2014 , respectively .

This season comprised 52 episodes , making it twice the length of any of the show 's previous seasons . The episodes were storyboarded and written by Tom Herpich , Jesse Moynihan , Cole Sanchez , Rebecca Sugar , Steve Wolfhard , Skyler Page , Somvilay Xayaphone , Ako Castuera , Michael DeForge , Kent Osborne , David O'Reilly , Ward , Graham Falk , Thomas Wellmann , Luke Pearson , Seo Kim , and Ristaino . The season also featured O'Reilly and James Baxter as guest animators in the episodes " A Glitch is a Glitch " and " James Baxter the Horse " , respectively . Furthermore , this was the last year of Adventure Time to feature Sugar and Page ; they all left to create their own shows . It was also the final season to feature Ward as the showrunner . It was produced by Cartoon Network Studios and Frederator Studios . In addition , several compilation DVDs that contained episodes from the season have been released . The full season set was released on DVD and Blu @-@ ray on July 14 , 2015 .

= = Development = =

= = = Concept = = =

The season follows the adventures of Finn the Human , a human boy , and his best friend Jake , a dog with magical powers to change shape and grow and shrink at will . Finn and Jake live in the post @-@ apocalyptic Land of Ooo . Along the way , they interact with the other main characters of the show : Princess Bubblegum , The Ice King , and Marceline the Vampire Queen . Common storylines revolve around Finn and Jake discovering strange creatures , dealing with the antagonistic but misunderstood Ice King , and battling monsters in order to help others . Various other episodes deal with Finn and his romantic relationship with Flame Princess .

= = = Production = = =

On October 12 , 2012 , it was announced that Cartoon Network had officially renewed Adventure Time for a fifth season . The episode titles were released on November 2 , 2012 by Frederator Studios , while the show had just reached the end of its fourth season . Based on production numbers , " Finn the Human " was the first episode that underwent production , and it was also the first episode aired . The season contains 52 episodes , twice the normal number of episodes per season . Both Frederator and storyboard artist Jesse Moynihan explained that originally , a four

@-@ part special was supposed to divide the season in half , but that the special was pushed off , and later cancelled . In production , the first half of the season was referred to as season 5 @.@ 1 , and the second half was referred to as 5 @.@ 2 .

This season 's episodes were produced in a process similar to previous seasons ' episodes . First , all of the episodes began as simple two @-@ to @-@ three @-@ page outline that contained the necessary plot information . These outlines were then handed off to storyboard artists , who would then expand the rough outline into a full storyboard . The episodes ' design and coloring were done in Burbank , California . Animation was handled overseas in South Korea , either by Rough Draft Korea or by Saerom Animation . Although almost all of the episodes are hand @-@ animated , the fifteenth episode , " A Glitch Is a Glitch " , was created by guest animator David O'Reilly in his signature 3 @-@ D animation . According to Adam Muto , O'Reilly was brought on board after Ward expressed an interest in letting him helm an episode . Initially , the producers had wanted O'Reilly to appear in earlier seasons , but the network was hesitant to bring in guest directors . Eventually , the network relented , and he was finally approved to appear in the fifth season . British animator James Baxter guest animated the horse featured in the episode " James Baxter the Horse " . For the first half of the season , the writers room was largely composed of Ward , Kent Osborne , and Pat McHale . McHale eventually left the series to create *Over the Garden Wall* , and the newly promoted Muto and Jack Pendarvis were brought on board to pen story outlines .

The season was storyboarded and written by Tom Herpich , Moynihan , Cole Sanchez , Sugar , Steve Wolfhard , Skyler Page , Somvilay Xayaphone , Castuera , Michael DeForge , Osborne , O'Reilly , Ward , Graham Falk , Thomas Wellmann , Luke Pearson , Seo Kim , and Ristaino . " Little Dude " was the first entry in the series to have been storyboarded by prop and character designer DeForge . He wrote on his official Tumblr that , " Cole and Adam Muto basically held my hand through the whole process , and were both incredibly patient with me . " Starting with " Love Games " , Ristaino was promoted from lead character designer to storyboard artist . Guest artist Falk , creator of the animated series *Untalkative Bunny* , storyboarded the episodes " Shh ! " and " Root Beer Guy " . The former was dedicated to Armen Mirzaian who was a storyboard artist for earlier episodes in the series . Mirzaian died in a car accident on February 21 , 2013 at the age of 35 . Regular storyboardist Castuera had to take off two storyboard rotations due to an art show , and so her partner , Moynihan , worked with German cartoonist Wellmann on " The Suitor " and " Wizards Only , Fools " ; the two worked on their storyboards via Skype and Google + Hangout . Pearson was paired with Xayaphone for both the episodes " Candy Streets " and " Frost & Fire " ; however , this pairing was only temporary , and Xayaphone boarded the rest of the season with Kim . This season was the last to feature Page and Sugar . Page left after completing " Davey " to create his own series *Clarence* . Sugar left the series after storyboarding the episode " Simon & Marcy " to focus her attention on her own Cartoon Network series , *Steven Universe* .

