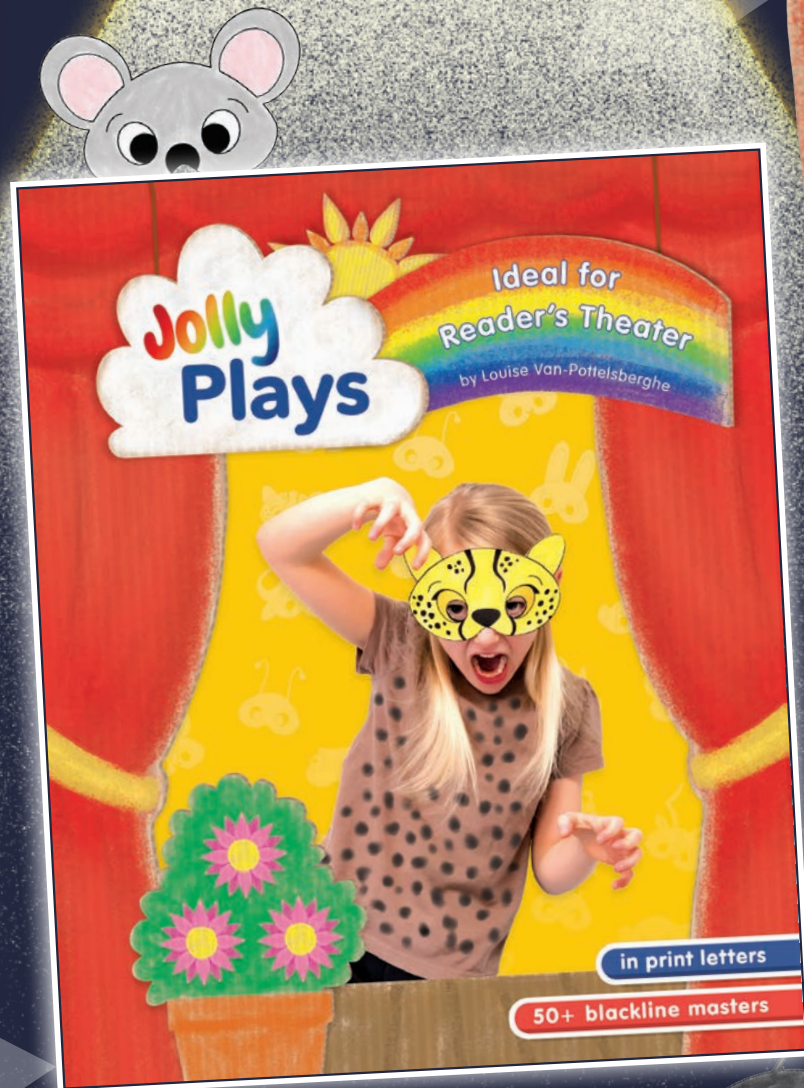


# Jolly Phonics



Bringing Reading to Life!



**Jolly Plays** is designed to help children become **fluent and confident readers**, with well-developed **speaking and listening skills**. As with Jolly Phonics, the teaching in Jolly Plays is **multisensory, active and fun**. Each of the **six plays** in this book comes with a number of **additional teaching resources and cross-curricular activities**, which can be used whether the children perform the plays or simply read them aloud. All of the **parts in each play are color coded** to help teachers select the right part for each child, and there are **songs and nonspeaking parts** for less confident children, ensuring that everyone in the class is included.

**JL8943 Jolly Plays**

**978 1 844148 94 3**

**Jolly Plays** provides:

- Six reproducible play scripts, which are decodable at the Jolly Phonics Purple Level
- A large number of mask and prop templates, for use when performing the plays
- Six songs, with reproducible song lyrics and downloadable audio
- Comprehension and discussion questions for each play
- Story sequencing and reading comprehension activities for each play
- Cross-curricular activity suggestions including art, craft, science, physical education and cooking suggestions, as well as literacy activities

... and much more!

Detailed lesson guides for teachers

Full play scripts for children to read

in print letters

### Why Anansi the Spider has Eight Thin Legs

The narrators sit on the left-hand side of the stage, with the crow.

