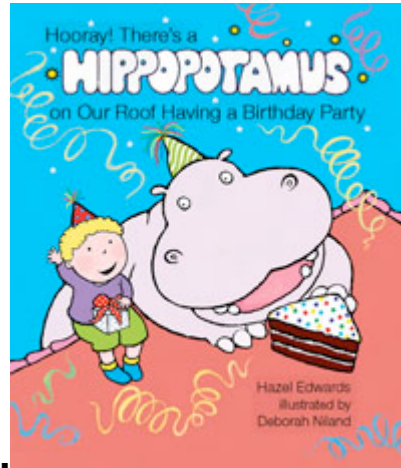


Hooray! There's a Hippopotamus on our Roof Having a Birthday Party

Classroom Performance Script Inspired by the picture book

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There are two versions of performing this script:

- Classroom performance, with simple or elaborate 'dressing up' and props and chorus roles and techie crews, so all students involved.
- Reading Theatre Script where actors wear hats or masks & sit on stools to read their parts. Each has a copy of the script, with their lines colour-coded to find easily.

Curriculum Links:

Jungle-Theme; Art & Maths Sessions

All can design & make own

- Animal masks or hats.
- Jungle birthday invitations & replies
- Cook or cut jungle food shapes (maths linked to weighing, measuring and cooking times)
- Jungle vines/streamer decorations
- Balloon animals

Reading Theatre Script

Each reads from their script in a hippo book cover

Cast:

1. Hippo (non- speaking part, but nods) Explorer hat & belly-dancing outfit
2. Child-Narrator (a good reader or the teacher. BIGGEST part) (monkey mask)
3. Big Sister
4. Big Brother
5. Jack (lion)
6. Grace (Bird)
7. Liam (elephant)
8. Mum
9. Grandma
10. Grandpa
11. Chorus (any number)

Technical Crew: Costumes, Props, SFX

Crews of students can be 'techies' looking after sound effects (SFX) including music,

This can be a minimalist, instant production or an all school performance for Book Week or for younger Buddies.

Costumes:

All students can be party guests and wear animal masks, hats
Masks can be made in an earlier art session

Explorer hat for Hippo & bellydancing kit

Props:

Party Invitation
Jungle costumes or masks or hats/ears/tails
Drums

SFX (Sound effects)

Pre-recorded or live
Drums (optional)
Middle-Eastern music for Hippo belly dance.
Happy Birthday music

NARRATOR: Only three sleeps to go,
and then it's my birthday.
There's a hippopotamus on our roof eating cake.

It's his birthday, too.

(Hippo bows)

We are going to have our party together.
A jungle party. And all our friends can come in animal costumes.

(Hippo nods.)

MUM

For a birthday, we need invitations.

SISTER;

Let's make animal-shaped ones
Jungle animals!

(Hippo points to himself and nods)

NARRATOR

My hippopotamus can help.

BIG SISTER

Here's the sticky-tape, glitter and paint.

MUM

Here's some paper.

NARRATOR

My big sister writes in her special, running writing.

SISTER (reads aloud)

Please come to our jungle party.

When: Saturday 2pm

Where: My garden

Dress up as your favourite jungle animal.

RSVP TODAY!

CHORUS

What does R.S.V.P. mean?

MUM

It's French for answering an invitation.
It means, respond if you please.

(Hippo nods as if he knew)

CHORUS

Yes please.

We're coming to the party
I like parties.
I like dressing up
I like cake.

(Hippo nods)

I like party games
I like.... (add extras)

BIG BROTHER Usually I forget invitations and leave them in my school bag.

SISTER

Someone else can deliver the invitations.

(Hippo nods)

MOTHER (to Narrator) Will you deliver the invitations?

BIG BROTHER Might be safer.

SISTER: And quicker

NARRATOR:

Only two sleeps to go.
My hippopotamus helps me deliver the invitations.

CHORUS

Thank you.
We're coming to the party
We like parties.
We like dressing up
We like cake.
Yes.
We're coming too.