The episode " All Your Fault " was the last regular episode of the season to feature a " directed by " credit . The subsequent episode , " Little Dude " , only credited Muto as " supervising director " and Nick Jennings as " art director " . Muto later explained that , " No one currently gets the ' directed by ' credit . " Both Muto and Nate Cash had , in previous episodes , been credited as creative directors , but according to Muto , the series decided to phase the title out in favor of " supervising director " . For the first half of the season , both Muto and Cash took turns holding the supervising director credit on different episodes . Starting with " Shh ! " , however , Elizabeth Ito , a former storyboard artist for the show in season one , returned to the series and was also credited as supervising director in place of Muto . " Bad Little Boy " , the season 's eleventh episode , however , still had a " directed by " credit . This is due to the fact that the episode was produced before " Little Dude " , but aired out of order . " A Glitch Is a Glitch " also featured a " directed by " credit , but this is due to the fact that the episode 's director , O'Reilly , was a guest animator and director for the series .

In an interview with *Rolling Stone* , Ward revealed that he stepped down as series showrunner sometime during this season in favor of Muto . He explained that , as a naturally introverted person , he found it extremely exhausting having to deal with people every day . With that being said , Ward remained working on the series as a storyboard artist and storyline writer , and every single fifth season episode (with the exception of " A Glitch is a Glitch ") featured story input by Ward .

= = Cast = =

The voice actors include voice acting veterans John DiMaggio (who portrays Jake the Dog) , Tom Kenny (who plays The Ice King) , and Hynden Walch (who voices Princess Bubblegum) . In addition , Jeremy Shada portrays the voice of Finn the Human , and Olivia Olson portrays Marceline the Vampire Queen . Ward himself provides the voice for several minor characters , including Lumpy Space Princess . Former storyboard artist Niki Yang voices the sentient video game console BMO in English , as well as Jake 's girlfriend Lady Rainicorn in Korean . Polly Lou Livingston , a friend of Pendleton Ward 's mother , Bettie Ward , plays the voice of the small elephant Tree Trunks . Jessica DiCicco voices Flame Princess , Finn 's former romantic interest . The season 's first few episodes also feature The Lich , the series principal antagonist . The Lich is portrayed by Ron Perlman . The Adventure Time cast records their lines together in group recordings as opposed to different recording sessions with each voice actor . This is to record more natural sounding dialogue among the characters . Hynden Walch has described these group recordings as akin to " doing a play reading ? a really , really out there play . "

Several voices actors and actresses reprise their characters in this season . Emo Philips reprises his fourth season character Cuber in both " Five More Short Graybles " and " Another Five Short Graybles " . Both Justin Roiland and Andy Milonakis reprise their roles as the Earl of Lemongrab and N.E.P.T.R. , respectively in " Mystery Dungeon " . Roiland would voice both Earls of Lemongrab in the following episodes , " All Your Fault " , " Another Five More Short Graybles " , " Too Old " , and " Lemonhope " ; he would also voice the character Lemonhope in " Too Old " and the eponymous episode . " Bad Little Boy " featured Neil Patrick Harris returning as Prince Gumball , Madeleine Martin reprising the role of Fionna , and Roz Ryan reappearing as Cake . Keith David once again voices the Flame King in " Vault of Bones " , " Earth & Water " , and " The Red Throne " . Davey Johnson reappears as the goblin king Xergiok in " The Great Bird Man " ; he also voices the titular character in the episode " Davey " . " Davey " also features Randy Liedtke as a candy person named Randy . Steve Little , who plays the recurring role as Peppermint Butler , also reprises his role as Abracadaniel in " Wizards Only , Fools " and " Play Date " . Maurice LaMarche reprises his role as Grand Master Wizard in both " Wizards Only , Fools " and " Betty " . Musical parody artist " Weird Al " Yankovic reprises his role as Banana Man in " We Fixed a Truck " . Noah Nelson reprises his role as Kee @-@ Oth the demon in the two @-@ parter " Play Date " and " The Pit " , having first appeared in the third season episode " Dad 's Dungeon " . Osborne reprises his recurring role as Finn and Jake 's dad , Joshua , in the episode " The Pit " . Ron Lynch returns to the series in " Apple Wedding " , voicing Mr. Pig . Jeff Bennett reprises his role as Choose Goose in the episode " Blade of Grass " , and also voices an alternate @-@ universe version of the character named Choose Bruce in the episode " Finn the Human . " Miguel Ferrer reprises his role as Death , and Steve Agee returns as Ash in " Betty " . Both Lou Ferrigno , Andy Samberg , and Mark Hamill return in " Billy 's Bucket List " as Billy , Party Pat , and the Fear Feaster , respectively .

