

What's The Crime, Mr Wolf?

Junior Script

by

Mike Horth and Jan Porter

Ideal Cast Size 64

Speaking Roles 49

Minimum Cast Size 33

Duration (minutes) 70

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CAST LIST

In the following list the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each character has.

An asterisk () before the character's name indicates that this character has solo or featured sung lines.*

The Court

Judge Feathers	(59)
*Squirrel 1	(24)
*Squirrel 2	(11)
*Squirrel 3	(17)
*Squirrel 4	(17)

The Defence

*Mr Wolf	(77)
*Mrs Wolf	(50)

Witnesses for the Defence

Inspector Green	(9)
Sergeant Trunk	(12)
Constable Twig	(17)
Bark	(9)
*Naturalist 1	(8)
*Naturalist 2	(4)
*Naturalist 3	(7)
*Naturalist 4	(4)

Public Gallery

Mouse 1	(3)
Mouse 2	(2)
Badger 1	(4)
Badger 2	(3)
Fox 1	(5)
Fox 2	(2)
Bird 1	(1)
Bird 2	(1)

The Protesters

Owl 1	(3)
Owl 2	(1)
Bear 1	(3)
Bear 2	(3)
*Duck 1	(2)
*Duck 2	(2)
*Pony 1	(4)
*Pony 2	(7)

The Prosecution

Mr Hugh Mann	(50)
Justin Case	(39)

Witnesses for the Prosecution

*Johnny Mole	(17)
*Basildon Bond	(3)
*Premium Bond	(2)
*Brooke Bond	(2)
*Little Red Riding Hood	(15)
*RRH Friend 1	(2)
Granny	(15)
*Pig 1	(5)
*Pig 2	(2)
*Pig 3	(2)

The Narrators

Deer	(10)
Rabbit	(11)

The News Team

Sparrow Hawkins	(28)
Bramble Thicket	(16)
Camera Operator	(1)
Sound Operator	(1)

Non-speaking roles:

*Wolf Cub 1	
*Wolf Cub 2	
*Wolf Cub 3	
*RRH Friend 2	
*RRH Friend 3	
Pig Chorus of 5	
Bug Chorus of 5	
General Chorus (Use members of the cast)	

SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many SPOKEN lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

*Mr Wolf.....	77
Judge Feathers.....	59
*Mrs Wolf.....	50
Mr Mann	50
Justin Case.....	39
Sparrow Hawkins.....	28
*Squirrel 1.....	24
*Johnny Mole.....	17
*Squirrel 4.....	17
Constable Twig.....	17
*Squirrel 3.....	17
Bramble Thicket.....	16
*Little Red Riding Hood	15
Granny.....	15
Sergeant Trunk.....	12
*Squirrel 2.....	11
Rabbit	11
Deer.....	10
Bark	9
Inspector Green.....	9
*Naturalist 1	8
*Naturalist 3	7
*Pony 2	7
Fox 1.....	5
*Pig 1	5
*Pony 1	4
Badger 1	4
*Naturalist 2	4
*Naturalist 4.....	4
Bear 1	3
Bear 2.....	3
Owl 1	3
Mouse 1.....	3
Badger 2.....	3
*Basildon Bond.....	3
*Duck 1	2
*Duck 2.....	2

Mouse 2.....	2
*Pig 2.....	2
*Pig 3.....	2
*Brooke Bond	2
*Premium Bond	2
*RRH Friend 1	2
Fox 2.....	2
Owl 2	1
Bird 1	1
Bird 2	1
Camera Operator.....	1
Sound Operator	1

SUGGESTED CAST LIST FOR 33 ACTORS

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

*Mr Wolf	.....	77
Judge Feathers	.....	59
*Mrs Wolf	.....	50
Mr Mann	.....	50
Justin Case	.....	39
Sparrow Hawkins	<i>also plays *Naturalist 1</i>	36
*Squirrel 1	.....	24
Granny	<i>also plays Bark</i>	24
Bramble Thicket	<i>also plays *Naturalist 3</i>	23
Constable Twig	<i>also plays *Premium Bond</i>	19
*Squirrel 4	.....	17
*Johnny Mole	.....	17
*Squirrel 3	.....	17
*Little Red Riding Hood	.....	15
Sergeant Trunk	<i>also plays *Brooke Bond</i>	14
Inspector Green	<i>also plays *Basildon Bond</i>	12
*Squirrel 2	.....	11
Rabbit	.....	11
Deer	.....	10
*Pony 2	<i>also covers Mouse 2 lines but as Pony 2</i>	9
Bear 1	<i>also covers Badger 1 lines but as Bear 1</i>	7
*Pony 1	<i>also covers Mouse 1 lines but as Pony 1</i>	7
Fox 1	<i>also covers Owl 2 lines but as Fox 1</i>	6
Bear 2	<i>also covers Badger 2 lines but as Bear 2</i>	6
Fox 2	<i>also covers Owl 1 lines but as Fox 2</i>	5
*Pig 1	<i>also plays *Wolf Cub</i>	5
*Naturalist 4	<i>also plays Camera Operator</i>	5
*Naturalist 2	<i>also plays Sound Operator</i>	5
*Duck 1	<i>also covers Bird 1 lines but as Duck 1</i>	3
*Duck 2	<i>also covers Bird 2 lines but as Duck 2</i>	3
*Pig 2	<i>also plays *Wolf Cub</i>	2
*Pig 3	<i>also plays *Wolf Cub</i>	2
*RRH Friend 1	<i>also in the Chorus</i>	2

In this condensed version, the Protesters and Public Gallery are played by the same characters: Fox 1 and 2; Bear 1 and 2; Duck 1 and 2; Pony 1 and 2. Red Riding Hood has only one friend (not three), so other members of the cast may be needed to support that part in the Red Riding Hood song. The General Chorus could be made up of Deer, Rabbit and the Protesters/Public Gallery. The Pig and Bug Chorus parts may be covered by available members of the cast.

CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE

Prologue

Deer
Rabbit
Sergeant Trunk
Protesters
Camera Operator
Sound Operator
Sparrow Hawkins
Bramble Thicket

Scene One

Public Gallery
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
General Chorus
Judge Feathers
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Johnny Mole
Brooke Bond
Premium Bond
Basildon Bond

Scene Two

Public Gallery
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
Judge
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Red Riding Hood
RRH Friend 1
RRH Friend 2
RRH Friend 3
Granny

Scene Three

Public Gallery
Pig Chorus
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
Judge
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Pigs
Inspector Green
Sergeant Trunk
Constable Twig
Bark

Scene Four

Protesters
Fox 1 and 2
Sparrow Hawkins
Bramble Thicket
Camera Operator
Sound Operator
Constable Twig
Bark

Scene Five

Public Gallery
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
Judge
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Bug Chorus

Scene Six

Public Gallery
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
Judge
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Naturalists
General Chorus
3 Wolf Cubs

Scene Seven

Public Gallery
Squirrels
Mr Mann
Mr Case
Judge
Mr Wolf
Mrs Wolf
Camera Operator
Sound Operator
Sparrow Hawkins
Bramble Thicket
Deer
Rabbit
**Whole cast for final
song and reprise**

***Several groups of
characters are listed using
one name, as below:***

Protesters: Owl 1 and 2; Bear
1 and 2; Duck 1 and 2; Pony
1 and 2.

Public Gallery: Mouse 1 and
2; Badger 1 and 2; Fox 1 and
2; Bird 1 and 2. Deer and
Rabbit.

Squirrels: 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Pigs: 1, 2 and 3.

Naturalists: 1, 2, 3 and 4.

LIST OF PROPERTIES

Pre-performance

Guilty / Not guilty cards to be placed on the seats in the audience; to be used for the verdict at the end of the show.

2 benches to be set permanently on stage upstage left and upstage right, which remain in situ for the duration of the performance.

Prologue

Chime bar Rabbit
 Pictures showing mountains etc. (if not using digital backdrops) Deer
 Placards Protesters
 Fluffy boom microphone Sound Operator
 Camera Camera Operator

Scene One

9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table Squirrel 2
 Woodblock (to act as gavel) Judge
 Charge sheet Squirrel 3
 Briefcase containing pencil with fluffy top, packet of crisps and a teddy bear Mr Case
 Box of crunchy nut cornflakes Squirrel 1
 Image of ladybird, ants and beetles (See printable resources pages 10-15) ... Brooke Bond
 Image of grasses (See printable resources pages 10-15) Premium Bond
 Image of evil wolf (See printable resources pages 10-15) Basildon Bond
 Box marked 'VHS' Basildon Bond

Scene Two

9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table and gavel Judge
 Headphones/ear phones and a phone each RRH and 3 Friends
 Doll's nightie Mr Wolf

Scene Three

9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table and gavel Judge
 Inflatable saxophone Pig Chorus Player
 Shower hat Squirrel 4
 Builder's hard hat Squirrel 2
 Notice of Demolition (See printable resources pages 10-15) Squirrel 2
 Fake glasses, nose and moustache Squirrel 3
 Packet of crisps Mr Case

Scene Four

Black Dick Turpin mask Pony 2
 Picnic boxes/flasks Owl 1 and 2, Duck 1 and 2
 Biscuit tin Fox 1
 Pizza box, packet corn 'quackers', coleslaw tub Pony 2
 Wicker picnic basket Bear 1
 Fluffy boom microphone Sound Operator
 Camera Camera Operator

Scene Five

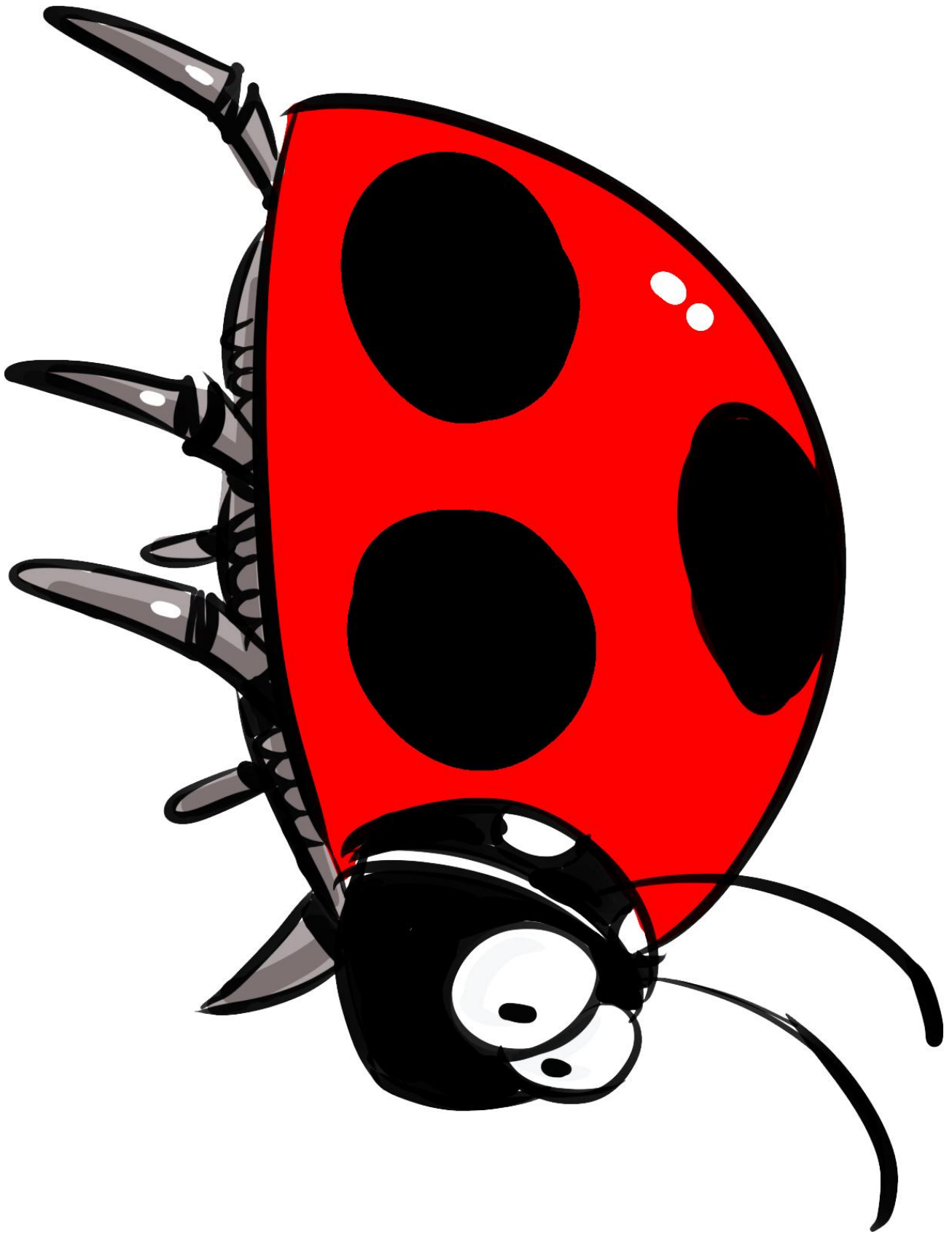
9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table and gavel Judge
 Teddy bear Mr Case