**Narrator 1:** Once upon a time, there was a spider called Anansi. He had eight short legs.

**Crow:** Short legs? But spiders have long legs...

**Narrator 1:** Well yes, they do now, but spiders have not always had long legs.

**Narrator 2:** This play is about how one spider, called Anansi, got his long legs.

**Anansi** walks on stage and waves.

**Narrator 1:** One morning, Anansi was feeling particularly hungry. He said to his mom...

**Anansi:** Mom, when will lunch be ready? My tummy is rumbling.

**My Spider:** I have only just started cooking! Why not go for a little walk? Lunch will be ready when you get back.

**But how will I know when lunch is ready if I am out walking?**

**Spider:** You can spin a little strand of your web, and tie one end to the cooking pot and the other end to one of your legs. When lunch is ready I will tug on the web to let you know.

**Anansi:** That is an excellent plan!

**Anansi** pretends to tie one end of a strand of web to the cooking pot and the other end to his ankle.

**Mommy Spider:** Enjoy your walk. Remember to come running when I tug on the web.

**Anansi** whistles and walks along the stage.

**Narrator 2:** Anansi walks along, whistling to himself, until he sees...

**Anansi:** Rabbit! Good morning! What are you doing?

### Why Anansi the Spider has Eight Thin Legs

This play has twelve speaking parts. If you are using this play for group or guided reading, simply allocate the parts and provide one copy of the play for each student. (See pages 16 to 19 for a reproducible play script.) If you are intending to perform the play, the following pages provide suggested costumes for each character and outline the props necessary for performing the play.

#### Characters

- Narrator 1
- Narrator 2
- Anansi
- Mommy Spider
- Rabbit
- Chimp
- Impala
- Frog
- Mouse
- Lizard
- Crow
- Buffalo

A teacher could read the narrators' parts if necessary. A teacher could also read the stage directions if the play is being used for group or guided reading.

#### Costume suggestions

**Narrator 1 and Narrator 2**  
These students could either dress up as African animals, or they could wear their usual school clothes.

**Crow**  
This student should wear black clothes and, if possible, black wings. He or she should also wear a crow mask. (See page 80 for the mask template.)

**Anansi and Mommy Spider**  
These students should wear spider masks and black clothes, with four black ribbons or strips of tied to their waists to form four additional legs. (See page 86 for the mask template.)

**Rabbit**  
This student should wear grey, brown, black, or white clothes and a matching rabbit mask. (See page 87 for the mask template.)

**Chimp**  
This student should wear a chimp mask. (See page 88 for the mask template.)

**Impala**  
This student should wear an impala mask. (See page 89 for the mask template.)

**Frog**  
This student should wear a frog mask. (See page 90 for the mask template.)

**Mouse**  
This student should wear a mouse mask. (See page 91 for the mask template.)

**Lizard**  
This student should wear a lizard mask. (See page 92 for the mask template.)

#### Make Anansi the spider (art and crafts)

After reading *Why Anansi the Spider has Eight Thin Legs*, have the students make some spiders of their own using air-drying clay or plasticine, pipe cleaners, paint, and googly eyes or buttons.

- Each student takes a small ball of air-drying clay or plasticine, and rolls it out into a long, thin strip.
- They then take four pipe cleaners and twist them together at the middle to make eight legs.
- Once they are happy with their legs, they wrap the strip of clay (or plasticine) around the middle of the spider's body (covering the twisted part completely) and smooth the clay back into a ball, to form some eyes, or they can push buttons or googly eyes into the clay.
- If using the air-drying clay, the students will have to leave the spiders to harden completely before painting them. If using the plasticine, the spiders are ready now.
- To finish off their spiders, the students should bend each of the pipe cleaner legs to give their spider some knees and feet.
- When the spiders are finished, the students can take them home and put them in the shower to scare their parents!



#### Have a fun run! (sports)

After reading *The Case of the Golden Trainer*, have a fun run at the school. Running not only helps with fitness, but it can also help the students to think more clearly.

The running course around the school grounds, around 1.5 to 2 km is a good length for young students. The students to dress up in fancy dress for their fun run. The golden trainer trophy to the first student to cross the finish line.

#### Bake a cake (cooking, math)

After reading *The Case of the Vanishing Cakes*, teach the students how to bake a simple cake.

- Find a very simple recipe that can be completed in the time allotted for the lesson. Before doing this activity, it is important to find out if the students in the class have any allergies, and to choose a recipe that avoids any known allergens.

Extra activities for every play

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