JACK

I want to be a lion. GRRRRR

GRACE (to Narrator)

What animal will you be?

CHORUS A monkey?

A gorilla?

An ant?

GRACE A jungle bird?

NARRATOR

I'm still choosing.

GRANDMA:

I have a dress-up box.

Let me help with your jungle-animal costume.

GRACE

Look at my tail! I'm a monkey.

NARRATOR

My hippopotamus says he likes monkeys second-best.

(Hippo nods)

NARRATOR Only one sleep to go.

MUM Want to help make the party food?

SISTER What shall we make?

MUM You choose.

LIAM Tiger biscuits,

GRACE Lion cupcakes,

SISTER And vegetables in animal shapes. Ant bread.

BROTHER Chocolate...

MUM Lots of mud in the jungle.

Stir the cake.

Pour it into the cake tin

Make a wish.

CHORUS I wish..... (add own wishes)

NARRATOR

There's a muddy Hippopotamus on our roof licking mud cake from a bowl

MUM Time to decorate the party space

DAD: I'll clear up a bit first.

GRANDPA

Let's hang jungle vines on the walls and doors

BROTHER: What about balloons?

DAD Try blowing these up.

CHORUS (blow up balloons)

Puff

Puff

Puff

NARRATOR

I wish I could blow up a balloon.

My Hippopotamus can blow up balloons so they are really BIG.

(Hippo mimes)

NARRATOR

No more sleeps to go. It's our birthday!

SFX

Knock.

Knock.

Knock.

NARRATOR

My friends are here. Hello Jack.

JACK I'm a lion. Grrrrrr

GRACE: I can fly and dance

I'm a jungle bird.

LIAM: I've got a long, long trunk.

Guess what I am?

SISTER: An elephant?

(Other guests say who they are)

CHORUS: I'm a.

NARRATOR:

Look.

There's a hippopotamus on our roof dressed up as an explorer.

BIG SISTER

Let's make animal masks for those who want one.

I'll help you. Here are the paper plates.

NARRATOR

We draw on paper plates.

We stick on feathers and fur.

Now we all have masks to wear in the jungle.

There's a Hippopotamus on our roof, covered in feathers.

(Hippo adds dancing feathers)

DADDY:

Our garden is a bit of a jungle
You can play hide-and-seek there.

BROTHER:

I'll hide behind the biggest tree.

LIAM:

Found you!

NARRATOR

My hippopotamus is SO good at hiding. Nobody ever finds him.

(Hippo hides in various places)

NARRATOR

My big brother is ready to play the drums.

SISTER: Want to dance?

BIG BROTHER:

I'll play the drums.

NARRATOR

My friends dance, really well.

JACK: I can do a lion leap.

LIAM: I can do an elephant stomp.

GRACE I can do a bird dance.

NARRATOR

I can do the monkey swing.

And there's a hippopotamus doing a belly dance on our roof.

SFX Middle-Eastern music

MUM

Are you hungry now?

Let's go on safari and find the party food.

SISTER

'Look for the arrows and the footprints.'

(Hippo points out hints)

BROTHER: A jungle feast

NARRATOR

Hooray! The jungle party food looks cool.

My hippopotamus thinks so, too!

(Hippo nods and rubs tummy)

We both love the chocolate ant-bread best.

MUM:

Here's the birthday cake.

SFX

Everybody sings Happy Birthday to us.

MUM

Blow the candles out.

SFX

Puff.

Puff.

Puff.

NARRATOR (pointing)

There's a hippo on our roof unwrapping lots of presents.

It's the end of our party.

Hand out party bags and birthday cake to all our friends.

DADDY I have a special surprise.

Balloon animals for everyone to take home.

SISTER Some look really funny!

CHORUS Thankyou

It's been fun.

NARRATOR

We had the BEST birthday party.

Tonight, there's a Hippopotamus snoring on our roof

Only 365 sleeps till our next birthday.

All Bow

Hippo was played by.....

Mum was played by.....

Dad was played by.....