Scene Six

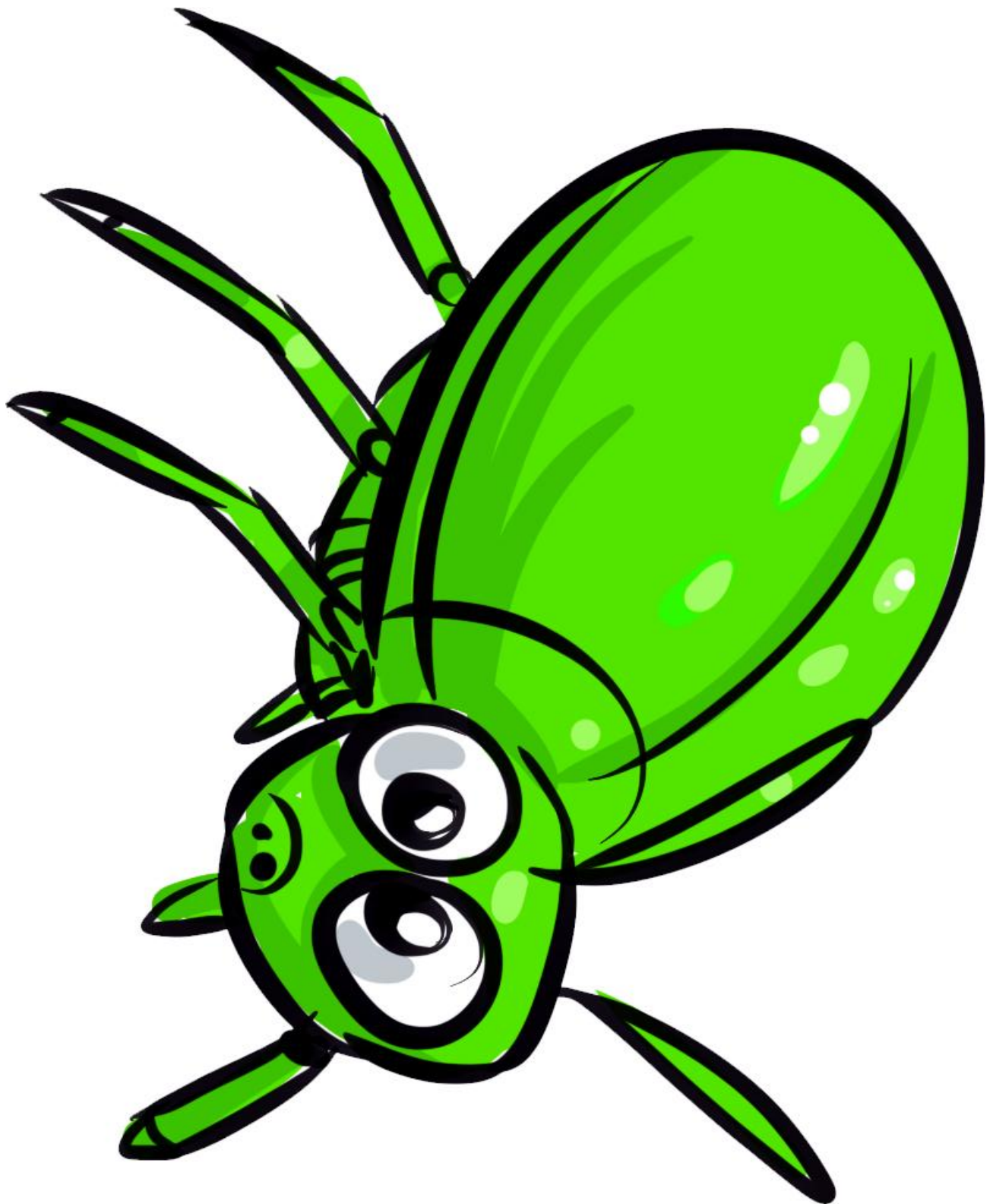
9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table and gavel Judge
 Butterfly net Naturalist 1
 Jam jars (plastic) Naturalist 2
 Magnifying glass Naturalist 3
 Book on wolves Naturalist 4

Scene Seven

9 Chairs Courtroom
 Table and gavel Judge
 Large book (for the precedents) Squirrel 4
 Fluffy boom microphone Sound Operator
 Camera Camera Operator
 Chime bar Rabbit











NOTICE OF DEMOLITION

The **FOREST PLANNING AUTHORITY**
Hereby grants

MR. B.B. Wolf

.....

ABSOLUTE PERMISSION

To **remove** the following **three illegal dwellings**:

- **House of Straw**
- **House of Sticks**
- **House of Bricks**

In whichever way he wants.

Signed

Chairman of the **FOREST PLANNING AUTHORITY**

PRODUCTION NOTES

Welcome to ***What's The Crime, Mr Wolf?*** – our musical courtroom comedy. To help you get started with planning the show, we have enclosed notes and suggestions for the production below.

CASTING

The script is written for **49 speaking characters**:

Principal roles	5	36-77 lines
Mid-range roles	13	10-35 lines
Smaller roles	31	1-9 lines

Please note there are additionally 5 non-speaking roles who may also be used in the Chorus.

The cast can be condensed to **33 speaking characters** if some lines are reallocated or characters are given double roles with minimum costume changes:

Principal roles	6	36-77 lines
Mid-range roles	13	10-35 lines
Smaller roles	14	1-9 lines

(See page 6 for more details.)

CHORUS

The chorus parts are flexible. Three choruses have been suggested in the full (uncondensed) show: a General Chorus of cast members; a Bug Chorus of five additional children who sing *Top Of The Food Chain* and a Pig Chorus of five additional children who sing *Little Pigs*. These numbers could be increased with additional singers.

The 5 non-speaking parts could easily be chorus roles, as could the characters in the public gallery who are on stage for most of the show.

COSTUMES AND CHARACTERS

The cast is made up of animal and human characters. Most of the animals in the show could be in a dark top and leggings/trousers with 'signifiers' in the form of face paint, headdress, mask, tail, wings etc. We would suggest that actors with principal and mid-range roles with lots of lines have face paints rather than masks. When using masks they should be as light and simple as possible and not cover the nose and mouth.

See the chart on the next page for more complex animal and human costumes with suggestions for their character type.

Character	Costume	Notes
Judge Feathers	Eagle headdress and beak with judge's wig; black gown	In control of the court – stern
The Squirrels	Squirrel signifiers	Clerks of the court – scurrying and comical
Mr Mann	Barrister wig; black gown (Human).	Prosecuting council – pompous
Mr Case	Barrister wig; black gown (Human).	Assistant prosecutor – foolish sidekick
Mr Wolf	Trousers, waistcoat and tie	Defendant representing himself – dignified
Mrs Wolf	Skirt, blouse and pearls	Supports her husband in his defence.
Sparrow Hawkins	Skirt, outdoor jacket and scarf (Human)	News presenter – enthusiastic
Bramble Thicket	Trousers, outdoor jacket and scarf (Human)	News presenter – enthusiastic
Camera operator	Jeans and T-shirt (Human)	
Sound operator	Jeans and T-shirt (Human)	Needs to be able to handle the fluffy boom when Bark the dog attacks it in a comic sequence.
Johnny Mole	Mole face paint; deer-stalker and dark coat	Takes himself very seriously
Red Riding Hood	Jeans and red hoody (Human)	Lots of attitude, cheeky and insolent

Red Riding Hood's Friends	Jeans and T-shirt (Human)	As Red Riding Hood
Granny	Trendy gym/aerobics kit and headband (Human)	Very fit and active
The Naturalists	Trousers with baggy pale coloured jackets, or gilets with lots of pockets; bush hats (Human)	Academics – clumsy and uncoordinated
Inspector Green	Dark suit (Human)	
Sergeant Trunk	Police outfit (Human)	Needs comic timing
Constable Twig	Police outfit (Human)	Needs comic timing
Bark	Dog signifiers with a harness around body attached to a lead, which he can carry unless being held by Constable Twig.	Needs comic timing

STAGING

SCENERY

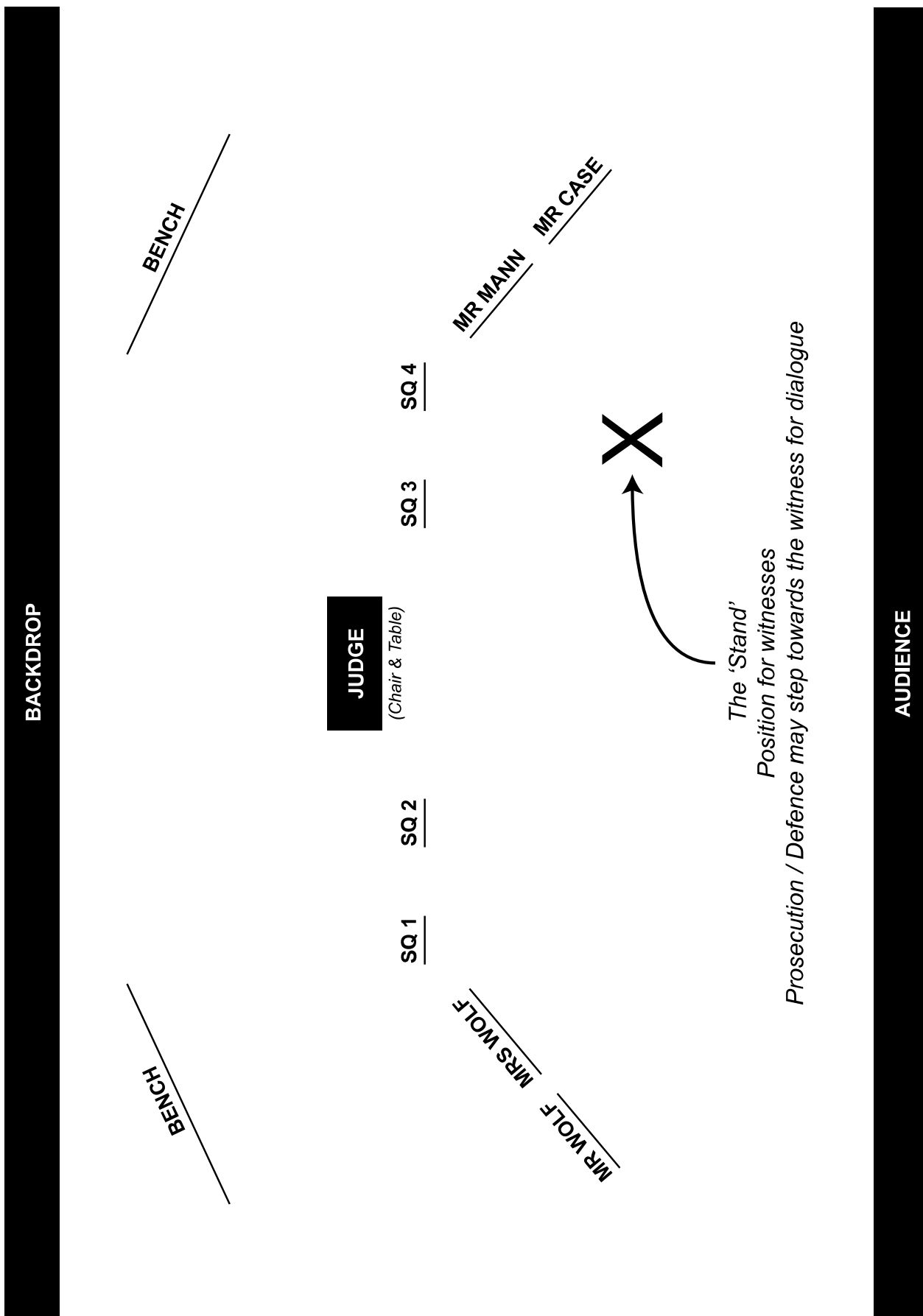
The show is set inside and outside the Fabletown Courtroom. The prologue introduces the idea of a fairy-tale village and our digital backdrops **Project It!** can be used as scenery to support this along with the interior of the courtroom when the scenes change. Alternatively, if not using digital projections, a painted backdrop of a forest would work for the whole show, suggesting the court is held in a forest glade. The pictures of mountains, cottages etc. requested by Rabbit in the Prologue could then be attached to the backdrop with Velcro or double-sided tape.

