

PLAYS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

A PARTNERSHIP OF SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE AND CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY-MINNEAPOLIS

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Pinocchio

By
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Based on the Story by
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CAST:

All the cast enter as painters who then agree to tell the story of Pinnochio.

1 Plays The Cricket/ The showman/A Fairy/The Coachman/An Old man.

2 Plays Gepetto/ The Fox/ A Donkey

3 Plays The Policeman/The Cat/Lampwick

4 Plays Pinnochio

5 is the Musician (*playing as many instruments as possible*)

The stage is set as if the whole place is about to be painted. Dust sheets cover surfaces, there is a scaffold tower. The place is littered with wooden trestles, planks, paint cans, stepladders, saws, rope, hammers, paintbrushes etc. All of which become the various objects and places in the telling of Pinocchio. The whole is lit by a ghost light. A painter enters. He is humming a little tune and carrying a lunchbox. He flips the big light switch to turn on the lights. He places his lunchbox on a sloping plank as he goes about his business the box slides down the plank, he catches it just before it hits the floor and suddenly sees the audience.

1 Oh! You frightened me! Who are you? What are you all doing here? The theatre is closed. You see the ladders and paint cloths? We are here to paint the theatre for the next show... so I am afraid you will have to leave, and I have to get to work. So, ah...goodbye! Ciao, arrivederci... *(Striking ghost light , coming back on stage)* You are not leaving. Do you still think there was a show today? Do you have tickets? Let me see them. Oh, Pinocchio. You have come to see the story of Pinocchio. It's a very good story. One of my favourites. It's a bit scary but... *(Seeing date on ticket)* That's today. Oh dear, oh my goodness. I am so sorry, there must be some misunderstanding. There is no show. Oh dear, oh dear. Wait. Let me call the other painters and see what I can do. *(Picks up telephone, dials some numbers. To audience)* It's a very long number. Pick up the phone. *(Painters enter behind 1)* Pick up, pick up, pick up. They never answer the phone. Come on, come on. I know you are there. Answer the phone please. Pick up the phone. Pick It up! Pick up, Pick up, Pick up...

2 Hello.

(1 doesn't see the other painters, he talks into the phone)

1 Hey!

2 What's going on? Who are all these children?

1 They have come to see the show Pinocchio but there is no show.

2 They will have to leave.

1 Before they go, I thought we should have some fun with them. To make up for there being no show. What do ya say?

2 We'll be right over.

(1 realizes 2 is right behind him)

- 1/2 Hey!
- 2 We have to finish painting this whole place today. They will have to go.
- 1 I have an idea! We could tell you the story of Pinocchio. We all know it.
- 2 We have work to do!
- 1 Who is the boss here?
- 3/4 You are.
- 1 Who is the boss here?
- 2 ... You are.
- 1 And I decide when we work. You got your violin?
- 5 Si!
- 1 *(To audience)* Shall we do that? Shall we tell you story of Pinocchio?
- 2 It will take too much time.
- 3 Can I tell them?
- 1 Off you go.
- 2 Make it quick.
- 3 It's all about a little girl called Gretel, who plants a giant and it grows into a beanstalk.
- 2 No.
- 3 Now I remember. It is about seven dwarves who chase a wolf

called Red Riding Hood through the forest and her hair turns into gold.

2 That's not it. I will tell you the story. It's about a wooden puppet called Pinocchio who has a lot of adventures. The end.

1 The end?

2 It's a very short story. Right, let's start work. You lot had better leave now, otherwise you will get covered in paint.

1 Stop there.

2 No.

1 Stop there!

2 No!

1 Stop. The story is about Pinocchio and his papa Gepetto. And you! You will be Gepetto.

2 Me? Gepetto?

1 Yes. You.

4 For them. It might be fun.

2 It might not.

3 Do it!

5 Yes, do it!

1/3/4/5 Do it! Do it! (*Continue chanting*)

1 Come here. The sooner we start. Sit down.
(*To audience*) Is everybody ready? This is Gepetto. He is an old man. A very cold, old man. (*To 5*) Play something cold. Gepetto's feet are cold, his fingers are cold, his heart is cold. Winter knocks at the door of Gepetto's tiny house, raps on the window, dances an icy tarantella, under the door and across the floor.

3/4 C C C C C C C Cold.

Gepetto I'm so cold.

1 His only friend is a little cricket (*crr crr*) that hops around (*crr crr*) (*I rubs two sandpaper blocks together to make cricket sounds, puppets the sound of the little cricket hopping around Gepetto*) trying to keep warm. (*crr crr*)

Gepetto Come here, my little friend.
(*Gepetto kisses and puts imaginary cricket in his pocket*)
(*crr crr*) There you go.

1 Gepetto is so cold, and he has only one piece of wood left to burn.

4 Awwww.

1 You.

4 Me?

1 You.

4 I don't want to be in it.

3 I do, I do.

4 I won't know what to do.

1 It's easy. I will tell you. Come here (*Sets 4 up on table*)
You are a piece of wood.

4 A piece of wood?

1 A piece of wood.

3 Me. What about me?

1 You are a neighbour.

3 (*Dissappointed*) A neighbour?

1 A very dull neighbour.

3 But...

1 And you are asleep. And now, Gepetto, you take a thin blanket and wrap it around your narrow shoulders. And then, taking a small axe in your hand, in your shivering hand, you begin to split the last log.

2/3/4 No!

