

NEW YEAR'S PARTNER PLAYS

4 different levels

Teacher's guide

Grades 2-4

FROM ONE HAT TO ANOTHER



Cast
Houdini Hat
Harriett Hat

Setting: A New Year's Eve party at a nice restaurant. Each person is wearing a different party hat that they brought from home.

Houdini: [observing all of the other hats] My goodness, there are some odd hats here today.

Harriett: [patting her glitter] Well, they're all homemade. Everyone got to make their own hat for the day!

Houdini: That explains it. I'm not a homemade hat. I'm a fancy store-bought hat.

Harriett: Oh really? I thought everyone had to make one.

Houdini: That was probably the rule for the ordinary people. But John wears nothing but the best. I'm an antique party hat. I've sat on top of the head of some of the most important people in the country.

Harriett: [showing interest] Wow! I didn't know a party hat could be so fancy! Who have you belonged to?

Houdini: No one you would know.

Harriett: Why don't you tell me and we'll see if I know!

Houdini: Oh, fine. Once I spent New Year's Eve on Tyler Swoof's head.

Harriett: Oh, Kayce is the cutest! He's just so excited to be here! He's blowing noisemakers and dancing! Don't you like to dance?

Houdini: I don't like dancing like a four year old.

Harriett: It's so much fun! You just dance like no one is watching! Four year olds don't care what anybody thinks!

Houdini: That much is clear.

Harriett: Oh, loosen up, Houdini! Have a little fun!

Houdini: What do you mean? I'm having a great time. I'm sitting on top of the head of an important business person!

Harriett: [doubtful] You don't look like you're having fun. He doesn't either. He's sort of...bored.

Houdini: Well, maybe he is bored. It's not exactly our kind of party. We're used to more...class.

Harriett: Houdini, before the clock strikes midnight, I'm going to help you have fun!

Houdini: Please, don't try to help me. I'm perfectly happy as I am.

Harriett: [shaking and her glitter flies around the room.] I'm covered in glitter!

Houdini: I'm covered in glitter! Shake a little and see how you feel.

Harriett: I'll see about that.

Houdini: [shaking] You would you do this to me.

Harriett: Give a little wiggle! You've only got five minutes till midnight!

Houdini: I really won't leave me alone until you think I'm having fun.

Harriett: Live a little!

Houdini: [sway from side to side.] Now dance!

Harriett: [and beginning to dance] There. Are you happy now?

Houdini: Since I got here. The question is, are you happy now?

Harriett: I am! Thank you for helping me have fun time.

