

Welcome to The William Morris Gallery Family Panto: Cinderella

This is Inspired by the Cinderella story tiles designed by Edward Burne Jones for Morris & Co.

The script written by Scribble and Smudge

As in any good panto, the script has lots of chances for audience participation and bad jokes! We hope it will give you ideas for devising your own family panto. You can download this script and activity ideas for making props from the Learning at Home Page on the William Morris Gallery website.

I'm your narrator find you'll meet lots of other characters such as the wicked step mother, the horrid step-sisters, courtiers and of course Cinderella herself.

Characters

The Narrator	First horrid stepsister	Fairy Godmother
Cinderella or Cinders	Second horrid stepsister	Mouse
The Prince	The Royal Herald	Servants
The Stepmother	Courtiers	Guests at the Ball

Act 1

Scene 1: Introducing Cinderella

Narrator: Once upon a time, there lived a sweet girl whose name was Cinderella. Unfortunately, Cinderella's father died so she lived with her stepmother and two stepsisters who were... In a word – horrid. The horrid sisters loved to boss Cinderella. The first said:

Sister 1:

"Cinders! It's your job to clean the ashes from fireplace. That's why you're called Cinders! Get it?"

Narrator: And before she had finished sweeping the grate, the second sister said,

Sister 2: "Cinders! Don't dawdle. Light up the fire and make me a hot bath ' "

Narrator: And as she was heating the bath, the horrid mother said

Step-mother: "Cinders! Why haven't you been to the market yet?"

Narrator: All day long, Cinderella swept, and scrubbed, and fetched and carried.

Scene 2: A royal invitation

Narrator: One day, the royal prince invited people to come to the royal ball, in the royal castle.

The Royal Herald proclaimed: 'Oh yea fair ladies, please take this invitation to your homes.'

Cinderella handed over the royal invitation to sister no.1, who snatched it excitedly, squealing with delight.

Sister 1: "Sister and mother of mine we have been invited to the royal ball!"

Sister 2: "That's too exciting mother! What shall I wear? Let's look in the dress box and try all of our best clothes. I look so beautiful in this mirror!"

Narrator: Ooh Audience we cant let her get away with that –

'Oh no she doesn't look beautiful!'

Sister 2 retorted : Oh yes, I do!

Narrator: Oh no she doesn't!

Sister 2: Oh yes, I do!

Come on audience - Oh no she doesn't

Stepmother: "Well, I think she does!" ~~(clapping and squealing)~~ "oh darling daughter, the prince might even marry you! Try and look lovely, try I said!"

Narrator: Cinderella helped the horrid sisters with their ball gowns, frilly petticoats and taffeta, folding and fixing their dresses ready for the ball. Poor Cinders was not allowed to go to the ball, especially as she only wore rags.

Scene 3: Cinders in the kitchen

Narrator: The big night came, and poor Cinderella was left at home, sitting alone by the fireplace. A mouse came up to her and said, "Dear, dear, don't fret. A good fairy is outside".

The kitchen door swung open and in walked the good fairy – a little old lady. She told the young girl: "You shall go to the ball."

Narrator: Audience, pretend to take your magic wand and wave some magic for Cinders. (The tiles don't show us this part but use your imagination to create the most beautiful dress for her)

Off Cinderella goes to the ball in a magical coach. We'll find out what happened in the second act...

Act 2

Scene 4: At the Royal ball

Stately dance music is heard

Narrator: Cinderella arrived at the royal palace. When she entered the royal ballroom, all eyes were upon her. Of course, her horrid sisters were there but did not know who this beautiful lady was!

The royal prince asked the new arrival to dance, not once, but again and again.

The horrid sisters envied how the Prince paid attention to her over everyone else in the ballroom, especially as he never asked them to dance, they stayed on the chairs all evening. Before the evening was out, he had fallen in love with the mysterious young beauty. He was about to ask for her hand in marriage when the clock began to strike twelve.

Scene 5: The clock strikes 12

The sound of a clock starting to strike 12 is heard

Cinderella exclaimed: "Oh! You must excuse me!"

She had forgotten that the Fairy Godmother had told Cinderella 'Be sure to leave the ball before the clock strikes midnight. The magic will end, and you will return to your rags...';

She ran for the door leaving the astonished prince. As she dashed away into the night, one of her dancing slippers fell from her foot

Scene 6: A Royal Proclamation

In the morning, the Prince found the lost slipper and ordered his servants to take it up and down the land until they discovered the foot that exactly fitted it.

Fanfare music is heard

The Royal Herald: "Oh yea fair gentle women, you have been called upon by the Prince to try this slipper. The royal prince will marry whosoever this slipper will fit."

Narrator: Well you can imagine how all the ladies of the land, including the horrid sisters, were eager to try on the slipper...

Scene 7: Trying the slipper for size

Sister1: "Oooh! It fits me perfectly,"

Narrator: said the first sister, but she could not shove her heel inside.

The Courtier replied: "No, no, your foot does not fit! Its just too big, your crusty heel won't go into the shoe!

Sister1: "Oh yes it will,"

Narrator: Oh no it wont!

Sister1: "Oh yes it will,"

Narrator: "Oh No, it won't!"

Narrator: The servant then looked at the eager second horrid sister.

Sister 2: "You can call me, 'Your Royal Highness' already because my foot fits better,"

Narrator: But it was clear that her foot was wider than the slipper.

Courtier/servant: "No, no, your foot does not fit either! Your hairy toes are sticking out at the sides!

Sister 2: "Oh yes it will".

Narrator: Not this again! Come on, Audience! Let's tell her loudly – 'Oh no it won't!'

Narrator: The royal servant looked up and saw Cinderella sitting by the fireplace which she had been cleaning. There was a bit of soot on her nose, and it made her face all the more charming. He said:

Servant: "Would you care to try on the shoe, miss?"

The Step-mother cut in: "Why bother with her? She's just the maid,"

Cinderella: "I would like to try, thank you,"

Narrator: Her foot slipped in perfectly.

Courtier/narrator: "Who would have thought it? Our quest is complete,"

Mother: "What?" exclaimed the mother. "You've got to be kidding!"

Sisters 1 and 2: "You've got the wrong girl,"

Narrator: But the Prince could see this was the mystery girl he had danced with.

The servant was already calling for the coachman to take Cinderella to the palace, dressed in her rags, exactly as she was, and wearing her normal shoe on one foot, and her dancing slipper on the other. As Cinderella left the house, the mother of the horrid girls cried out,

Mother: "Good riddance! We've had enough of your cheek!"

Scene 8: A Happy Ending

Scene Narrator: Cinderella knew that she had found true love, and the very next day, she and the prince were wed, the bells rang out all over the land and they lived happily ever after.

Bells ringing sound

The End

We hope that's given you some inspiration to devise your own family panto at home.

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