3 She is my friend.

5 He will hurt her.

1 Gepetto is freezing to death, and these children have come to see a show. Get on with it! (*Gepetto goes to chop the wood*)

3 I can't look.

2 Now?

1 Now!

4 Please don't hurt me!

2 She spoke. She is supposed to be a piece of wood.

1 (*To 2*) Split the wood.
(2 goes to split the wood)

4 Don't hurt me!

2 There. What was that?

1 It's the story.

Gepetto Oh. (*As 2 raises his axe again*)

4 Please!

Gepetto I heard something. A tiny voice. Must be my imagination!
(2 raises his axe again)

4 No!

Gepetto I heard it again. Where did that tiny voice come from... there's nobody here. Just a piece of wood. Perhaps there is someone inside. If there is, I will find them. Coming to get you. Ready or not. *(Gepetto tickles 4, she giggles)*

Gepetto Wait... I have an idea. If this piece of wood can giggle like a baby, maybe it could also run and dance and sing. I will carve it into a puppet, a little wooden puppet boy to warm my heart and keep me company in these cold dark days. I will do it, I will start work right away. *(Gepetto picks up a hammer chisel, and starts work on the piece of wood)*

Gepetto Working

3 Look! Look!

Gepetto Cutting

3 Gepetto is making a little puppet.

Gepetto Chopping

1 Gepetto is hard at work!

Gepetto Sawing
Woodchips flying, flying, flying
Working, cutting, chopping, sawing
Woodchips flying, flying, flying

1/3 *(while singing 1/3 help turn 4 into Pinocchio adding knee and elbow pads, a newspaper hat, a pair of work gloves while Gepetto paints red spots on pinocchio's cheeks)He's at work he's hard at work. Making his own little boy*

1/3/Gepetto *Chipping away at the arms*
Shaping his tough wooden legs
Cheeky smile, ruby red lips

Making his own little boy.

Gepetto *Turning, shaping, sanding, smoothing*

1/3/Gepetto *Sawdust flying, flying, flying*
Turning, shaping, sanding, smoothing
Sawdust flying, flying, flying
(1 throwing wood chips into the air)
Head and hands
Legs and arms

Gepetto Ten little fingers and ten little toes.

3 It's a pretty good puppet, no?

Gepetto Pretty good? He's perfect! He's a little wooden boy. My very own little wooden boy. And I love him. I shall call him Pinocchio. We shall have such fun together.

3 Tell him who you are.

Gepetto Pinocchio, I made you. I am your papa.

Pinocchio Papa.

Gepetto Papa. He called me Papa. My handsome little puppet. And this is my friend (*crr crr*) the cricket. (***Imaginary Cricket hops to 1***) Listen, Pinocchio (*crr crr*), listen to the noise the cricket makes (*crr crr*) when it rubs its legs together. (*crr crr*)

Pinocchio Cricket.

Gepetto Wait. Something's missing. What is it?

Cricket (*crr crr*) I know.

Gepetto What do you know? You are only a cricket.

Cricket I know what's missing. What runs but has no legs?

Gepetto I don't know. Is this a riddle?

Cricket Yes it is.

Gepetto I give up. What runs but has no legs?

Cricket A nose. He has no nose.

Gepetto A nose. He has no nose. You must have a nose.

Pinocchio Why?

Gepetto Everyone has a nose. See? (*Touches his own nose*)

Pinocchio See. (*Pokes Gepetto's nose a bit too hard*)

Gepetto Ow!
(Pokes again and again)

Pinocchio See!

Gepetto Ow!

Pinocchio See!

Gepetto Stop that. It hurts.
(Puts a breadstick in Pinocchio's hand, up to his face)
There. Now you have a nose.
(Pinocchio turns, almost hitting Gepetto with the breadstick)
Oh, no. Too long.

Pinocchio Why too long?

Gepetto Because it sticks out too far.
(Gepetto snaps off a bit of breadstick)
Perfect!

Pinocchio Perfect.

Gepetto Oh, I'm hungry. (*Eats breadstick*)

Pinocchio Oh, I'm hungry. (*Eats breadstick*)

Gepetto It's your nose. Don't eat it, take it out!
(Pinocchio spits breadstick out)
Don't spit at your Papa. You need some manners.

Pinocchio You smell funny. What's that thing coming out of your nose?

Gepetto It's not important.
(Takes off his glasses and blows his nose. Pinocchio puts on Gepetto's glasses)

Pinocchio I'm papa. Look at me. *(blowing his nose)*

Gepetto Give me back my glasses.

Pinocchio I'm Papa. I'm Papa.
(Gepetto reaches for glasses, Pinocchio won't give them back)

Gepetto You rascal! You are only just finished, and already you disobey your Papa!

Pinocchio Why is your face all red?

Gepetto Because I am angry. Now give me back my glasses.
(Pinocchio throws them on the floor)
That's bad my boy, very very bad.

Pinocchio Bad. Very very bad.
(Gepetto turns to pick up glasses and Pinocchio kicks him up the backside)

Gepetto Ow! Stop that! Legs are for walking, not for kicking. Now if you are good-

Pinocchio Good?

Gepetto If you are good, I will teach you how to walk. Are you going to be good?

Pinocchio Going to be good! Going to be good! Going to be....

Gepetto Stop that.

Pinocchio Stop that. Stop that!

Gepetto Shhhh!

Pinocchio Shhhhhh!

Gepetto Pinocchio!
(Bringing Pinocchio down from the table)
Give me your hand. And the other one. Now, put your foot here. Careful, take it slow. Good.

Pinocchio Good.

Gepetto And the other one here, now step, like that. Not too fast. Very good.

Pinocchio Very good.

Gepetto And another, and again. One foot before the other...

Pinocchio Very good. Very good. Very good. Very good.
(Zooming around faster and faster, walking up and over everything)

Gepetto You are doing it. *(To audience)* He is really doing it! You clever little puppet.