A cross marked on the stage at downstage left of centre will signal a rough position for the witnesses to stand. The cross can also be used when a character is invited to take 'the stand'. See the staging diagram for further information. Characters taking the stand should position themselves diagonally towards the Judge to avoid obscuring their faces from the audience.

STAGING FOR EACH SCENE

<p>Prologue Outside the courtroom</p>	<p>Before the performance starts, the stage should be set up with two benches upstage right and upstage left where the public gallery will be seated. The benches could be made to look like a stone wall. These benches remain in situ for the duration of the performance.</p>
<p>Scene One Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>The Judge's chair and table, 4 chairs for the Squirrels, 2 chairs for the prosecution and 2 chairs for the defence should be brought in by the public gallery and the characters who are on stage, at the beginning of the scene. See staging diagram for suggested positioning.</p>
<p>Scene Two Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>Scene Three Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>At the end of this scene all chairs and table are removed – but not the benches.</p>
<p>Scene Four Outside the courtroom</p>	<p>No furniture needed.</p>
<p>Scene Five Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>As before, the Judge's chair and table, 4 chairs for the Squirrels, 2 chairs for the prosecution and 2 chairs for the defence should be brought in by the public gallery and the characters who are on stage at the beginning of the scene.</p>
<p>Scene Six Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>No change</p>
<p>Scene Seven Inside the courtroom</p>	<p>No change</p>

STAGING DIAGRAM



CHOREOGRAPHY

Each song lends itself to movement of some sort. The chart below lists the context of each song and gives some ideas you may wish to consider.

All Rise	The opening number tells us about the character of the Judge and how he should be respected.	The Judge leads the Chorus in a procession up a central aisle (if possible) through the audience seating, onto the stage. Characters on stage will stand for the Judge's entry and should sing as well.
Mole	Mole and the three Bonds boast about their sleuthing skills.	James Bond-type movements in an exaggerated manner.
Red Riding Hood	Red Riding Hood and her friends tell the traditional story.	The three friends sing and dance as a backing group to Red Riding Hood, in a cool 'girl band'-style performance.
Little Pigs	The Three Little Pigs and the Pig Chorus tell the court how Mr Wolf threatened them.	The Pig Chorus enters using a 'Madness-Style' walk, one pig having an inflatable saxophone on which he mimes playing during the saxophone solos.
Top Of The Food Chain	Mr Wolf and Bug Chorus explain how the food chain works.	The Bug Chorus dance on stage after the first verse. They then perform a rap with rap movements in the middle of the song.
The Naturalists	The Naturalists sing about their experience and credentials, supported by the Chorus.	Quirky folk-style dancing e.g. linking arms to turn around; do-si-do, etc.

Misunderstood	An emotional song by the Wolves who tell of their persecution and battle for survival. Supported by the Chorus.	The Wolves sing with their cubs. A dance may not be necessary for this number.
The Wildest Song	Big finale for the whole cast.	Large chorus number with actions in the middle of the song.

MUSIC

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects and play on/play offs, is found on the Backing Track CD or mp3 download.

A high quality recording of the Vocal Tracks (either in CD or mp3 download format) and an Easy Play Score are available to purchase (see our website). These not only act as a guide, but can assist with the teaching of the songs too. A Performance Score (Grade 5/6 standard) is also available if you have the luxury of a live pianist.

A brand new product: a CD-ROM or download of all the songs called Sing it! is also available. This CD-ROM or download can teach the songs to the children without any teacher input. Children can use it at school or at home - think of the time it will save you! Most schools use it in class on an interactive white board or in the school hall on the overhead projector to allow full cast practice.

PROLOGUE**TRACK 1: FAIRY-TALE MUSIC TO RUN UNDERNEATH DIALOGUE**

(The curtain rises to reveal Deer and Rabbit. Rabbit holds a chime bar. The rest of the stage is in darkness.)

DEER: *(In an awe-inspiring storyteller's voice.)* Welcome to Fabletown. A classic fairy-tale village in the middle of a forest...

(Waves arm towards the back of the stage accompanied by Rabbit who chimes a note. Lights up and village in a forest backdrop appears.)

RABBIT: Ooh lovely! *(Then studies the backdrop as if an interior designer.)* But don't forget the snow-capped mountains in the background!

(Deer waves/Rabbit chimes: mountains appear.)

DEER: ...a place where legends come alive...

RABBIT: *(Pointing to positions on the backdrop.)* Oh and could we have some quaint thatched cottages here?

(Deer waves/Rabbit chimes: cottages appear.)

DEER: *(Irritated.)* ...and characters from the past live and breathe in the present.

RABBIT: *(Steps back to examine the backdrop with head on one side, then the other.)* Mmm, what do you think, maybe a pump and water trough? Yes, a pump and water trough!

(Deer sighs heavily and waves again/Rabbit chimes: pump and water trough appear.)

DEER: A world where animals can talk... *(Through gritted teeth glaring at Rabbit.)* ...unfortunately!

RABBIT: *(Facing the audience, but turning from side to side to envisage the setting.)* And possibly a market place, *(Becoming over-lyrical.)* and a carved bench under the shade of an apple tree opposite a sweet shop window full of glass jars filled with strawberry creams and lemon drops...

(Deer stands sideways to the audience on the left hand side of Rabbit. She puts her left hand over Rabbit's mouth and leans forward purposely to deliver her next line.)

DEER: *(Emphasising her voice to make a point over Rabbit's distractions.)*...and all disbelief is suspended!

RABBIT: *(Pushes away her hand.)* That's true, Tesco's have a pizza meal deal for £6!

(Fairy-Tale music stops suddenly.)

PONY 1 (Offstage): *(Loudly.)* A pizza meal deal for £6? Come on guys!

(The Protesters enter on stage carrying their placards. Herbivores enter left, carnivores right. Sergeant Trunk enters to keep the peace and directs Deer and Rabbit off the stage.)

SERGEANT TRUNK: Move along there now, no loitering!

(Deer and Rabbit exit in a huff. Protesters station themselves left and right, mid-stage with Sergeant Trunk in the middle keeping an eye on them.)

PONY 2: Pizza for lunch, great idea 'cause I forgot my nosebag - I'll get the meal deal now before there's a big queue. *(To Ducks 1 and 2)* Can I get you anything?

(Pony 2 starts to leave the stage.)

DUCK 1: I'll just have the pond weed coleslaw...

DUCK 2: And some corn quackers... thanks.

PONY 1: Hold your horses! It's not lunchtime yet, we've a protest march to do first.

PONY 2: *(Reluctantly.)* OK, I'll trot off later.

OWL 1: *(Looks across at the herbivores.)* Those herbivores! All they can think about is their lunch. I thought we were supposed to be the hungry ones!

OWL 2: We'll soon ruin their appetites!

BEAR 1: *(Shouts across to the herbivores.)* Hey you namby pamby herbivores, have a bit of meat on your pizza!

PONY 1: Bare-faced cheek!

BEAR 2: *(Shouts across, tauntingly)* Yeah, there's a new flavour just come out... Duck à l'orange!

(After singing/chanting the required number of times, singing stops and the Protesters continue the sequence in silence as the news team complete their broadcast. The Camera Operator steps forward and sideways to the audience to film using hand rolling movements and the Sound Operator who has a boom with a furry end holds it near the presenters.)

- SPARROW:** Good morning this is the Wilderness News with Sparrow Hawkins and Bramble Thicket. We are outside the Fabletown Courtrooms as the long awaited case against Mr Wolf is about to start.
- BRAMBLE:** Tensions are running high here as protesters for both the prosecution and defence make their voices heard.
- SPARROW:** Indeed, Mr Wolf arrived at the courthouse earlier, and for his own safety he had a police escort.
- BRAMBLE:** Actually it was a range rover not an escort!
- SPARROW:** Uh? Oh it doesn't matter! *(Clears throat, smiles at camera.)* In this specially extended programme we will be bringing the news live from inside the courthouse.
- BRAMBLE:** This case has attracted a lot of attention and the public gallery is packed. Not only because there are strong opinions on both sides, but also because the famous Judge, Lord Feathers of Eiderdown, will be overseeing the case.
- SPARROW:** Yes, despite his name, Lord Feathers is no lightweight and certainly not a softie: he has a reputation for being very stern. *(She touches her ear to receive a message from the producer.)* I understand he is entering the courtroom and the case against Mr Wolf is about to begin.

(Lights out. Exit all cast.)

SCENE ONE: THE MOLE'S EVIDENCE

(Lights up. Backdrop change to courtroom.)

TRACK 4: ALL RISE SONG

(The Public Gallery, including Deer and Rabbit enter, talking excitedly. They carry 8 chairs between them for the Squirrels, prosecution and defence which are placed in position. They then take their seats on the side benches. Squirrels 3 and 4 enter carrying the Judge's chair which is placed centre stage. Squirrel 2 enters with the Judge's small table placed to one side of the chair. Mr Mann and Mr Case enter and sit in their chairs. A moment later, Squirrel 1 rushes in late for work, holding a box of Crunchy Nut Cornflakes and stands centre stage, facing the audience.)

SQUIRREL 1: *(Steps forward.)* All Rise!

(Everyone on stage stands. Squirrel 1 joins the other squirrels by their chairs. Judge proceeds up centre aisle during the song followed by the singing General Chorus. Squirrels sing backing phrases in brackets.)

ALL: ALL RISE FOR THE JUDGE AND DOFF YOUR CAP
TO THE CONSCIENCE OF THIS HABITAT.
SHOW YOUR RESPECT TO THE BEAK IN BLACK,
ALL RISE, ALL RISE, ALL RISE!
HE'LL MAKE YOU TREMBLE, MAKE YOU CRY,
HE'LL FIX YOU WITH HIS BEADY EYE! (BEADY EYE!)
THE WORST OF THE CRIMINALS DARE NOT LIE;
HE WANTS THE TRUTH, THE TRUTH, THE TRUTH!

(By the end of the first verse, the Judge should be seated at his table and the Chorus in singing positions on stage. Judge acts out the descriptions made of him during the rest of the song.)

HE'S VERY STERN AND HAS NO FUN,
HE KNOWS THAT JUSTICE MUST BE DONE.
HIS JOB WILL SORT OUT RIGHT FROM WRONG;
SO WISE, SO WISE, SO WISE!
SO IF YOU MEET HIM, PLEASE BE GOOD,
BEHAVE JUST AS YOU KNOW YOU SHOULD.
(KNOW YOU SHOULD.)
BE MOST POLITE, CALL HIM "M'LUD";
HE'S THE JUDGE, THE JUDGE, THE JUDGE!

(The Chorus exits. Everyone sits down – Squirrels sit in position in front of the Judge's table. 'All Rise' instrumental continues during the Judge's opening speech.)

JUDGE: ***(Very gravely, pausing for effect.)*** Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you have, today, been given the power to determine the fate of this wolf. You should listen carefully and make well-informed decisions. This is a responsibility you must not take lightly, and remember, as Spiderman once famously said: 'with great power comes great responsibility'. Use it well.

(Music fades.)

SQUIRREL 2: ***(Stands.)*** The Forest Court is now in session to hear the case against Mr Wolf. Mr Wolf, please take the stand. ***(Sits down.)***

(Enter Mr Wolf.)

SQUIRREL 3: ***(Stands.)*** Mr Wolf, you are here today to answer to the following charges. ***(Takes out a sheet of paper and inspects it.)*** Number one - You are accused of plotting to deceive a Miss Red Riding Hood.

MOUSE 1 AND 2: ***(Shake their heads in disapproval.)***

SQUIRREL 3: Number two - Assuming a false identity as Miss Hood's Grandma.

BADGER 1 AND 2: ***(To each other.)*** Poor old lady!

SQUIRREL 3: Number three - Wilful damage and illegal entry into the properties of the Three Little Pigs.

FOX 1 AND 2: ***(Loudly.)*** Disgraceful!

SQUIRREL 3: And, most horrible of all, you have sought to terrorise and murder at will within our forest community.

BIRD 1: Send him down!

BIRD 2: ***(To Bird 1.)*** Shall I tweet that? Hashtag send him down!

MOUSE 1: ***(To Birds.)*** Featherbrains! This is no time to joke!

MOUSE 2: ***(Laughs and points at Mouse 1.)*** Ha ha, no time to yolk!

SQUIRREL 3: ***(Looking crossly at the Public Gallery.)*** If you have quite finished!

PUBLIC GALLERY: ***(Together in a sing-song voice.)*** Sorry!

SQUIRREL 3: ***(Turns to Mr Wolf.)*** Mr Wolf, how do you plead?

MR WOLF: Not guilty.