The series also regularly employs guest voices for new characters . For instance , in the two @-@ parter " Finn the Human " and " Jake the Dog " , Ming @-@ Na Wen voiced Farmworld Finn 's mother (as she did in the season four cliffhanger " The Lich ") , Kumail Nanjiani appeared as Prismo , and Cloris Leachman plays the role of Farmworld Marceline . Additionally , in " Jake the Dog " and " Frost & Fire " , M. Emmet Walsh voices the Cosmic Owl . In " Up a Tree " , Jim Cummings voices the Porcupine , Lenny the Beaver , and the Owl ; and Marc Maron appears as the squirrel . Cummings would later reappear in the latter season episode " Candy Streets " playing a different character . In " Jake the Dad " , Kristen Schaal lends her voice to Jake Jr . (she would reprise the role in the later episodes " One Last Job " and " Another Five Short Graybles ") ; Choe Dong @-@ Hyun appears as T.V. and Kim Kil Whan ; and Sunny Sandler voices both Charlie and Viola . In " Little Dude " , Dana Snyder appears as the Ancient Sleeping Magi of Life Giving . With " Bad Little Boy " , Donald Glover debuted as Marshall Lee , Marceline 's male counterpart . In the episode " Puhoy " , Jonathan Frakes voices a grown @-@ up version of Finn , Mandy Siegfried voices Roselinen , and Wallace Shawn voices an oracle . Levar Burton voices an anthropomorphic

bubble in " BMO Lost " . Baxter plays the eponymous character in the " James Baxter the Horse " . Both Johnny Pemberton and James Adomian appear in the episode " The Suitor " , voicing Braco and the demon @-@ possessed Cinnamon Bun , respectively . Series storyboard artist Cole Sanchez voiced the Party God in " Shh ! " and " Party 's Over , Isla de Señorita " ; Riki Lindhome portrayed the female island in the latter episode . The character Tiffany , who had first appeared in a minor role in the first season episode " My Two Favorite People " , reappears in " One Last Job " . In the first season , he was voiced by Vincenzo Rauso . However , in " One Last Job " , he was voiced by Collin Dean . Comedian Melissa Villaseñor appears as Ann the pharmacist in " Candy Streets " . Duncan Trussell appears as Ron James in " Wizards Only , Fools " and " Betty " .

Dan Mintz appears as T.V. in " Jake Suit " . Aziz Ansari , Paul F. Tompkins , and Chuck McCann appear in " Be More " , as DMO , one of the SMOs , and Moe Giovanni , respectively . " Sky Witch " features Jill Talley , the wife of Kenny , voicing the eponymous sky witch , Maja . In " The Vault " , Isabelle Fuhrman voices Shoko and Paul Scheer voices the Bath Boy Gang Boss . In " Love Games " , Katie Crown voices Slime Princess 's sister Blargatha , and John Hodgman appears as Elder Plops . Marina Sirtis voices the character Samantha in the episode " The Pit " . In " James " , Andy Merrill appears as the titular character . In the episode " Root Beer Guy " , series ' outline writer Jack Pendarvis lends his voice to the character of the same name , and Anne Heche voices the character 's wife , Cherry Cream Soda . In addition , Make a Wish Foundation arranged for a 14 @-@ year @-@ old named Christopher to be the voice of a background character in " Root Beer Guy " . Andy Daly voices the King of Ooo in " Apple Wedding " . Rainn Wilson voices the titular character in " Rattleballs " . Roddy Piper plays the part of Don John in " The Red Throne " . Lena Dunham appears as Betty in the episode of the same name . Actor and musician Creed Bratton voices the character Phlannel Boxingday in " Lemonhope " . Series storyboard artist Ako Castuera voices Canyon in " Billy 's Bucket List " .

Various other characters are voiced by Tom Kenny , Dee Bradley Baker , Maria Bamford , Little , and Kent Osborne .