Pinocchio Clever little puppet. *(To audience)*

Gepetto Careful, Pinocchio! You are walking. You are really walking. Like a real boy.
(Pinocchio stops dead)

Pinocchio Like a real boy.

Gepetto Almost like a real boy. Don't forget you are a puppet. But Papa loves his little puppet boy.

Pinocchio A real boy. I want to be a real boy

Gepetto Real boys have to go to school every day, carry schoolbooks, do lessons.

Pinocchio Let's go to school now. You come with me, Papa.

Gepetto I am too old for school. You would have to go on your own, and play with the other boys.

Pinocchio I want to play with you, Papa. Don't want to go by myself. Don't make me.

Gepetto You don't have to go at all. You are not a real boy.

Pinocchio But I want to be a real boy.

(Pinocchio moves away a step and sulks)

Gepetto Come here, you silly.

(Pinocchio moves away one step)

Gepetto Pinocchio, come here. **(Pinocchio moves away two steps)**
Pinocchio. Don't make me chase you.

Pinocchio Chase me. Chase me.

(Chase sequence)

Gepetto Pinocchio, don't go out the front door! Mr. Policeman! Catch that puppet before he runs away!

3 *(Very pleased)* Me? Policeman?

Gepetto Yes! Use the whistle!

(3 blows whistle, Pinocchio keeps running. 3 blows whistle louder)

Policeman You are in a lot of trouble.

Gepetto You are coming back inside. Right now.

(Pinocchio has a tantrum throws himself on the floor and refuses to move)

Pinocchio No! Don't want to go home, don't want to go home!

Gepetto Pinocchio, that's bad! Very, very bad. Come back inside.

5 The poor puppet is right not wanting to go back inside. This man chased him all over the house.

Gepetto He wanted me to!

5 If we leave this poor puppet in his hands, who knows what might happen.

Gepetto That poor puppet is my little Pinocchio.

Policeman Right. Sir, come with me.

Gepetto I made him. I love him.

Policeman You are under arrest.

Gepetto Me?

Policeman You.

Gepetto Pinocchio! How can this be happening? It's not possible! I love my little Pinocchio. Pinocchio!

Pinocchio papa (*waving*)

Gepetto He ran away from me.

Policeman You should look after him better, then he would not run away.

Gepetto Pinocchio!

1 And Gepetto was locked away.

Gepetto The end. Right let's get on with painting this place. The story's over.

3 Shhh! The story is only just beginning.

1 The naughty Pinocchio was left all alone

Gepetto Not a thought for his poor papa, who had to spend a night in jail.

3 What happens now?

1 Wait and see.

Cricket *(crr crr) (crr crr) (crr crr)*

Pinocchio What 's that?
(Keeps moving around from place to place)

Cricket *(crr crr) (crr crr)*

Pinocchio Cricket? Is that you?

Cricket *(crr crr)*

Pinocchio Where are you?

Cricket *(crr crr) (crr crr)*

Pinocchio There you are.

Cricket What's easy to get into but hard to get out of?

Pinocchio What?

Cricket What's easy to get into but hard to get out of?

Pinocchio Don't know.

Cricket Trouble. And that's what you are. Trouble. Not very clever are you?

Pinocchio I am. Papa said.

Cricket “Papa said.” What goes up and down but never moves?

Pinocchio Don’t know.

Cricket “Don’t know.” Come on. What is it? Up and down and never moves. A staircase. You see, not very clever. And running away from your papa is not very clever. (*gives sandpaper blocks to 3*)

Pinocchio Stop moving around. You make me dizzy.

Cricket How many letters in the alphabet?

Pinocchio Don’t know.

Cricket Don’t know. 11. T, H, E, A, L, P, H, A, B, E, T. The Alphabet! 11! If you won’t go to school—

Pinocchio (*Fingers in ears*) Not listening!

Cricket It will always be “Don’t know,” “Don’t know.”

Pinocchio Not listening, not listening.

Cricket You will never learn the answers to anything.

Pinocchio Not listening, not listening, not listening.

Cricket You will never be a real boy.

(Silence from the cricket. Pinocchio cautiously takes hands away from his ears)

Cricket What do you want most in the world?

Pinocchio I want to be a real boy, and I want to go to school and play with other boys.

Cricket Poor Pinocchio, I am sorry for you.

Pinocchio Why?

Cricket Because you are just a puppet, and you will always be a puppet.

Pinocchio No. I will be a real boy

Cricket You are made of wood, little timber tonsils.

3 I do the sound effects.

(3 taps cricket blocks together with Cricket's knocks on Pinocchio's head)

Cricket See? Wood. You don't know much do you? Little wooden head.

(Taps Pinocchio's head again)

Pinocchio Stop that. *(Pinocchio grabs paint roller, goes after cricket)*

Cricket And with that, he tried to squash the cricket!
Missed. Missed again.

(Gepetto knocks on the door)

Pinocchio Stay still, will you!

Cricket Missed again!

(More knocking)

Pinocchio Where are you now?

Cricket Here

Pinocchio Where?

Gepetto Pinocchio, let me in.

Cricket Here!

Pinocchio Where?

Gepetto Wait till I get my hands on you. Making your papa climb through

his own window.

Pinocchio Stop jumping around!

(Pinocchio brandishes paint roller, Gepetto appears)

Gepetto What are you doing? Are you going to hit your papa on the head?

Pinocchio No.

Gepetto Well, what are you doing?

Pinocchio Nothing.

Cricket He was going to hit me on the head. Squash me flat as a pancake.

Pinocchio He said I will never be a real boy.

Gepetto You must not squash the cricket, he is my friend.