JUDGE: Mr Wolf, who will be representing you in this matter?

MR WOLF: I shall be conducting my own defence, with the assistance of my co-counsel Mrs Wolf.

TRACK 5: **MRS WOLF PLAY ON**

(Enter Mrs Wolf. Mr Wolf greets her by kissing her hand and guides her to her seat in a gentlemanly manner.)

JUDGE: So be it. And the counsel for the prosecution?

(Mr Mann and Mr Case step forward.)

MR MANN: Your honour, my name is Mann, Hugh Mann. My assistant is Justin Case.

(Mr Case opens his briefcase and brings out a pen with a fluffy top which he flicks about unaware of Mr Mann glaring at him.)

MR CASE: *(Realises he is being watched, and tries to be tough and professional.)* Er yeah! And we've got this case in the bag!

JUDGE: Thank you. Please proceed with the case for the prosecution.

(During Mr Mann's dialogue Squirrel 1 stands to the side of Mr Mann listening closely and reacting to his comments whilst eating Crunchy Nut Cornflakes from a box.)

MR MANN: *(Addressing the audience.)* Members of the jury, you see before you the most despicable of killers. A clever creature of the most predatory nature who intimidates and kills without scruple. It has been very difficult to actually catch this rogue - until today! At last we have sufficient evidence to prove to you that this beast, this animal, this wolf - is a serial killer!

(At 'serial killer', Squirrel 1 holds up the box of Crunchy Nut Cornflakes in one hand, looks horrified, clutches throat and throws the box over her shoulder and returns to her position.)

JUDGE: Thank you Mr Mann, and what is the nature of this evidence?

MR MANN: M'lud, for many months, we have had Mr Wolf under close surveillance. We have had a forest secret agent on the job – a mole – an English mole - Mr Johnny Mole.

BADGER 1 AND 2: *(In awe.)* A secret agent!

(In the next and subsequent sequences where witnesses are called, the Squirrels will perform a variety of comic or confusing incidents as they call to each other across the stage to transfer the message.)

SQUIRREL 1: Calling Mr Mole.
SQUIRREL 2: Calling Mr Mole secret agent.
SQUIRREL 3: Calling Mr Mole what?
SQUIRREL 4: Calling...Mr Mole. (*Big sigh.*) Well he's not very secret now!

TRACK 6: **MOLE PLAY ON**

(Mole enters, looking around, walking sideways as if on a mission ready to strike.)

SQUIRREL 1: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nutting (*Looks significantly at the audience.*) but the truth according to forest law?
MOLE: I do.
MR MANN: Mr Mole, can you tell the court about the evidence you collected.

(Enter three replica 'Mole Agents' [Brooke, Premium and Basildon Bond] using James Bond-like movements.)

MOLE: Well, I've been digging around and I've unearthed a lot of information. It's what we moles do...

TRACK 7: **MOLE SONG**

(Enter General Chorus. Mole positions himself in front of Chorus and agents to sing. The three agents 'dance' to the music in an exaggerated manner.)

MOLE/BONDS: I'VE TRAVELLED THE WORLD WHILST IN DISGUISE,
 A LIFE UNDERGROUND: THE LIFE OF SPIES.

CHORUS: SECRETLY TUNNELLING, SNOOPING AND SIGNALLING,
 NETWORKING, CODE-BREAKING, CLUE-MAKING,
 MESSAGING,
 MOLE, CALL HIM MOLE.
 AH...

MOLE/BONDS: I LISTEN AND WATCH QUITE UNDETERRED.
 IN DANGER NOT SHAKEN, NEVER STIRRED!

CHORUS: CLANDESTINE MEETINGS AT
 CHECKPOINTS WITH PASSWORDS
 AND DANG'ROUS ASSIGNMENTS
 WITH CODED COMMANDERS;
 HE'S MOLE, CALL HIM MOLE.

MOLE/BONDS: THERE ARE WOLVES IN THE MOUNTAINS
AND TRAITORS TO SPY ON.
I'VE AGENTS IN OUTPOSTS THAT I MUST RELY ON.

CHORUS: WOLVES IN THE MOUNTAINS AND TRAITORS TO SPY ON.
AGENTS IN OUTPOSTS THAT HE MUST RELY ON.

CHORUS: SCRUTINISATION, SECURITY BRIEFINGS,
UNCOVERING BLUEPRINTS
AND CRACKING ENCRYPTIONS;
HE'S MOLE, HE'S THE MOLE.

GROUP 1:

AH...

AH...

AH...

AH...MOLE!

GROUP 2:

HE'S THE MOLE.

HE'S THE MOLE.

HE'S THE MOLE.

HE'S THE MOLE!

(Exit Chorus.)

MR WOLF: Mr Mole.

MOLE: *(Looks around furtively.)* I might be...

MR WOLF: *(Sarcastically.)* Well, what an exciting life you lead as an undercover agent! You haven't however, told us the nature of your evidence against me. For all your networking and code-breaking and clue-making - did you actually find anything out?

MOLE: I am bound by the official secrets act. I report only to M.

MR WOLF: M? This is ridiculous, I believe you have no evidence at all! How can a creature well known for having bad eyesight be a reliable witness? Those shades are not a disguise, you're as blind as a bat. You are just making a mountain out of a molehill.

MR MANN: Objection your honour, Mr Wolf is being moleist!

JUDGE: Sustained. Mr Wolf, kindly refrain from making jokes at Mr Mole's expense.

(Mr Wolf sighs in disgust.)

MR MANN: Mr Mole, perhaps you might like to report the evidence from your clandestine meetings to me in front of the whole court, since I did in fact employ Mole, and am of course M - M for Mann.

MR WOLF: I might have known!

(Dialogue below starts when the count reaches 8, and continues throughout dialogue until the explosion.)

BASILDON: What? I don't want it! *(Throws the VHS box to Premium.)*
PREMIUM: Yikes! Catch Brooke! *(Throws it to Brooke.)*
BROOKE: To you Mole...you wanted it in the first place. *(Throws it to Mole.)*
MOLE: *(Throws it up and down in his hands like a hot potato.)* Uhh, uhh, uhh!

(Explosion! Mole and three agents fall comically to the ground, everyone on stage ducks with hands over their heads.)

MR WOLF: A little shaken and stirred, Mr Mole?

TRACK 9: **MOLE PLAY OFF**

(Mole and agents limp off the stage.)

SQUIRREL 2: *(Addressing the audience.)* Please note that no animals were harmed in the production of this scene.
JUDGE: *(Dusting himself off.)* Well, Mr Mann, it seems that your evidence went up in smoke!
MR MANN: *(Mopping his brow.)* Yes, m'lud.
JUDGE: I hope your next witness is more convincing and less dangerous!
MR MANN: *(Very subdued.)* Yes, m'lud. I wish to call Red Riding Hood.

SCENE TWO: **RED RIDING HOOD**

TRACK 10: **RED RIDING HOOD PLAY ON**

(Enter Red Riding Hood and her 3 friends wearing headphones/earphones and nodding to music, hands over their ears. They stand in a far corner of the stage, taking no notice of the courtroom, and texting on their phones. Music continues under dialogue. Squirrels try to get RRH's attention as she is ignoring the calls.)

SQUIRREL 1: Calling Red Riding Hood!
SQUIRREL 2: *(Louder.)* Calling Red Riding Hood!
SQUIRREL 3: *(Louder still.)* You with the hoody, come over here!
SQUIRREL 4: *(In a sing-song voice.)* I've got the new iPhone X! *(Or other latest device.)*

RRH: I SAW A SHADOW HANGING OVER ME, AND A VOICE SAID:
RRH & FRIENDS: 'GOOD MORNING LITTLE MAID.'

RRH: HE SAID... (*Points theatrically to Mr Wolf.*)

FRIENDS: 'WE HAVEN'T MET, I'M MR WOLF.
 ARE YOU ALONE HERE BY MISTAKE?'

RRH: I SAID...

FRIENDS: 'MY GRANNY'S ILL SO I'M ON MY WAY
 TO CHEER HER UP WITH A CHOC'LATE CAKE.'

RRH: HE WHISPERED... (*Points to Mr Wolf.*)

FRIENDS: 'I'M SURE THAT SHE'D APPRECIATE
 SOME FOREST FLOWERS THAT ARE GROWING HERE.
 GO PICK THE BUTTERCUPS AND DAISIES TOO,
 YOU HAVE TIME, THEY'RE REALLY VERY NEAR!'

RRH & FRIENDS: BASKET AND RED HOOD, MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE GOOD.
 DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS; PARTICU'LY WOLVES!
 DON'T LISTEN TO LIES, ITS NOT VERY WISE.
 JUST KEEP TO THE PATH,
 GO STRAIGHT THROUGH THE WOOD.

FRIENDS: ARE YOU FOLLOWING THIS?

RRH: AT GRANNY'S HOUSE IT WASN'T GOOD,
 SHE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE GRANNY SHOULD.
 HER NOSE WAS HUGE AND HER EARS HAD GROWN,
 AND SHE HAD BUILT SOME MUSCLE TONE!
 SHE SAID...

FRIENDS: 'HOW VERY NICE TO SEE YOU, DEAR,'

RRH: I KNEW HER VOICE WAS INSINCERE.
 THE SITUATION WAS BY NOW QUITE CLEAR;
 I SAID...

RRH & FRIENDS: 'GRANNY, I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!'

RRH & FRIENDS: BASKET AND RED HOOD, MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE GOOD.
 DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS; PARTICU'LY WOLVES!
 DON'T LISTEN TO LIES, ITS NOT VERY WISE.
 JUST KEEP TO THE PATH,
 GO STRAIGHT THROUGH THE WOOD.

BASKET AND RED HOOD, MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE GOOD.
 DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS; PARTICU'LY WOLVES!
 DON'T LISTEN TO LIES, ITS NOT VERY WISE.
 JUST KEEP TO THE PATH,
 GO STRAIGHT THROUGH THE WOOD.

RRH: **(To her friends, as they exit over the play off.)** Later! I'll 'What's App' when I get my phone back! **(RRH high 5's with each friend.)**

(Exit friends. RRH turns to face Mr Wolf.)

MR WOLF: Hmm. So Miss Hood, you like your phone!

RRH: Yes, don't go anywhere without it, need to stay in touch with the girls.

MR WOLF: Miss Hood, why did you wander off the path if you had so far to go?

RRH: I've told the court why; because you lured me off the path to pick some flowers!

MR WOLF: Ah, but Miss Hood, we both know that is not true.

RRH: **(Getting agitated.)** It is true! Why else would I leave the path?

MR WOLF: Were you texting on your way to Grandma's?

RRH: Er, yes...why not? It was a long walk.

MR WOLF: I put it to you Miss Hood that you didn't wander off the path because you were lured by me, but because you were too pre-occupied with your phone to watch where you were going. You simply got lost. You are just a naughty girl who tells lies.

RRH: **(Insolently.)** Oh am I?

MR WOLF: Miss Hood, I would now like to turn your attention to Grandma's cottage. Bring on exhibit A.

SQUIRREL 2: Exhibit A. **(He holds up a small nightie and moves around the stage showing it to the audience.)**

MR WOLF: Miss Hood, could you identify this garment for me? Please take your time, you must be sure.

RRH: **(Takes nightie from the squirrel and examines it.)** Yeah, it's my Grandma's nightie.

MR WOLF: Are you quite sure?

RRH: **(Very rudely.)** 'Course I'm sure, d'you think I'm stupid? **(Squirrel 2 passes the nightie to Mr Wolf then sits down.)**

MR WOLF: **(Holds nightie up to himself.)** Then Miss Hood, could you explain to the jury how I could possibly have fitted into it!

MR CASE: Objection your honour, Mr Wolf is tricking Miss Hood. He has deliberately shrunk that garment.

JUDGE: **(Takes nightie from Mr Wolf and examines the label.)** Overruled Mr Case. This nightie is from Marks and Spencer - no chance of shrinking!

MR WOLF: Miss Hood, it's no use continuing with this fairy story. You have a good imagination, I'll give you that, but there was no one at Grandma's cottage when you got there, was there?

(RRH does not reply, looks away and picks at her nails.)

JUDGE: *(Sternly.)* Miss Hood, please answer the question.

RRH: Can't remember it.

MR WOLF: Then I'll ask again! Was there anyone at Grandma's cottage?

RRH: No! She'd just disappeared *(She points accusingly at Mr Wolf.)* because he'd eaten her! *(She stomps off stage in a huff.)*

(Uproar from the animals in court.)

JUDGE: Silence in court, silence in court! *(Bangs gavel.)*

(Squirrel 4 hurries to Mr Case and whispers conspicuously in his ear. Then sits down.)

MR CASE: Your honour I think we can shed some light on the matter.