= = Reception and release = =

= = = Ratings = = =

The season debuted on November 12 , 2012 , with the two @-@ part episode " Finn the Human " / " Jake the Dog " . Together , both episodes were watched by 3 @.@ 435 million viewers . This marked a drastic increase of almost one million viewers when compared to the previous season premiere , as well as the previous season finale . The season opener was also the most @-@ watched episode of the season . Aside from the season opener , " Jake the Dad " , " Bad Little Boy " , and " Frost & Fire " were the only other episodes of the season to garner over 3 million viewers , and they were watched by 3 @.@ 19 , 3 @.@ 077 , and 3 @.@ 009 million viewers , respectively . On March 29 , 2013 , it was reported that the show averaged roughly 2 to 3 million viewers per episode . The season concluded with " Billy 's Bucket List " on March 17 , 2014 . The episode was viewed by 2 @.@ 335 million viewers , marking a slight decrease in viewers when compared to the season four finale " The Lich " which was viewed by 2 @.@ 589 million viewers .

= = = Reviews and accolades = = =

Eric Kohn of IndieWire praised the beginning of the season for being " irreverent and narratively engaging " . He called it " the ideal testament to animation 's glorious pliability in an commercial arena otherwise defined by restrictions . " Kohn felt that the show 's exploration of " sad subtext " ? such as the series ' mysterious Mushroom War and the relationship between Marceline and the Ice King ? and the characters ' abilities to " deny the bad vibes their surrounding world invites " via " cheery songs and vibrant artwork " were some of the series strongest points . He was particularly pleased with the season opener , calling it an " interesting creative challenge " . Kohn later published

an article explaining why " ' Adventure Time ' is the best Sci @-@ Fi show on TV right now " . He singled out " Simon & Marcy " , praising the way in which the episode " deepen [ed] the world [of Ooo] in all kinds of morbidly fascinating ways . " Furthermore , he compared the entry to Cormac McCarthy 's book The Road , specifically citing the similarities between the mutant creatures in the episode and the " demented people " in the latter . Kohn ultimately concluded that the series ' " willingness to contemplate [the themes of the episode] while sticking to its unique combination of silliness and haunting beauty routinely transforms the show into a wondrous genre experiment . "

Oliver Sava of The A.V. Club wrote that the season was " experimental " in that the series ' writers and storyboard artists " continue to experiment with what they can do in 10 minutes " . He specifically cited the plots from the season openers , " All the Little People " , and " Shh ! " as examples , and applauded the fact that the series was willing to explore different styles of animation , such as in the installment " A Glitch is a Glitch " . Rich Goldstein of The Daily Beast argued that the emotional depth of the series increased during this season , highlighting " Simon & Marcy " as an example . Emily Guendelsberger of The A.V. Club later awarded the entire season an " A " , noting that " Adventure Time has somehow managed to stay on fire for its fifth season 's double @-@ wide 52 @-@ episode run . " Guendelsberger praised the show 's aforementioned creativity and experimentation , and also wrote that " the writing staff has also taken the less @-@ obvious X @-@ Files approach : expanding the length of the stories they 're able to tell by linking monster @-@ of @-@ the @-@ week episodes into longer arcs . " The A.V. Club later named the series the 27th best television series of 2014 , noting that , " The end of the super @-@ sized season five saw a string of conceptually ambitious episodes that blew the world of Ooo wide open , deepening the stories of Lemongrab , Lumpy Space Princess ' doomed romance , and Ice King 's past as Simon Petrikov . " The site selected " Lemonhope " as the stand @-@ out from the season 's end . All in all , each episode was also graded by The A.V. Club with a different letter grade ; the season received four " C " grade entries , twenty " B " grade installments , and twenty @-@ six " A " grade episodes .

In June 2013 , the series was nominated for " Best Animated Series " at the 2013 Critics ' Choice Television Awards , although it lost to the FX series Archer . At the 65th Primetime Emmy Awards , " Simon & Marcy " , was later nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for Short @-@ format Animation , and former character designer Andy Ristaino won an Emmy for " Outstanding Individual Achievement In Animation " for his character designs in the episode " Puhoy " , making it the series ' first Emmy win . The episode " Be More " was later nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for Short @-@ format Animation at the 66th Primetime Emmy Awards in 2014 . On July 31 , 2014 , it was announced that series art director , Nick Jennings , had won an Emmy for " Outstanding Individual Achievement In Animation " for his work on the episode " Wizards Only , Fools " .

= = = Home media = = =

Warner Home Video released multiple DVD volumes , such as Jake the Dad , The Suitor , Princess Day , Finn the Human , Frost & Fire , and The Enchiridion which contain episodes from the fifth season . The complete season set was released on July 14 , 2015 . All DVD releases can be purchased on the Cartoon Network Shop , and the individual episodes can be downloaded from both the iTunes Store and Amazon.com.

= = Episodes = =