Pinocchio I don't like him.

Gepetto Where are your manners?

Pinocchio *(Looking in his pockets)* I don't know. I haven't got any.

Gepetto Say "sorry."

Pinocchio Sorry.

Gepetto And mean it.

Pinocchio And mean it.

Gepetto No, you must mean it when you say sorry.

Pinocchio Sorry.

Cricket What has four eyes but cannot see?

3 I know! I know!

Pinocchio I don't know.

Cricket "Don't know," "Don't know." The Mississippi has four eyes but can't see.

Pinocchio Come here!

(Cricket hops away, Pinocchio chases after him)

Gepetto Pinocchio! Four eyes but can't see. Mississippi. He's clever that cricket.

Pinocchio I don't like him.

Gepetto Pinocchio! *(Gepetto hits hammer down loudly.)* Pinocchio.

Pinocchio I want to go to school.

Gepetto You want to go to school?

Pinocchio Yes, school. Then I will be a real boy. I will, won't I?

Gepetto Maybe.

Pinocchio I will, I will, I will. That's what the cricket said.

Gepetto Maybe, if you work real hard.

Pinocchio I will work hard, Papa, I will. Let's go now.

Gepetto Do you promise to go to school?

Pinocchio Yes, Papa. I promise!

Gepetto But, without me?

Pinocchio ... Yes, Papa.

(Pinocchio stops in his tracks)

Gepetto You promised.

Pinocchio I haven't got a school book.

Gepetto We are too poor for books.

3 I have a book.

1 You have a book?

3 Si.

Gepetto Let me see.

(3 holds up the phone book)

3 See.

Gepetto Very well. Do you really want a book?

Pinocchio Yes, Papa.

Gepetto I have no money. Will you take my jacket in exchange for the book?

1 It's snowing, you'll freeze to death without a coat.

Gepetto Never mind. The book is important, it is for my little Pinocchio.

3 Here. Take the book. I hope that puppet thanks you.

(They make the exchange. Pinocchio snatches the book and looks at it upside down.)

3 "Thank you, Papa."

Pinocchio How does it work?

(Gepetto turns it the right way up)

Gepetto You have to read it. These are words. They will teach you at school. Now, off you go.

1 And with that, the little puppet

3 Stepped out
1/3 Into the freezing cold air
Gepetto Proudly holding his brand new schoolbook in his little wooden hand.

1 While his papa
3 Shivering in his shirtsleeves

1 Waved him goodbye.

Gepetto Goodbye, Pinocchio. (*Waving goodbye*)

3 Say goodbye to your Papa.

Gepetto Goodbye! (*Proudly*) His first day at school.

(Pinocchio ignores him and heads off through the audience)

Pinocchio I am so excited. I am going to school, on my own. I am going to learn to read, like a real boy and I am going to play with other boys, real boys. Papa is too old to go to school. Oh. What's that noise? What is it? (*Asks audience*) Music! I like it. I like it very much. Where's it coming from? I want to listen to it forever.

(5 is playing a carnival tune, Pinocchio maybe sings along a bit, climbing over the audience towards the sound)

Oh, school. I forgot I have to go to school. But I really want to stay and listen to the music. It sounds so good. What shall I do school or music? School or Music? (*To audience*) What shall I do, school or Music? All right school it is. I promised Papa I would go to school. Good. School. Off I go to school. No! No, no, no! I want hear the music. I will hear the music. I can go to school another day. Music it is.

Pinocchio (*To the ticket seller*) Hullo! Hullo! Why are you playing that music?

Ticketseller Read the poster.

Pinocchio Poster! I don't know how to.

Ticketseller Can't read. It says in great big letters

1 'Today! Grand Puppet show'.

Pinocchio Puppet show.

(Pinocchio goes towards the show)

Ticketseller Eh. Eh! It costs money to watch.

Pinocchio Money?

Ticketseller Si. Two pennies

Pinocchio I don't have any pennies. Can you give me some?

Ticketseller Why should I give you money?

Pinocchio You can have my jacket.

Ticketseller You don't have a jacket.

Pinocchio Oh. My hat?

Ticketseller I have a hat.

Pinocchio I want to see the show.

Ticketseller Two pennies.

Pinocchio I've got a book.

(2 and 3 appear from behind puppet show cloth)

3 That's his new schoolbook.

Ticketseller Show me.

2 His papa swapped his only coat to get him that book.

Ticketseller All right. I take it.

3 What about his poor papa, shivering in the cold.

Ticketseller It's good for lighting fires.

2 Fires? It's a book.

Ticketseller I take it. You can go in, but don't tell the boss.

Pinocchio The Boss?

1 Roll up! Roll up for the grand Puppet show.

Ticketseller That's him.

3 Pinocchio has forgotten all about his poor papa.

5 *(To 3)* It's how the story goes!

3 I don't remember this bit.

5 I do. *(To Pinocchio)* In you go.

(2/3 become puppets wearing stuff from the decorators equipment, I is operating the puppets from above with mimed strings)

Punch Hullo everybody! I can't hear you. Hullo everybody! Look what I've got. A lovely little baby. Awww! Everybody say "awww!" I can't hear you. Say "awww."

Pinocchio Awww!

Punch Do you want to know her name? Her name is Mine. Do you know why? Because she is mine. All mine. My own little baby. *(Throwing it in the air)* Whee!

3 as Judy *(Catching baby)* She's not yours. She's mine.

Punch *(Taking baby back)* She's not, she's mine!

Judy Mine.

Punch Mine.

Judy Mine.

Punch Mine. *(etc.)*

Judy Give that baby to me.

Punch *(Tosses baby out of the puppet booth, Pinocchio catches it)* What baby?