JUDGE: Continue, Mr Case.

MR CASE: I have just been informed that we have finally found Miss Hood's poor, defenceless, traumatised granny and she is well enough to speak to us in court.

JUDGE: Very well, ask her to take the stand.

SQUIRREL 1: Calling Grandma!

SQUIRREL 2: *(To Squirrel 1.)* I think you'll have to shout louder than that.

SQUIRREL 3: Perhaps I should go and help her into the courtroom?

SQUIRREL 4: *(Shaking head in surprise and pointing at Granny.)* I don't think so, here she comes!

TRACK 12: **GRANNY PLAY ON**

(A young, trendy Granny bounces onto the stage athletically.)

MR CASE: Oh, is there some mistake? I called for Granny Hood.

GRANNY: That's me.

MR CASE: Erm right. Miss Hood tells us that you were expecting a visit from her last Wednesday.

GRANNY: I was.

MR CASE: I believe that you were very sick in bed, alone in the forest, waiting for your granddaughter to bring you a basket of food.

GRANNY: *(Hesitantly.)* Well... not exactly. My granddaughter was in fact returning something she had borrowed from me.

MR CASE: Indeed, what would that be?

GRANNY: My iPhone.

MR CASE: Oh! **(Looks confused, clears his throat.)** Miss Hood told us that you were not at home when she arrived at your cottage. Had you been driven screaming from your sick bed by a ravenous wolf, howling at your door?

GRANNY: Thankfully no! I was not in bed because I was quite well. I had gone out to take a karate master class which I do every Wednesday afternoon because I'm a martial arts coach. My granddaughter didn't turn up so I had to leave.

MR CASE: Does Miss Hood know about your job?

GRANNY: Of course she does, she's just trying to keep my phone as long as possible. She had broken hers, and I foolishly said she could borrow my old one for a little while; but I need it back now and she has had it over two months, the little madam. I'm having a real problem getting it back from her!

MR CASE: **(Looks furious.)** No further questions.

JUDGE: Thank you Granny Hood, you are excused.

GRANNY: **(Sees the confiscated phone on Judge's desk.)** Oh, is that my phone? At last!

(She takes the phone and puts the headphone/earphones on.)

TRACK 13: **GRANNY PLAY OFF**

(Granny dances off stage, music fades as she leaves.)

SCENE THREE: **THREE LITTLE PIGS**

MR MANN: Your honour I would now like to call my final witnesses to give evidence.

JUDGE: Go ahead Mr Mann.

SQUIRREL 1: Calling the Three Little Pigs!

SQUIRREL 2: Calling the three fickle kids!

SQUIRREL 3: Calling the three tickled wigs!

SQUIRREL 4: Calling the three pickled figs!

TRACK 14: **LITTLE PIGS PLAY ON**

(The Three Little Pigs enter with a chorus of 5 pigs behind them. They walk on in 'Madness-style'. All the pigs wear pork pie hats and the final pig in the line carries a saxophone. He mimes each saxophone section in the music.)

- JUDGE:** Mr Mann, is this in respect of the three counts of wilful damage and illegal entry into the properties of the Three Little Pigs?
- MR MANN:** Yes m'lud.
- JUDGE:** *(Scratching his head and looking at all the pigs.)* Mr Mann, how many pigs did you say?
- MR MANN:** Oh yes, it's the *Three Little Pigs* and their families. Little Pigs, can you tell us what Mr Wolf said to you and how frightening he was?

TRACK 15: **LITTLE PIGS SONG**

(Pigs and Pig Chorus sing together. Saxophone player steps forward and mimes his solos when they occur in the song.)

THIS LITTLE HOUSE IS JUST A HAYSTACK,
THIS LITTLE HOUSE A BUNCH OF STICKS,
BUT THIS ONE'S MORE SUBSTANTIAL
MADE OF GOOD RED LONDON BRICKS.
BUT IF YOU THINK THEY'LL SAVE YOUR BACON,
YOU ARE VERY MUCH MISTAKEN,
I'M GONNA BLOW, BLOW, BLOW
YOUR LITTLE HOUSE DOWN!

MY LUNGS ARE QUITE AN ASSET,
I'VE NEVER KNOWN THEM TO FAIL,
FROM A GENTLE BREEZE TO A HURRICANE,
I CAN PUFF THE BEAUFORT SCALE.
SO GET READY FOR EVICTION
AND PREPARE FOR DEMOLITION,
I'M GONNA BLOW, BLOW, BLOW
YOUR LITTLE HOUSE DOWN!

LITTLE PIG, LITTLE PIG LET ME IN, IN, IN!
I'LL TALK AND COMPROMISE,
AND LEAVE THREE HOUSES STANDING
FOR A TRIO OF PORK PIES!

LITTLE PIG, LITTLE PIG LET ME IN, IN, IN!
AND HERE'S THE REASON WHY:
THE ONLY WAY YOU'LL ESCAPE YOUR FATE
IS IF THREE PIGGIES FLY!

THIS LITTLE HOUSE IS JUST A HAYSTACK,
THIS LITTLE HOUSE A BUNCH OF STICKS,
BUT THIS ONE'S MORE SUBSTANTIAL
MADE OF GOOD RED LONDON BRICKS.
BUT IF YOU THINK THEY'LL SAVE YOUR BACON,
YOU ARE VERY MUCH MISTAKEN,

(Pigs start muttering and squeaking.)

- MRS WOLF:** So Little Pigs, you have obviously all met Mr Wolf before because you have accused him of blowing your houses down.
- PIG 2:** No.
- PIG 3:** Only in nightmares!
- PIG 1:** All wolves look the same to me.
- MRS WOLF:** How strange, a moment ago you were sure you knew him; I think you might be telling a few porky pies! *(Emphasises the pun.)*
- PIG 1:** How rude!
- MR CASE:** Objection, your honour!
- MRS WOLF:** I know, I know...
- JUDGE:** *(Wearily.)* Sustained!
- MRS WOLF:** So you don't remember your meeting with the Forest Planning Authority about the proposed erection of three dwellings within a green belt glade.
- ALL PIGS:** No.
- MR CASE:** May I interject here?
- JUDGE:** Please do. The pigs seem to be changing their story, and we're getting nowhere.
- MR CASE:** *(He turns to Mr Wolf.)* Mr Wolf, do you deny that you destroyed the dwellings of the Three Little Pigs?
- MR WOLF:** I do not deny it.
- MOUSE 1:** *(Loudly.)* He doesn't deny it!
- MOUSE 2:** He doesn't deny it!
- MOUSE 1:** I just said that!
- FOX 1:** *(To Fox 2.)* I can't believe he's admitted it!
- FOX 2:** I would have kept quiet about that, they couldn't prove anything.
- JUDGE:** Silence in court! *(Bangs gavel.)*
- MR CASE:** *(With emphasis.)* He does not deny it...
- MRS WOLF:** *(Interrupts.)* Indeed he does not deny it for he was working under the instructions of the Forest Planning Authority to remove three illegal dwellings from a green belt glade. Please observe Exhibit B. *(Squirrel 2 wearing a hard hat parades in front of audience with a Notice of Demolition.)* The pigs did not have planning permission for their houses and their huff and puff story is just a devious plot to discredit Mr Wolf's reputation!
- MR CASE:** Outrageous! Anyone could have forged Exhibit B. I demand to see some evidence!
- MRS WOLF:** That can be arranged. I would like to call the Forest Planning Inspector.
- SQUIRREL 1:** Calling Inspector Green!

SQUIRREL 2: *(With dread.)* Not the Forest Planning Inspector!

SQUIRREL 3: Yikes! *(Puts on fake glasses, nose and moustache as disguise.)*

SQUIRREL 4: *(To the other squirrels.)* She got in trouble last year for burying her nuts in Fabletown Park!

SQUIRRELS: *(With understanding.)* Ahh...

MRS WOLF: *(To the squirrels.)* If you don't mind! Yes, thank you. The inspector is here!

(Inspector Green enters and takes the stand.)

INSPECTOR: *(Nods to Squirrel 3.)* Morning Squirrel, got new glasses?

MRS WOLF: Inspector Green, can you explain how Mr Wolf came to be working for the Forest Planning Authority?

INSPECTOR: Yes, Mr Wolf patrols the remote areas of the forest and mountains. He works as our scout and reports any problems he finds.

MRS WOLF: I see, and how did he come to destroy the dwellings of the Three Little Pigs?

INSPECTOR: He discovered that the pigs had built their houses without permission, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. We ordered the demolition of their houses and Mr Wolf arranged it.

MR MANN: Inspector Green, could you tell the court how Mr Wolf huffed and puffed and blew the houses down, frightening the pigs and their families in the most intimidating way?

INSPECTOR: Actually it was the pigs who caused trouble, they refused to send their piglets to safety before the demolition and we had to call the forest police as the situation became nasty.

MRS WOLF: Thank you inspector, you have been very helpful. I think we need to call the forest police for further information.

(Exit Inspector.)

SQUIRREL 1: *(Takes an audible deep breath ready to shout.)* Calling...

TRACK 18: **SFX POLICE SIREN AND CRASH**

SQUIRREL 1: Oh, I think they're on their way!

(Sergeant Trunk, Constable Twig and Bark stagger on stage rubbing their heads.)

TWIG: *(To Trunk in a pleading manner.)* Honest Sarge, the tree just jumped out at me!

SQUIRREL 1: Er Gentlemen, state your names for the record please.

TRUNK: Sergeant Trunk and Constable Twig of the Forest Police.

SQUIRREL 1: Thank you, which division?

TRUNK: Special Branch.

SQUIRREL 1: And your dog?

TWIG: He is my highly trained sniffer dog. *(Dog runs off sniffing about – reaches the pigs and phew–wafts his paws at the smell.)* He can beg, *(Dog runs back and begs.)* roll over *(Dog rolls over.)* and give a paw. *(Dog high 5s with Twig.)* He is obedient to my every command.

SQUIRREL 1: *(Unimpressed.)* Really? What's his name?

TWIG: Bark.

BARK: Woof woof!

SQUIRREL 1: No, I asked you what your dog's name was!

TWIG: Bark.

BARK: Woof woof!

SQUIRREL 1: *(Annoyed.)* Constable Twig, please stop showing off, we can see your dog is very obedient but what is his name?

TWIG: Bark!

BARK: Woof woof!

TWIG: His name is Bark ...

BARK: Woof woof!

TWIG: What else would you call a police dog working for Special Branch? Sit, Bark!

BARK: *(Sits.)* Woof woof!

(Squirrel 1 looks at audience and shrugs, then sits down)

MRS WOLF: Sergeant Trunk, can you explain to the court what you found when you arrived at the scene of the disturbance?

TRUNK: Well, the area was a right mess; you could say it was a pig sty! *(He looks at the audience appealing for a laugh.)*

TRACK 19: **SFX DRUM CRASH**

TRUNK: The pigs refused to talk to Mr Wolf and were lobbing things at him.

MR MANN: I imagine this was a perfectly natural reaction to being threatened by a wolf.

TWIG: Oh, no sir, Mr Wolf was keeping out of the way as he had been hit in the face several times with buckets of pig swill.

BARK: Yes, and he didn't half whiff! *(Waves his paw as if to waft away the smell.)*

MRS WOLF: So, how were the houses eventually removed?

TRUNK: Well, it was a funny thing really. The weather wasn't good that day, it was really windy and the straw house really did blow down!

MR MANN: *(Sarcastically.)* Oh really?!

TRUNK: Yes, really! And the house of sticks was riddled with woodworm. We eventually persuaded the pigs to talk and when we opened the door it disintegrated!

MR MANN: *(Sarcastically.)* Oh, this is all so very convenient! And I suppose the house of bricks just happened to be demolished by a squadron of masonry bees?

TWIG: *(With contempt.)* Now... that would be silly!

MR MANN: Well surprise me!

TRUNK: We bulldozed it!

JUDGE: Thank you officers, I think we have the explanations we need.

TRACK 20: **SFX POLICE SIREN**

(Exit Trunk, Twig and Bark. Pigs exit sheepishly.)

(Mr Case looks around furtively and takes a packet of crisps out of his briefcase. He tries to eat quietly but makes loud crackling sounds.)

JUDGE: Mr Mann, if that is the end of the evidence for the prosecution, would you please make your closing statement before we recess for lunch. *(Looks sternly at Mr Case.)* It seems some of us are feeling hungry!

(Mr Case looks embarrassed and slides the crisp packet back into his briefcase.)

MR MANN: Yes m'lud. Members of the jury, you have all seen for yourselves examples of this wolf's cleverness and cunning. Oh you may say that he has skilfully defended himself against all the stories and accusations: but I say, don't you think he is a bit too clever? Does he do nothing wrong? I don't think so. Many creatures are still afraid of him because he is...

