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The Punctuation Proclamation

Lena Wagner

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Boiko, Claire. *The Punctuation Proclamation*. Plays, Inc., 1967. ISBN 67-21413. Royalty free. 7 pp.

Reviewer: Lena Wagner

Reading Level: Preschool; Primary

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Folklore; Plays;

Subject: Drama--Reviews; Folklore--Juvenile drama

Theme: Punctuation is important

Production Requirements: One simple set, easy costumes

Acts: 1

Run Time: 10-15 min.

Characters: 3 males, 2 females, 7 m/f, extras

Cast: Children

Time Period: Contemporary

This story begins in the kingdom of Bosh, with King Pish-Posh who does not know how to read. While his royal tutor is trying to teach the king to read the king becomes frustrated and decides to make a new proclamation. He proclaims that there will no longer be any punctuation. Then his royal storyteller comes in with some courtiers to tell the king his daily story; however, the story is terrible because all of the punctuation has been removed. Afterwards, the royal cook tells the king that the menus look terrible because without punctuation all the foods would be mixed together. In the end King Pish-Posh realizes the importance of punctuation and he reverses his proclamation.

The story is a cute way to teach younger elementary students who are learning to read the importance of punctuation. There really is not anything that would be difficult to do in this play. The set only needs a throne and an easel. The costumes could be everyday clothes, though the king would need something to show he is royalty. This is a play that would be good to do in individual classrooms as the children learn about punctuation.