Judy What have you done with it? Where is it?

Pinocchio I've got the baby. *(2/3 stop as they hear Pinocchio's voice)*

Judy Was that the voice of a puppet?

Punch It was. There, look.

Judy Hey! Puppet! What's your name?

Pinocchio Pinocchio.

Punch Pinocchio! What a great name. Come up here.

Judy And throw yourself into the arms of your wooden brothers. We are all puppets here.

Showman You! Puppet! What are you doing?

Pinocchio I wanted to watch the show and listen to the music. They asked me to come up here.

Showman Why?

Judy Because he's a puppet.

Showman I can see that. Wait. Look at him, he has no strings. A puppet that can

move without strings... that would be a very special attraction. People would come from miles to see him. Hey, puppet. You want to be in the show?

Pinocchio In the show. Yes. Yes. I do.

Judy He could be the pirate.

Showman He should be the pirate.

Pinocchio What's a pirate?

Punch He wears a black patch, waves a great sword, and goes "aaargh!"

Pinocchio He wears a black patch, waves a great sword and goes "aaargh!"

Showman Very good! Do it again!

Pinocchio Aaaaaargh!

Showman Again!

Pinocchio Aaaaaargh!

(Pinocchio becomes a full blown fighting pirate , a tour de force of pirateing)

Showman No strings and he dance like a dervish. Tremendous. Everyone clap for Pinocchio! Well done, Pinocchio. The crowd loves you.

Pinocchio It was such fun, everybody clapped me. I like it here. I want to stay with you all forever.

Showman You can. You are the best puppet pirate we have ever seen.

Pinocchio The best puppet pirate?

Showman Yes. The best ever.

Pinocchio I don't want to be a puppet. I want to be a real boy.

Showman A real boy. *(Laughs)* You are a puppet. You can start work straight

away.

Pinocchio But I have to go to school!

Showman No buts! You have to stay here.

Pinocchio But...

Showman You are going to be in my show and you are going to earn me a lot of money. Lock him in the cage and don't let him out.

Judy But he is only a puppet.

Punch He is our friend.

(Showman puts him in a cage)

Pinocchio Let me out.

Showman No.

Pinocchio I want to go home.

Showman No.

Pinocchio I want to see Papa.

Showman No.

Pinocchio Papaaaaa!

Showman And don't start crying! Please. No tears.

Pinocchio Tears?

Punch When you are upset, you cry.

Pinocchio Cry?

Judy Yes, water comes out of your eyes. When people cry, it makes him sneeze.

Punch And he can't stop. It means he feels sorry for you.

Judy And he will let you go home.

Punch So cry, Pinocchio, cry.

Pinocchio I can't. I am made of wood.

Judy Pretend. Like this...

(Punch and Judy demonstrate crying)

Showman Atchoo! Stop that.

(Everyone stops crying)

Punch Now you, Pinocchio!

Pinocchio Papaaaaaaaa! *(Crying)*

(Punch and Judy join in, too)

Showman Atchoo. No more. Tell him to stop!

(Momentary crying pause. They begin again, louder)

Atchoo. Atchoo. No more tears, please. Stop, stop, I can't bear it.
Atchoo. Get him out of that cage. Anything to stop him crying.
Atchoo. Go home to your papa.

Pinocchio My papa is so poor, he had to sell his only coat to buy me a book.

Showman Atchoo. Stop, it's too sad! He's poor? Take these five gold coins and go!

Pinocchio Five gold coins.

Punch/Judy You're rich!

Pinocchio Rich?!

1 Then Pinocchio said goodbye.

Pinocchio Goodbye!

1 To his two new friends.

Pinocchio Goodbye, friends!

Judy Goodbye!

Punch Good luck!

1 And with that, the little puppet set off for home. But he did not go far before he met—

Fox A fox. Who was lame in one leg.

1 And

Cat A cat. Who was blind in one eye.

(Cat mimics Fox's leg action)

Fox Your eye. *(hits Cat)*

Cat Oh. Right.

(Fox and Cat begin general begging improvisation)

Cat Food? Can anyone spare some food?

Fox Got my foot caught in a hunter's trap.

Cat No you didn't! *(Whacks Cat.)*

Fox Yes, I did. That's what I want them to think!
(Stops, hears Pinocchio's jingling coins) What was that?

Cat I don't know.

Fox Money!

Cat I haven't got any.

Fox Not you. Him.

Cat Oh!

Fox We're going to eat out tonight! Quick, get a bucket!

Cat What do I do now?

Fox Hide!

Cat Aw. It's a little puppet.

Fox *(Drops bucket, making a loud noise.)* Hullo, friend.

Pinocchio Hullo.

Cat Do you know him?

Fox Of course not. I'm pretending.

Cat Oh. Hullo, friend.

Pinocchio Hullo. Do I know you?

Fox You do now.

Pinocchio My name's Pinocchio.

Fox Pinocchio. Where are you going Pinocchio?

Pinocchio Home. To see my papa.

Fox Your papa?

Pinocchio Yes. He sold his only coat to buy me a book.

Fox Oh, yes. We know him well.

Cat We do?

Fox We do. We saw him standing outside, shivering in his shirtsleeves.

Cat We did?

Fox We did.

Cat Oh, yeah, brrr.

Pinocchio Poor Papa. But never mind, from now on he will shiver no more.

Fox Why's that?

Pinocchio Because I have five gold coins. Look! 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. I'm rich!

Fox And what are you going to do with all that money?

Pinocchio First, I'm going to buy a beautiful new coat for my papa. Then I will buy myself a school book.

Cat A school book?