TRACK 21: **DRAMATIC CHORDS AND FAIRY-TALE MUSIC**

MR MANN: *(Very dramatically between chords.)* a carnivore ... a predator... and a threat to us all!

(Lights out. Exit all; stage cleared except for benches. Music continues as characters for Scene Four get into position, then fades as dialogue starts.)

SCENE FOUR:**THE TRIAL SO FAR**

(Village backdrop. Lights up.)

(Enter Bears, Owls, Ducks and Ponies centre aisle with picnic baskets, pizza boxes and flasks. Pony 2 is wearing a black 'Dick Turpin' mask. Enter the two foxes from the public gallery with lunch and a biscuit tin. All characters sit centre stage to eat lunch.)

BEAR 1: *(With picnic basket.)* I get fed up with porridge, nice to have a picnic.

BEAR 2: Hope you brought the honey...

BEAR 1: Yep, nothing like a bit of honey. Have you tried marmalade sandwiches?

BEAR 2: Yeah, they're horrible. I don't know what Paddington sees in them!

PONY 2: *(Hands the pizza box to Pony 1, and the coleslaw and quackers to the ducks.)* Got the pizza meal deal with extra pony nuts, the weed coleslaw and corn quackers.

DUCKS 1 & 2: Thanks.

PONY 1: What are you wearing?

PONY 2: *(Touches mask as if forgotten about it.)* What, this? Oh they had a promotion on for a new type of cheese on pizza, so instead of mozzarella I had mascarpone... get it? Mask...a ...pony!

(All protesters groan.)

FOX 1: *(Stands up and offers the tin around the other animals.)*
Gingerbread man, anybody?

OWL 1: Ooo, hoo, I don't mind if I do! *(Takes a biscuit.)*

(Enter Bramble, Sparrow and TV Crew centre aisle; they stand at the front of the stage.)

SPARROW: Well, so far Mr Mann's evidence seems more witless than witness. Johnny Mole's evidence went up in smoke and charges one and two relating to Red Riding Hood and Grandma were nonsense.

BRAMBLE: *(Gossipy.)* That Red Riding Hood! What is she like?

SPARROW: Bramble! I shouldn't need to remind you that Wilderness News has a reputation for honest, unbiased reporting!

BRAMBLE: But I was being honest - that's exactly what I thought about her! Anyway you called the prosecutor witless!

SPARROW: *(Blusters.)* I was just trying to make a clever pun on the word witness. Anyway... er, er, it seems the first three charges against Mr Wolf have been thrown out, so there is now only the fourth charge to answer. *(He consults his notes.)* I quote, 'You have sought to terrorise and murder at will within our forest community.' *(Intake of breath.)* That's going to be a hard one to defend!

BRAMBLE: Yes, I wonder what the jury will think. *(She looks conspicuously at the audience.)* Difficult to say - they are a funny looking lot!

SPARROW: *(Exasperated.)* Well, let's hope that none of them are listening to our broadcast on their phones!

(As Sparrow is speaking, Constable Twig enters with Bark on a lead, and they walk behind the presenters. Suddenly, Bark spots the fluffy microphone and starts to growl at it.)

TWIG: *(Warningly.)* Sit!

(Bark ignores the command, pulls on the lead and suddenly attacks the fluffy microphone, dragging Twig forwards.)

SOUND OPERATOR: Aaargh! Gerroff you stupid dog; that's my microphone, not a cat!

TWIG: Leave it! Leave It! Bark!

BAR: Woof woof! *(Bark releases the microphone.)*

(Twig drags Bark away. The Sound Operator angrily restores the fluffy end.)

BRAMBLE: *(Laughing.)* So that's your highly trained sniffer dog is it? Can't tell an animal from a microphone!

TWIG: *(Offended)* He's a bit excitable today what with the trial and all those people over there having lunch.

(Bark lunges towards the protesters dragging Twig behind him.)

BAR: Picnics! Much better than police food!

TWIG: Heel, Bark!

BAR: Woof woof!

(The protesters leap up, scared, ready to run but Bark just rolls over, sits up and begs. The protesters go 'Ahh' and start feeding him.)

TWIG: *(To the protesters.)* Madam, please don't feed him... Sir, I'd rather you didn't! He's a highly trained sniffer dog from Special Branch on a carefully controlled paleo diet...

(Protesters, Twig and Bark continue to act in silence while News Team resume their broadcast.)

SPARROW: I apologise for that interruption. With live broadcasting anything can happen!

BRAMBLE: Yes, that fluffy microphone scene will be on You Tube by tonight!

SPARROW: *(Touches his ear.)* I understand the recess is over and Mr Wolf is about to begin his defence, so we will go straight back to the courtroom.

(Lights out. Exit all.)

SCENE FIVE:

TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN

TRACK 22:

ALL RISE PLAY IN

(Courtroom backdrop.)

(Enter the Public Gallery and Deer, Rabbit and Squirrels with furniture to put into position, as for Scene One. Enter Mr and Mrs Wolf, Mr Mann, Mr Case and finally Judge.)

SQUIRREL 1: The court is now in session.

JUDGE: Mr Wolf, please begin your defence.

MR WOLF: Your Honour, I would like to respond to the accusation that I am a carnivore and a predator.

JUDGE: Go ahead.

MR WOLF: I am a carnivore and predator because I am a wolf. I am part of a natural process like everyone else here – we are all part of a food chain and it just happens that I am top of the food chain. The prosecution don't seem to like this and are getting their briefs in a bit of a tangle. They need to chill out and lighten up a bit...

(Mr Case opens his bag and takes out a teddy bear, which he sits on his knee and 'dances' it to the music throughout the next song. Mr Mann raises his eyes in an exaggerated manner.)

TRACK 23: TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN SONG

(Enter Bug Chorus in rhythm up centre aisle.)

MR WOLF: TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, MR PERSONALITY.
TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN IS THE PLACE I WANNA BE.
DOWN IN THE FOREST I AM ECO V.I.P.
‘CAUSE I EAT EVERYONE AND NO ONE EATS ME!

**MR WOLF +
CHORUS:** TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, I’VE GOT AUTHORITY.
WHEN I TURN UP, WELL, THE OTHER CREATURES FLEE.
NO USE COMPLAINING; MOTHER NATURE, SHE CHOSE ME.
SO I EAT EVERYONE AND NO ONE EATS ME!

I DON’T EXPECT YOUR ADULATION,
OR FOR YOU TO BE LIKE ME;
THIS SONG IS FOR YOUR EDUCATION
TO SEE HOW I HAVE COME TO BE...

TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, MR PERSONALITY.
TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN IS THE PLACE I WANNA BE.
DOWN IN THE FOREST I AM ECO V.I.P.
‘CAUSE I EAT EVERYONE AND NO ONE EATS ME!

MR WOLF: *(Doing rapper arm movements)* Take it away, guys!

BUG CHORUS: NOW PLANTS, THEY ARE PRODUCERS,
THEY START OUR LITTLE SCENE.
WE NEED THESE GUYS TO PHOTOSYNTHESISE
AND MAKE OUR FOREST GREEN.

THEN ONCE THE WHOLE THING’S STARTED,
THE INSECTS MUNCH ON LEAVES.
THEN THE BIRDS START LOOKIN’
TO SEE WHAT’S COOKIN’;
WE’VE A RESTAURANT IN THE TREES!

CONSUMERS, THEY ARE EATERS,
BUT DO YOU KNOW WHO’S WHO?
THERE’S CARNIVORES AND HERBIVORES,
IT DEPENDS ON WHO YOU CHEW!

AND LAST, I’M NOT FORGETTING,
PREDATOR AND PREY;
THE DIFF’RENCE IS ONE CHASES,
THE OTHER RUNS AWAY!

MR WOLF: TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, MR PERSONALITY.
TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN IS THE PLACE I WANNA BE.
DOWN IN THE FOREST I AM ECO V.I.P.
'CAUSE I EAT EVERYONE AND NO ONE EATS ME!

MR WOLF: **Key change!**

MR WOLF + CHORUS: TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN, I'VE GOT AUTHORITY.
WHEN I TURN UP, WELL, THE OTHER CREATURES FLEE.
NO USE COMPLAINING; MOTHER NATURE, SHE CHOSE ME.

MR WOLF: SO I EAT EVERYONE,

CHORUS: HE EATS EVERYONE,

MR WOLF + CHORUS: I EAT EVERYONE
AND NO ONE EATS ME!

TRACK 24: TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN PLAY OFF

(Exit Bug Chorus to play off.)

MR CASE: *(Suddenly realises it's his turn to speak and hastily moves the teddy and stands up.)* Mr Wolf, thank you! You may be down with the bugs *(Makes an awkward rapper hand movement.)* but you have just made our case very easy. You have actually admitted that you eat everyone and you are proud of it.

MR WOLF: *(With exaggerated patience.)* You were obviously not listening, Mr Case. You have missed the point: nature has given me permission - I am acting on the highest authority. Don't you understand how a food chain works?

MR CASE: As I said - convicted by your own song! Mr Case rests his case!
(He folds his arms in a determined manner and sits down.)

MRS WOLF: It seems that the prosecution is incapable of understanding evidence from animals, m'lud. Perhaps they will listen to their own kind – humans. Your honour, I would like to call the Naturalists.

SCENE SIX:**THE NATURALISTS**

SQUIRREL 1: Calling the naturalists!
SQUIRREL 2: Calling the naturalists!
SQUIRREL 3: Calling the naturalists!
SQUIRREL 4: Calling the naturalists!

(Judge, Mr and Mrs Wolf, Mr Mann and Mr Case all look at each other amazed.)

SQUIRREL 1: *(Puts his hands on his head in amazement.)* I don't believe it; we got it right! *(He dances up and down in excitement and shouts.)* We got it right, no mistakes! Woo hoo!

(Four naturalists struggle onto the stage, carrying butterfly nets, jars on strings, magnifying glasses etc. They trip each other up, drop their equipment and cause a disturbance. The Squirrels scurry about helping them with their dropped items and showing them where to stand. Squirrels then sit down.)

MRS WOLF: Good afternoon Naturalists. Before we get your expert opinions, please give the court an account of your qualifications and experience.

TRACK 25:**THE NATURALISTS' SONG**

(Enter General Chorus who sing with the Naturalists.)

WE'RE NATURALLY THE NATURALISTS,
 ZOOLOGISTS AND ACTIVISTS,
 ECOLOGISTS AND BOTANISTS FROM KEW.
 WE STUDY INSECTOLOGY,
 A LITTLE ORNITHOLOGY.
 WE'RE CLEVER 'CAUSE WE KNOW A THING OR TWO!

WE KNOW THE FEEDING HABITS
 OF THE LESSER SPOTTED BAT;
 HOW LONG IT TAKES A CROCODILE TO GROW.
 YOU ASK OF METAMORPHOSIS,
 WE ANSWER, 'YES OF COURSE, IT IS
 A FASCINATING SUBJECT DON'T YOU KNOW!'

WE'RE NATURALLY THE NATURALISTS,
 ZOOLOGISTS AND ACTIVISTS,
 ECOLOGISTS AND BOTANISTS FROM KEW.
 WE STUDY INSECTOLOGY,
 A LITTLE ORNITHOLOGY.
 WE'RE CLEVER 'CAUSE WE KNOW A THING OR TWO!

WE'VE WADED THROUGH THE AMAZON
 AND WALLOPED IN THE SWAMPS,
 THEN FOUND SOME HIDDEN SPECIES IN PERU.
 IN AFRICA IT WAS QUITE CLEAR
 WE HAD TO VISIT TANZANIA
 AND FOLLOW THE MIGRATION OF GNU.

SO WE'RE MAKING NO APOLOGIES
 FOR STUDYING THE 'OLOGIES...
 IT'S A JOB THAT SOMEONE HAS TO DO!

(Exit General Chorus.)

- JUDGE:** *(Amused.)* Thank you gentlemen. There is no doubt about your scientific learning and experience. Proceed, Mrs Wolf.
- MRS WOLF:** Gentlemen, perhaps you could tell us why the wolf is endangered.
- NAT 1:** Yes indeed. Canis Lupus...
- JUDGE:** Canis Lupus? Could you please explain for the benefit of the jury?
- NAT 1:** Canis Lupus, the grey wolf - of which, madam, might I say - you are a particularly fine specimen...
- MRS WOLF:** *(Angry.)* Excuse me! I don't appreciate being called a specimen. Do you think I live in a zoo? How dare you! You'll be putting me in a jar next!
- NAT 1:** *(Looks confused and blusters.)* Dear me, no offence meant...
- MR CASE:** *(Interrupts.)* Mrs Wolf, perhaps you are not familiar with trial procedure. You are attacking your own defence witness. Members of the jury - here is a perfect example of how aggressive and quick to anger the wolf is. How dangerous and unpredictable they can be...
- JUDGE:** Mr Case! Please sit down. Perhaps we can continue with the evidence.
- NAT 2:** *(Hesitantly, keeping an eye on Mrs Wolf in case of offending her.)* Er, right. The grey wolf is endangered because of man. He may be top of the food chain but he has been driven out of his natural habitat into the wilderness, where he has to live in extreme conditions. In some regions of the world, he has been completely exterminated.