Pinocchio Yes. I am going to study hard and papa will be very proud of me.

Fox Just a moment. Look at me. It's because of my foolish passion for study that I lost the use of my leg.

Cat And look at me. Because of my foolish passion for study, I lost the sight in one of my eyes.

Fox How would you like to double your fortune?

Cat Yes, please.

Fox Not you! (*Whacks Cat*) Him.

Pinocchio How do you mean?

Fox Would you like turn those five miserable coins into one hundred coins. A thousand even?

Cat Maybe ten thousand.

Pinocchio Ten thousand gold coins! Yes, please. Papa would be so proud of

me. But, how?

Fox Well, dear friend. Can I call you that?

Pinocchio Yes. You are my friends.

Fox Well, dear friend. Instead of going home, you must come with us.

Cat You must come with us!

Pinocchio Where are you going?

Cat Uhhh... We are going to... uhhh...

Fox (*Whispering*) Tricksville.

Cat (*Whispering*) Tricksville.

Fox Don't whisper it.

Cat (*Yelling*) Tricksville!

Pinocchio Tricksville? What do we do when we get there?

Cat Well, uh... In Tricksville there is...

Fox A Field.

Cat A Field.

Fox Of Miracles.

Cat There is?

Fox A Field of Miracles.

Cat Hallelujah!

Fox Where we will turn your five miserable coins into 10,000 coins!

Pinocchio I shall keep some, and give the rest to you as a present.

Fox A present to us! Heaven forbid! We do not work for gain.

Cat Yes, we do.

Fox No, we don't. We do everything for other people.

Cat We do?

Fox Yeah, we do!

Pinocchio What good people you are.

Cat Yeah, we are, aren't we?

Pinocchio Let's start right away.

Fox All right, dear friend. There's no hurry. It's a long way to Tricksville, and it's too late to travel now. Early in the morning we shall get up and set off for the Field of Miracles. Let's rest and eat a little supper at this Inn. *(To Cat)* He can pay for our supper, and then when he is asleep we shall steal the rest of his gold coins. Innkeeper!

Innkeeper Good evening, sirs. What would you like to eat?

Pinocchio I am too excited to eat. I am going to straight to bed.

Cat Me too. Just fetch me a little tomato soup and a few fish in a nice cheese sauce..... Maybe some chicken legs..... With a couple of plates of bacon and a dozen sausages.....A big dish of roast potatoes and plenty of salt and pepper.....To finish I'll have a bucket of strawberries And a tub of icecream.

Innkeeper Is that all?

Cat Yes. And maybe a little chocolate.

Innkeeper And you, sir?

Fox I am on a very strict diet. So I'll have the same as her, but no salt and pepper.

Innkeeper Having eaten, they all fell fast asleep.

Fox Psst. Cat. Wake up. (*Yelling*) Cat!

3/Cat Cat?! Where? Where's the cat?

Fox You are the cat.

3/Cat Sorry. I forgot. Meow!

Fox That stupid puppet is asleep.

(Fox/Cat creep up on Pinocchio)

Fox The pockets. Search them.
(Cat starts searching his own pockets)
Not yours! His!

Cat What am I looking for?

Fox The gold coins.

Cat What gold coins?

Fox Look under his pillow!

1/Innkeeper But just as his fingers felt for Pinocchio's gold... Time to get up!
(Fox and Cat jump and run in opposite directions, Cat towards the Innkeeper)

Fox Run! Come on!

Innkeeper Time to get up.

Pinocchio Cat? Fox? Where are my friends?

Innkeeper Friends?

Pinocchio Where are they?

Innkeeper Up and gone.

Pinocchio I must catch up with them.

Innkeeper You must pay for your supper.

Pinocchio I didn't have any.

Innkeeper But your so-called friends did. One gold coin.

(Pinocchio hands over a coin)

Pinocchio I still have four left.

Innkeeper Can I give you some advice? Keep the rest of your gold safe. Forget your friends, go home instead.

Pinocchio Tomorrow these four gold coins will be ten thousand, and I will be rich. Then I will go home.

Innkeeper Never trust anyone who promises to make you rich in a day. They are either crazy or liars. Listen to me. Go Home.

Pinocchio No.

Innkeeper It is very late.

Pinocchio I must go find them.

Innkeeper The night is dark.

Pinocchio I'm not scared.

Innkeeper Be careful. It's a dangerous road. There may be robbers.
(Pinocchio leaves) Goodbye, and good luck.

Pinocchio *(Going through audience)* A dangerous road, I don't know what that is. I don't know what a robber is, but if I see one, I won't talk to it. I will walk past and look the other way. Soon I will find my friends Cat and Fox and then I will be rich.

(Through this speech he is moving back towards Fox and Cat, who are disguised as robbers)

Fox Now's our chance to get the rest of them gold coins! When he walks past, I'll go, "Boo!" And you say, "Give us your money!"

Cat "Give us your money!" Got it.

Fox Boo!

Cat Help! (*Scared, Cat jumps into Fox's arms*)

Fox Get down! (*To Pinocchio*) You.

Cat Me?

Fox No, him!

Cat Him, who?

Fox Him, him!

Cat Oh. Him. What do I say now?

Fox Give us your money!

Cat I haven't got any.

Fox No, tell him.

Cat Oh! Yeah. I haven't got any.

Fox No, let me do it. (*Whacks Cat*) You. Give us your money.

Cat I told you, I haven't got...

Fox Shhhh!

Pinocchio Are you robbers?

Cat Er... are we?
(*Cat looks at Fox, who nods*)
Yeah! We are. We're robbers.

Fox And we are very fierce. Grrr!

Cat Don't do that. It frightens me.

Fox Give us your money!

Cat Well, all right, I will, if you're going to shout at me.

Fox Don't start that again! (*Whacks Cat*)
(*To Pinocchio*) Hey! Where are you going?

Pinocchio I am walking by and looking the other way.

Fox Stop! Stop right there. Give us your money. Come here! Search him.
Look through his pockets.

(*Pinocchio mimes putting coins in his mouth*)

Cat What am I looking for?

Fox The gold coins!

Cat (*Searches Pinocchio, unsuccessfully*) Nothing!

Fox Where did you put the gold coins?

(*Pinocchio is trying to speak around money in his mouth*)

Pinocchio I haven't got any gold coins!

Fox So, you hid them under your tongue.

(*Pinocchio shakes his head*)

Cat Spit them out.

(*Pinocchio shakes his head*)

Fox Tickle him.

Cat I can't. I'm shy.

Fox Tickle him. (*Cat does, to no avail*) Shake it out of him. (*cat*

does Pinocchio refuses to open his mouth)

Fox Hold it! Open your mouth!
(Trying to prise open his mouth with a foot)
Useless... He's never going to open his mouth.

(1 begins dropping woodchip snow on Cat's head)

Cat It's starting to snow. I'm getting cold. Can we go?

Fox Why not. First, tie the puppet to that tree. We'll come back later.
When he gets cold his teeth will chatter and the coins will fall out.
After that, I don't care if he freezes to death. *(Cat ties Pinocchio up)*
Come on.

1 And the little puppet was left all alone, tied to a tree, freezing in
the cold, cold night.

1/2/3/5 *Oh dear, no, Oh dear, oh dear*
Soft snow, soft, soft snow is falling
Falling on the poor puppet
Slowly, slowly dying
Dying in the cold, cold night

2 What happens now?

1 No idea.

2 You are supposed to know the story

1 I can't remember.

3 We can't just leave Pinocchio dying here in the snow.

2 Think of something!

1 I can't.

2 I know. I've got it. We need a good fairy.

3 Of course. A fairy. They always turn up just when things are going
wrong.

2 And make everything all right.

3 Like in Cinderella. Who will be the fairy?

(1 and 2 both raise their hands)

1 I will be the fairy. *(2 sulks off)* But first, I will need a dress. A lovely dress. *(1 ties his jacket around his waist)* Lovely. And beautiful hair, all fairies have beautiful hair. *(3 passes him a mop head)* What do you think?

3 Very pretty.

1/Fairy We forgot the magic wand.

3 Ta da!

(3 passes him a paintbrush)

Fairy Abracadabra. *(As he waves his wand, sparks fly)*

1 Ah! How did that happen?

3 I don't know! Do it again.

Fairy Abracadabra. *(1 Waves paint brush again, more sparks)* I did it again! It really is magic.

3 You really are a fairy.

2 It was me! I made the flash. Look!

(More sparks, 2 has been using a metal grinder out of sight of the others)

1 Oh!

Pinocchio Papa... papa... I am so cold.

2 *(to 1, he has a harness in his hands)* Can you fly?

Fairy Not really.

2 Not really?

1 Not at all.

2 Not at all. You must fly. All fairies fly.

Fairy I don't want to.

2 You want to help the puppet.

Fairy Yes.

2 Then you must fly.

Pinocchio Papa...

3 We must hurry. Pinocchio needs looking after. He is dying.

2 Come here.

(They fix the fairy to the hoist)

Fairy I don't like it.

2 Up you go.

Fairy Help!

2 Fly. Flap.

Fairy I'm scared.

2 Don't be scared

Pinocchio *(Very faintly)* Papa... Papa...

3 *(To the fairy)* Do something!

Fairy Pinocchio!

Pinocchio Papa?

Fairy Pinocchio!

Pinocchio You are not my papa.

Fairy I am your good fairy. Untie him. I am here to make you feel better.
(Pinnocchio collapses) He needs medicine.

Pinnocchio Medicine?

Fairy Yes, medicine. Hurry! *(3 grabs a thermos)*

3 Is it magic?

(More sparks)

Fairy It is now.

Fairy Now Pinocchio, dear, drink the medicine and you will feel much better.

Pinocchio What if I don't like the taste?

Fairy Do you want to feel better?

Pinocchio Yes, but...

Fairy Then drink it up. Afterwards, I'll give you a lump of sugar to take the taste away.

Pinocchio First, I want the sugar.

Fairy Then you promise to drink the medicine?

Pinocchio Yes, I promise.

(3 gives him the sugar, he eats it)

Fairy All right. Now, quickly, drink it down.

Pinocchio Give me one more lump of sugar.

Fairy One more, but that's the last. Now drink your medicine!

Pinocchio I can't drink it now.

Fairy Aaaagh! I am trying to help you. Just drink the medicine!

3 Temper, temper.

2 You are the good, kind fairy. Remember!

Fairy Yes, I remember! But if he doesn't drink the medicine, he will die!

2 Shh!

Fairy Why can't you drink it, my dear?

Pinocchio It smells funny.

Fairy I am going to count to three and then I will very gently say "Hold your nose and down it goes." Then Pinocchio, you will hold your nose and swallow your medicine. You won't taste a thing. Alright? On 3. 1, 2, 3: Hold your nose and down it goes!

Pinocchio I can't!

Fairy *(to 2,3)* Again, again. 1, 2, 3: Hold your nose and down it goes.

Pinocchio I don't want to!

Fairy *(To audience)* Everybody! 1,2,3: Hold your nose and down it goes.

(Pinocchio holds his nose and drinks the medicine)

2 It worked. He's done it. He's done it.

3 He has swallowed the medicine.

Pinocchio Uuuurgh! Spicy! Spicy!