- MR CASE:** Not true! You see him here in the forest, not in the wilderness and certainly not exterminated!
- NAT 3:** Ah yes, but that is because he is one of only a few of his kind left. He has survived only because he is resourceful - able to adapt to living in different, much harsher environments. He hunts prey large and small - whatever he can survive on.
- MR CASE:** **(Very pleased.)** Members of the jury - you heard it for yourselves! 'He hunts prey large and small - whatever he can survive on.'

(Mice and Birds in the public gallery jump up and down fluttering, squeaking and shaking their fists.)

- FOX 1:** **(Calmly, in contrast to the mice and birds.)** Yup, we all have to eat.
- BADGER 1:** As long as he doesn't have a taste for badger, I'm fine with that!
- JUDGE:** **(Bangs gavel.)** Silence! Silence in Court! Please continue.
- NAT 4:** It is important to know that many populations of grey wolf are classified as vulnerable, and in some parts of the world they are an endangered species.
- MR CASE:** I'd say dangerous! Not endangered! Mrs Wolf has just shown us her true colours!
- NAT 1:** I beg to differ. Your honour, Mrs Wolf was only angry because she is stressed and persecuted. Wolves are very family orientated creatures. In their packs they share tasks, care for their young and even bring food to very old wolves that are unable to walk. She is clearly very anxious about her family.
- NAT 4:** Yes, wolves are quite misunderstood. To illustrate our point I think we need to ask the wolf family themselves.
- SQUIRREL 1:** **(Speaks to the other squirrels confidentially.)** I think you'd better leave this one to me. We need to be very careful - a pack of hungry wolves on the stand. **(Nervously.)** Calling the wolf family!

TRACK 26: **WOLF CUBS PLAY ON**

(Three very cute wolf cubs enter and run to their mum and dad who hug them. They move to the centre of the stage. Naturalists move to the area the wolves have vacated.)

- SQUIRREL 3:** Ahh, aren't they sweet!
- JUDGE:** Wolf family, the Naturalists have suggested that you explain your feelings to the court.

(The wolf cubs leave their parents with one last hug, clinging on before being gently escorted off stage by Squirrel 3. Exit Naturalists. Mr and Mrs Wolf move to original positions.)

SCENE SEVEN:

THE VERDICT

MR MANN: *(Very loudly and energetically to break the sombre atmosphere in the court.)* Oh very good, Mr Wolf; using your own family for the sympathy vote, the emotional touch! But it doesn't take away the fact that you are a predator and a killer!

MR WOLF: *(Sighs at the outburst.)* Your honour, I'd like to call my final witness.

JUDGE: Go ahead.

MR WOLF: Mr Mann, would you please take the witness stand.

SQUIRRELS: *(Look at each other.)* WHAT??

SQUIRREL 2: *(Hesitantly.)* Er, er, calling Mr Hugh Mann, Mr Hugh Mann!

MR MANN: *(Interrupts, very irritated.)* Yes, yes, I heard you – I'm already here! Your honour, I must protest! How can I be a witness in Mr Wolf's defence? This is preposterous! Is there a precedent for this?

JUDGE: One moment. *(He beckons to Squirrel 4 who rushes over to the Judge and hands him a large book which he flicks through.)*

JUDGE: *(Flicking through book.)* Hmm, yes, I think we have several precedents. *(He hands the book to Squirrel 4.)* Please inform the court, Squirrel.

SQUIRREL 4: *(Reading from the book, loudly and importantly.)* Past court cases where the prosecutor has been brought to the witness stand. Number 1. Puss in Boots versus the Elves and the Shoemaker, over the purchase of leather riding boots. Number 2. Princess Rapunzel versus The Tower Witch, for wrongful imprisonment. And Number 3, the case brought by the Billy Goats Gruff against the Fol-de-rol Troll for obstruction of highways and inflated toll charges.

JUDGE: There you are Mr Mann, we have the precedents. You may proceed, Mr Wolf.

(Mr Mann stomps into place centre stage.)

MR WOLF: Mr Mann, I don't need to remind you that you are under oath.

MR MANN: Of course not, I am a man of the law.

MR WOLF: Good, then perhaps you would tell the court what you had for breakfast this morning.

MR MANN: Your honour, I object. What has this got to do with the trial?

JUDGE: Please answer the question, Mr Mann.

MR MANN: I had a bowl of muesli then a fry-up.

MR WOLF: A fry-up? I'm sorry, I'm only a wolf, an animal. Could you describe to me exactly what a fry-up is?

MR MANN: Well, tomatoes, mushrooms, *(More hesitantly.)* eggs and... *(He mumbles so no one can hear.)*

MR WOLF: I'm sorry Mr Mann, can you speak up? I didn't quite get those last two items!

MR MANN: *(Through gritted teeth.)* Bacon and sausages.

(The court gasps.)

MR WOLF: *(Holds hand to his ear.)* Please speak up, I can't hear you.

MR MANN: *(Furious.)* Bacon and sausages.

MR WOLF: Well, well! Who were you calling a carnivore? Do the Three Little Pigs know of your eating habits?

MR MANN: I am not a carnivore, I am an omnivore.

MR WOLF: Oh yes, what does that mean?

MR MANN: It means that I have a mixed diet.

MR WOLF: But you must admit that you eat meat! *(Mr Mann does not answer.)* Mr Mann - please answer the question!

MR MANN: *(Reluctantly.)* Yes.

MR WOLF: So what else do you enjoy - a bit of rabbit? Venison? *(Rabbit and Deer in the public gallery squeak.)* Don't look so ashamed, I am sure there are other members of this court who enjoy the occasional... mouse *(Looks at the Judge)* or squirrel.

(Judge clears his throat and shuffles his papers uncomfortably. Squirrels look over their shoulders at the judge and bring their hands to their faces in 'The Scream' pose.)

MR WOLF: I have no further questions.

JUDGE: Thank you Mr Wolf, perhaps you and Mrs Wolf would like to summarise the case for the defence.

TRACK 30: SUMMING-UP

(Continues and fades under summing-up dialogue.)

MR WOLF: Members of the Jury, the point we are making is that all living creatures have to eat. The energy from the sun feeds us all by travelling through the food chains. We all have a right to our share of that energy either through eating vegetation or by eating meat. But why should wolves be persecuted for eating, just because they are at the top of the food chain?

MRS WOLF: Yes, many other animals, including humans, eat meat; but they are not hated and feared as wolves are! How is a wolf any different to a snail munching a leaf or a ladybird eating a greenfly? We are all part of a natural process.

MR WOLF: Wolves have suffered for too long at the hands of Man, because Man is more threatened by wolves than any other predator! It is Man who is the strongest creature at the top of the food chain, not wolves. Humankind needs to understand that we all have our parts to play in the wild, and of course in the rhythm of life.

TRACK 31:

THE WILDEST SONG

(Enter all Choruses.)

ALL: IT'S IN THE SOUNDS OF THE FOREST,
IN THE RUSTLE OF THE LEAVES,
THE CREEP OF AN INSECT,
AND THE SCATTERING OF SEEDS.
IT'S IN THE SWOOP OF A SWALLOW,
AND THE HEAT OF THE SUN,
THE LEAP OF A SALMON,
WHERE THE RIVERS RUN.
IT'S IN THE DART OF A MINNOW AND THE DUST OF A MOTH,
THE SNUFFLE OF A HEDGEHOG AND THE BARK OF A FOX...

IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
FEEL THE ENERGY FLOW,
SURGING THROUGH EACH FOREST CREATURE,
NATURE'S GREATEST SHOW.
IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
HOW CAN IT BE WRONG?
HEAR THE BEAT OF THE ECOSYSTEM,
SING THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 1:

THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 2:

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
AH...

GROUP 1:

DO A KINGFISHER DIVE.
BE A BEE IN A HIVE.
TRY A BULLFROG CROAK.
STAND AS STILL AS AN OAK.

GROUP 2:

NEEOOW (*Mime a dive with one hand.*)
BZZ, BZZ, BZZ
RIBBIT, RIBBIT
(*Freeze.*)

DO THE PREDATOR PROWL.
COME ON AND HOOT LIKE AN OWL.
MAKE A GRASS SNAKE HISS,
AND A DANDELION WISH!

RAAAR, RAAAR (*Mime claws on both hands.*)
TWIT TWOO
SSSS
AND A DANDELION WISH!
(*Mime blowing a dandelion clock.*)

IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
FEEL THE ENERGY FLOW,
SURGING THROUGH EACH FOREST CREATURE,
NATURE'S GREATEST SHOW.
IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
HOW CAN IT BE WRONG?
HEAR THE BEAT OF THE ECOSYSTEM,
SING THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 1:

THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 2:

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
AH... THE WILDEST...

THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!
THE WILDEST SONG!

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
AH...

THE WILDEST SONG!

THE WILDEST SONG!

TRACK 32:

THE WILDEST SONG PLAY OFF

(Exit Choruses to play off, along with Deer and Rabbit.)

TRACK 33:

ALL RISE UNDERSCORE AND DRUMROLL

(Judge begins to speak as the music fades, and continues over the drumroll.)

JUDGE: Members of the Jury, ***(He addresses the audience.)*** consider the evidence and examine your conscience; the fate of this wolf is in your hands. May we have your decision in the case against Mr Wolf?

(Audience hold up their cards.)

NOT GUILTY VERDICT

JUDGE: The verdict is ...NOT GUILTY. Mr Wolf, you are free to go!

ALL: Hurray!

(Squirrels pack up props etc. Mr Wolf and Mrs Wolf shake hands with Judge and Mr Wolf offers his hand to Mr Mann and Mr Case but thumbs his nose instead.)

GUILTY VERDICT

JUDGE: The verdict is ...GUILTY! ***(Mrs Wolf buries her head on Mr Wolf's shoulder.)***

(Audience gasps.)

JUDGE: Mr Wolf, you have been found guilty of being top of the food chain; guilty of being part of a natural order that has existed since life began, and are guilty of feeding yourself and your family. In short, you are living as nature intended. Therefore I believe that there is no crime to answer for! You are hereby sentenced to spend the rest of your life...with your family roaming free in the forest and mountains.

(Mrs Wolf looks up and she and Mr Wolf hug each other. Squirrels pack up props etc. Mr Wolf and Mrs Wolf shake hands with the Judge and Mr Wolf offers his hand to Mr Mann but thumbs his nose instead.)

(Enter Sparrow, Bramble, Camera Operator and Sound Operator to downstage left, while the commotion in the courtroom is improvised silently.)

BRAMBLE: Well, what a sensational trial.

SPARROW: Yes! It was very difficult to know which way the jury would vote...

(Badgers 1 and 2 of the Public Gallery walk behind the presenters and make rabbit ears behind their heads; push in front of them and shout 'Hello, Mum'; pull funny faces etc.)

BRAMBLE: *(Very cross.)* Do you mind? We're doing a live broadcast here!!

SPARROW: Honestly! They're behaving like animals!

(Enter Deer and Rabbit [with a chime bar] who move to downstage centre.)

DEER: *(Looking around at the commotion.)* Time for that useful dramatic device I think! And freeze!

(Deer waves his arm at the cast and Rabbit hits the chime bar. Cast freeze.)

TRACK 34: **FAIRY-TALE MUSIC 2**

(Scene change to fairy-tale village with Fairy-Tale music from the opening sequence.)

DEER: *(To the audience.)* Fabletown has decided and so the story ends. Maybe it was just a fairy-tale, but perhaps there was some truth hidden amongst the arguments, jokes and songs. What do you think?

RABBIT: *(Not listening to Deer, looking around at the backdrop.)* Uh? Well, I think the water trough and pump worked, but we should have had a stone wishing well and pink roses...

(Deer sighs loudly.)

DEER: I think it is time we defrosted the cast! *(She waves her arm and Rabbit chimes the bar at the same time.)*

(Fairy-Tale music fades. Cast on stage unfreeze. Enter entire cast for finale.)