Fairy How do you feel?

(Pinocchio suddenly perky)

Pinocchio Better! Much better!

Fairy Quite sure?

Pinocchio Fit as a fiddle! *(Pinocchio charges around the stage)*

Fairy Pinocchio! My dear. You promised to go to school, but you broke your promise. Why didn't you go to school?

2/3 Why didn't you go to school?

Pinocchio I couldn't find it.

2 No sooner had this little lie slipped from Pinocchio's lips

3 Than his nose grew 12 inches.

(2 holds a roll of wallpaper up to Pinocchio's nose)

Pinocchio What's happened to my nose? It's grown.
(Tries to shake it off, hitting 2 and 3)
Make it short again.

Fairy I can't unless you tell me the truth. Why didn't you go to school?

2/3 Why didn't you go to school?

Pinocchio School was closed.

2 At this second lie

3 Pinocchio's nose grew even longer.

(2 extends wallpaper roll)

Pinocchio Help. Get it off me!

(Pinocchio swings nose back and forth, hitting 2/3 again)

Fairy Why didn't you go to school?

2/3 Why didn't you-

Pinocchio I did! I did go to school!
(Pinocchio's nose grows again)
Help. I don't like it!
(Pinocchio spins nose in a circle, 2 and 3 duck)

Fairy You must tell the truth.

Pinocchio I will, I will.

Fairy Now, why didn't you go to school?

Pinocchio I didn't go to school because I listened to some music. I was put in a cage. A man gave me five gold coins for my papa. A fox and a cat were going to make me rich, then some robbers my tried to steal my money. They tickled me turned me upside down and tied me to that tree.

Fairy Is that the truth?

Pinocchio Yes.

Fairy *(To audience)* Everybody! Is that what happened?

Audience Yes!

3 And with that...

(2 pushes wall paper in, tosses back to Fairy)

Pinocchio My nose is back.

Fairy Now Pinocchio, go home to your poor papa.

Pinocchio Papa...

Fairy Yes. Your papa, sitting at home waiting for you to come back.

Pinocchio Papa.

Fairy Waiting to hear all about your first day at school.

Pinocchio But... I didn't go to school.

Fairy Tell him what happened, tell him the truth. He will understand.

Pinocchio I will do it.

(Pinocchio heads off)

Fairy Not that way, this way. At the fork in the road, take the path over the hill and you will find your papa. Don't go through the woods.

Pinocchio Over the hill, not through the woods.

(Pinocchio goes)

Fairy Tomorrow, you go to school?

Pinocchio I will.

1 But just as Pinocchio reached the fork in the road

Fox The hill is so steep, the woods are quicker.

Pinocchio Fox, is that you?

Fox It is.

Cat I am here, too.

Pinocchio Fox. Cat. My friends.

Fox We are so happy to see you. Aren't we?

Cat We are.

Fox Old friend, where have you been? What happened to you?

Pinocchio I have been tickled, turned upside down and tied to a tree by robbers.

Cat That was us.

Fox (*Whacks Cat*) What did those bad people want?

Pinocchio My gold coins. But I hid them in my mouth.

Cat Yuck! Nasty.

Pinocchio I only have four now, but I am going to keep them safe and take them home to my papa.

Fox Wait.

Cat Wait! What for?

Fox Do you still want to be rich to make a thousand gold coins?

Pinocchio Yes. Yes, I do. But...

Fox Well, you have to bury them right away.

Pinocchio Bury them?

Cat Yes! Right there in the Wood of Miracles.

Pinocchio He said “Field” before.

Cat Did he? Did you?

Fox It was a field, and now it is a wood, the trees have grown so quick. It is a miracle.

Cat Hallelujah!

Fox Your tree covered in gold coins will grow just as quickly.

Cat Your papa will be so proud of you.

Pinocchio He will. He will. Let’s do it now. Let’s bury them now.

Fox First we must go into the woods.
(*They skip/walk away to the first two bars of yellow brick road*)

Here we are.

Pinocchio That was quick. *(To Cat)* What do I do now?

Cat First you must...
(Fox is miming digging a hole)
Pull on a rope... No... Er... You poke a pig with a big stick...
No, you shake a donkey by the tail!
(Fox throws his hands up in the air in despair)
You wave your hands in the air.

Fox No!

Cat And shout, “No!”

Fox You dig a little hole!

Cat Yeah, of course, you dig a little hole. I knew that.

(Pinocchio does this)

Fox Then you take the gold coins.

Cat Thank you.

(Cat puts out hand, Fox sprays Cat with water)

Fox And put them in the hole, and cover them with earth.

(Pinocchio does this)

Cat Then, when you have gone, we steal them.

Pinocchio Steal them?

Fox STILL them, still them. Make them all nice and quiet, still them.

1 I don't think Pinocchio should do this!

(Fox squirts 1 with water)

Fox Then you water the ground. *(Fox keeps squirting, directed now at*

the ground) We leave the magic to work. Come back in fifteen minutes you will find a huge tree covered in gold coins. Your papa will be so proud of you.

Pinocchio I want it to grow now.

Cat Me, too!

Fox Just fifteen minutes.

Pinocchio I can't wait so long.

Fox Come along, now. It won't grow if you watch it.

Pinocchio Grow tree. Grow.

Cat Grow tree. Grow. Grow tree, grow!

Fox Cat, come on!

Cat Bye, tree!

1 Fifteen minutes. Just enough time for a little break! Don't be late back, and we see if the tree has grown.

INTERVAL

(During the interval stage crew dressed as renovators, make necessary adjustments the set and remove the coins)