TRACK 35: **THE WILDEST SONG REPRISE**

ALL: IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
FEEL THE ENERGY FLOW,
SURGING THROUGH EACH FOREST CREATURE,
NATURE'S GREATEST SHOW.
IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
HOW CAN IT BE WRONG?
HEAR THE BEAT OF THE ECOSYSTEM,
SING THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 1:

THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 2:

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 AH...

GROUP 1:

DO A KINGFISHER DIVE.
 BE A BEE IN A HIVE.
 TRY A BULLFROG CROAK.
 STAND AS STILL AS AN OAK.

GROUP 2:

NEEOOW (*Mime a dive with one hand.*)
 BZZ, BZZ, BZZ
 RIBBIT, RIBBIT
 (*Freeze.*)

DO THE PREDATOR PROWL.
 COME ON AND HOOT LIKE AN OWL.
 MAKE A GRASS SNAKE HISS,
 AND A DANDELION WISH!

RAAAR, RAAAR (*Mime claws on both hands.*)
 TWIT TWOO
 SSSS
 AND A DANDELION WISH!
 (*Mime blowing a dandelion clock.*)

IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 FEEL THE ENERGY FLOW,
 SURGING THROUGH EACH FOREST CREATURE,
 NATURE'S GREATEST SHOW.
 IT'S THE RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 HOW CAN IT BE WRONG?
 HEAR THE BEAT OF THE ECOSYSTEM,
 SING THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 1:

THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!

GROUP 2:

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 AH... THE WILDEST...

THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!
 THE WILDEST SONG!

RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM, RHYTHM OF LIFE.
 AH...

THE WILDEST SONG!

THE WILDEST SONG!

TRACK 36:**FINAL PLAY OFF**

PHOTOCOPIABLE LYRICS

Track 3:**Protest Chants**

Herbivores- sung (Sing through once before Herbivores start, then twice more)	Carnivores- chant (Chant through four times)
<p>Pony 1: What time is it, Mr Wolf?</p> <p>Pony 2 and Ducks 1 and 2: What time is it Mr, Wolf?</p> <p>Pony 1: Time we knew the howl truth!</p> <p>Pony 2 and Ducks 1 and 2: Time we knew the howl truth!</p>	<p>Bear 1: What do we want? Bear 2 and Owls 1 and 2: Wolf rights!</p> <p>Bear 1: When do we want them?</p> <p>Bear 2 and Owls 1 and 2: Now-ooooo! (<i>Howling</i>)</p>

Track 4:**All Rise Song**

Squirrel 1: ***(Steps forward.) All Rise!***

All: All rise for the judge and doff your cap
 To the conscience of this habitat.
 Show your respect to the beak in black,
 All rise, all rise, all rise!
 He'll make you tremble, make you cry,
 He'll fix you with his beady eye! (Beady eye!)
 The worst of the criminals dare not lie;
 He wants the truth, the truth, the truth!

He's very stern and has no fun,
 He knows that justice must be done.
 His job will sort out right from wrong;
 So wise, so wise, so wise!
 So if you meet him, please be good,
 Behave just as you know you should.
 (Know you should.)
 Be most polite, call him "m'lud";
 He's the judge, the judge, the judge!

Judge: ***(Very gravely, pausing for effect.) Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you have, today, been given the power to determine the fate of this wolf. You should listen carefully and make well-informed decisions. This is a responsibility you must not take lightly, and remember, as Spiderman once famously said: 'with great power comes great responsibility'. Use it well.***

Track 7:**Mole Song**

Mole/Bonds: I've travelled the world whilst in disguise,
A life underground: the life of spies.

Chorus: Secretly tunnelling, snooping and signalling,
Networking, code-breaking, clue-making, messaging,
Mole, call him Mole.
Ah...

Mole/Bonds: I listen and watch quite undeterred.
In danger not shaken, never stirred!

Chorus: Clandestine meetings at
Checkpoints with passwords
And dang'rous assignments
With coded commanders;
He's Mole, call him Mole.

Mole/Bonds: There are wolves in the mountains
And traitors to spy on.
I've agents in outposts that I must rely on.

Chorus: Wolves in the mountains and traitors to spy on.
Agents in outposts that he must rely on.

Chorus: Scrutiny, security briefings,
Uncovering blueprints
And cracking encryptions;
He's Mole, he's the Mole.

Group 1:

Ah...

Ah...

Ah...

Ah...Mole!

Group 2:

He's the Mole.

He's the Mole.

He's the Mole.

He's the Mole!

Friends:

Are you following this?

RRH:

At Granny's house it wasn't good,
She didn't look like Granny should.
Her nose was huge and her ears had grown,
And she had built some muscle tone!
She said...

Friends:

'How very nice to see you, dear,'

RRH:

I knew her voice was insincere.
The situation was by now quite clear;
I said...

RRH & Friends:

'Granny, I'm getting out of here!'

RRH & Friends:

Basket and red hood,
Make sure that you're good.
Don't talk to strangers; particu'ly wolves!
Don't listen to lies, it's not very wise.
Just keep to the path,
Go straight through the wood.

Basket and red hood,
Make sure that you're good.
Don't talk to strangers; particu'ly wolves!
Don't listen to lies, it's not very wise.
Just keep to the path,
Go straight through the wood.

Track 15:**Little Pigs' Song**

This little house is just a haystack,
This little house a bunch of sticks,
But this one's more substantial
Made of good red London bricks.
But if you think they'll save your bacon,
You are very much mistaken,
I'm gonna blow, blow, blow
Your little house down!

My lungs are quite an asset,
I've never known them to fail,
From a gentle breeze to a hurricane,
I can puff the Beaufort scale.
So get ready for eviction
And prepare for demolition,
I'm gonna blow, blow, blow
Your little house down!

Little pig, little pig let me in, in, in!
I'll talk and compromise,
And leave three houses standing
For a trio of pork pies!

Little pig, little pig let me in, in, in!
And here's the reason why:
The only way you'll escape your fate
Is if three piggies fly!

This little house is just a haystack,
This little house a bunch of sticks,
But this one's more substantial
Made of good red London bricks.
But if you think they'll save your bacon,
You are very much mistaken,
I'm gonna blow, blow, blow,

I'm gonna blow, blow, blow,
I'm gonna blow, blow, blow
Your little house down!
Yeah!

Track 23:

Top Of The Food Chain Song

Mr Wolf: Top of the food chain, Mr Personality.
 Top of the food chain is the place I wanna be.
 Down in the forest I am Eco V.I.P.
 'Cause I eat everyone and no one eats me!

Mr Wolf + Top of the food chain, I've got authority.
Chorus: When I turn up, well, the other creatures flee.
 No use complaining; Mother Nature, she chose me.
 So I eat everyone and no one eats me!

I don't expect your adulation,
 Or for you to be like me;
 This song is for your education
 To see how I have come to be...

Top of the food chain, Mr Personality.
 Top of the food chain is the place I wanna be.
 Down in the forest I am Eco V.I.P.
 'Cause I eat everyone and no one eats me!

Mr Wolf: **Take it away, guys!**

Bug Chorus: Now plants, they are producers,
 They start our little scene.
 We need these guys to photosynthesise
 And make our forest green.

Then once the whole thing's started,
 The insects munch on leaves.
 Then the birds start lookin'
 To see what's cookin';
 We've a restaurant in the trees!

Consumers, they are eaters,
 But do you know who's who?
 There's carnivores and herbivores,
 It depends on who you chew!

And last, I'm not forgetting,
 Predator and prey;
 The diff'rence is one chases,
 The other runs away!

Mr Wolf: Top of the food chain, Mr Personality.
 Top of the food chain is the place I wanna be.
 Down in the forest I am Eco V.I.P.
 'Cause I eat everyone and no one eats me!

Mr Wolf: **Key change!**

Mr Wolf + Top of the food chain, I've got authority.
Chorus: When I turn up, well, the other creatures flee.
 No use complaining; Mother Nature, she chose me.

Mr Wolf: So I eat everyone,

Chorus: He eats everyone,

Mr Wolf + I eat everyone
Chorus: And no one eats me!

Track 25:**The Naturalists' Song**

We're naturally the naturalists,
Zoologists and activists,
Ecologists and botanists from Kew.
We study insectology,
A little ornithology.
We're clever 'cause we know a thing or two!

We know the feeding habits
Of the lesser spotted bat;
How long it takes a crocodile to grow.
You ask of metamorphosis,
We answer, 'Yes of course, it is
A fascinating subject don't you know!'

We're naturally the naturalists,
Zoologists and activists,
Ecologists and botanists from Kew.
We study insectology,
A little ornithology.
We're clever 'cause we know a thing or two!

We've waded through the Amazon
And wallowed in the swamps,
Then found some hidden species in Peru.
In Africa it was quite clear
We had to visit Tanzania
And follow the migration of Gnu.

So we're making no apologies
For studying the 'ologies...
It's a job that someone has to do!

Track 27:**Misunderstood Song**

Wolves: Mountains looming, hunger ruling.
Lonely, freezing, hear our pleading.

**Wolves +
Chorus:** A shadow on the moon, we howl an eerie tune.
What's in a name that takes such blame?
We're just misunderstood.

Wolves: Lands deserted, feared and hated.
Evil painted, lives are wasted.

**Wolves +
Chorus:** A shadow on the moon, we howl an eerie tune.
What's in a name that takes such blame?
We're just misunderstood.

Mr Wolf: A villain of the fairy-tale,
The wicked beast in folklore.
Yellow-eyed and ravaging;
Red in tooth and claw.
Prowling in the darkness,
Haunting every lonely place.
That's a wolf of fiction,
It's not me!

**Wolves +
Chorus:** A shadow on the moon, we howl an eerie tune.
What's in a name that takes such blame?
We're just misunderstood.

Cubs: We're just misunderstood.

Track 31:

The Wildest Song

All:

It's in the sounds of the forest,
 In the rustle of the leaves,
 The creep of an insect,
 And the scattering of seeds.
 It's in the swoop of a swallow,
 And the heat of the sun,
 The leap of a salmon,
 Where the rivers run.
 It's in the dart of a minnow and the dust of a moth,
 The snuffle of a hedgehog and the bark of a fox...

It's the rhythm of life.
 Feel the energy flow,
 Surging through each forest creature,
 Nature's greatest show.
 It's the rhythm of life.
 How can it be wrong?
 Hear the beat of the ecosystem,
 Sing the wildest song!

Group 1:

The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!

Group 2:

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Ah...

Group 1:

Do a kingfisher dive.
 Be a bee in a hive.
 Try a bullfrog croak.
 Stand as still as an oak.

Do the predator prowl.
 Come on and hoot like an owl.
 Make a grass snake hiss,
 And a dandelion wish!

Group 2:

Neeoow (*Mime a dive with one hand.*)
 Bzz, bzz, bzz
 Ribbit, ribbit
 (*Freeze.*)

Raaar, raaar (*Mime claws on both hands.*)
 Twit twoo
 Ssss
 And a dandelion wish!
 (*Mime blowing a dandelion clock.*)

It's the rhythm of life.
 Feel the energy flow,
 Surging through each forest creature,
 Nature's greatest show.
 It's the rhythm of life.
 How can it be wrong?
 Hear the beat of the ecosystem,
 Sing the wildest song!

Group 1:

The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!

The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!

The wildest song!

Group 2:

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Ah... the wildest...

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Ah...

The wildest song!

Track 35:

The Wildest Song Reprise

All: It's the rhythm of life.
 Feel the energy flow,
 Surging through each forest creature,
 Nature's greatest show.
 It's the rhythm of life.
 How can it be wrong?
 Hear the beat of the ecosystem,
 Sing the wildest song!

Group 1:

The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!
 The wildest song!

Group 2:

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
 Ah...

Group 1:

Do a kingfisher dive.
 Be a bee in a hive.
 Try a bullfrog croak.
 Stand as still as an oak.

Group 2:

Neeoow (***Mime a dive with one hand.***)
 Bzz, bzz, bzz
 Ribbit, ribbit
(Freeze.)

Do the predator prowl.
 Come on and hoot like an owl.
 Make a grass snake hiss,
 And a dandelion wish!

Raaar, raaar (***Mime claws on both hands.***)
 Twit twoo
 Ssss
 And a dandelion wish!
(Mime blowing a dandelion clock.)

It's the rhythm of life.
 Feel the energy flow,
 Surging through each forest creature,
 Nature's greatest show.
 It's the rhythm of life.
 How can it be wrong?
 Hear the beat of the ecosystem,
 Sing the wildest song!

Group 1:

The wildest song!
The wildest song!
The wildest song!
The wildest song!

The wildest song!
The wildest song!
The wildest song!
The wildest song!

The wildest song!

Group 2:

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Ah... the wildest...

Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm, rhythm of life.
Ah...

The wildest song!

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