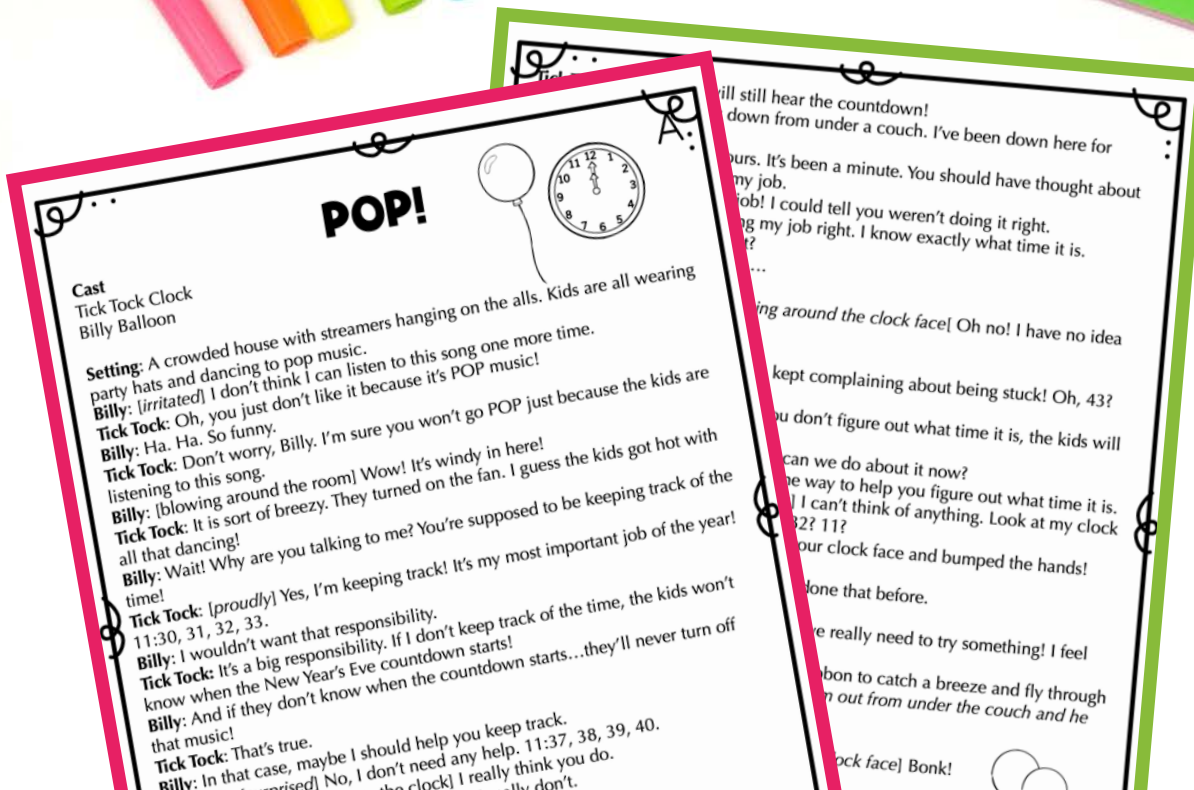


BUILD FLUENCY & COMPREHENSION WITH PARTNERS!

POP!



A balloon and a clock almost miss the New Year's countdown.



EACH PLAY IS WRITTEN AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL – DIFFERENTIATE!

FROM ONE HAT TO ANOTHER

Houdini and Harriett are two hats who disagree about how to spend New Year's Eve.



FROM ONE HAT TO ANOTHER

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Houdini: Oh, fine. Once I spent New Year's Eve on Tyler Swoof's head.

Harriett: Tyler Swoof! The amazing singer?

Houdini: That's the one.

Harriett: Amazing! Did he sing while he wore you?

Houdini: He did. We were at the New York New Year's Eve party and he was on tv. I knew a party hat could be on tv in front of the entire



IS IT TIME YET?



It's Teddy's job to entertain his little sister until the clock strikes midnight.



IS IT TIME YET?



Cast

Stassi, the little sister
Teddy, the big brother

Setting: Aunt Stephanie's living room for the New Year's Eve party

Teddy: Ok, Stassi. Aunt Stephanie said it's my job to entertain you until the countdown. She's busy with the party.
Stassi: The countdown?

Teddy: The New Year's Eve countdown! We're going to have ours a little early so we can go to bed before midnight.

Stassi: Ok! What are we going to do till then?

Teddy: I thought we could color some pictures and make a paper party hat.

Stassi: Is that all?

Teddy: Maybe we can make some snacks?

Stassi: I guess we can start with the snacks, but you're going to have to think of something better to entertain me.

Teddy: [rolls eyes] Thank you for that information, Stassi.

Stassi: No problem! Let's raid the fridge!
[Stassi and Teddy open the fridge and pull out ice cream, whipped cream, and chocolate sauce.]

Teddy: How many scoops, Stassi?

Stassi: One scoop for every hour that is left till the countdown.

Teddy: But that's four scoops! That's a lot of ice cream!

Stassi: Sounds like the perfect amount to me.

Teddy: How about two scoops of ice cream and a large amount of whipped cream on top?

Stassi: Fine, but I still need more entertainment.

Teddy: You finish that, we can make paper party hats!

Stassi: Sort of. [sets her bowl on the counter] Is it time yet?

Teddy: Not yet.

Stassi: Ok. What's next?

Teddy: Party hats!

[He takes out two pieces of paper, a stapler, stickers, and some glitter pens.]
Stassi: Ooooh, glitter pens! I'm coloring my entire hat in gold glitter!

Teddy: Use whatever colors you like! I'm going to use the stickers.
[Both kids start to decorate their hats.]

Stassi: Oh no! I'm out of gold ink!

Teddy: Well, why don't you try another color?

Stassi: Another color? How dare you! You know gold is my color!

Teddy: Stassi, it's not a big deal. It's just a paper party hat. You can use different colors.

Stassi: Do I need to ask Aunt Stephanie for help?

Teddy: No! I can figure it out. Let me see if I can find something else gold.

[Teddy digs through the junk drawer and pulls out a sheet of gold star stickers.]

Stassi: Yay! Gold! Ok, I've finished my hat. Is it time for the countdown yet?

[Looking at the clock] Well, not yet. But maybe we can color those pictures oned?

Teddy: I'm done coloring. Think of something else.

Stassi: We could do a puzzle?

Teddy: I'm not into puzzles right now. Next!

Stassi: Maybe we could play a game?

Teddy: Now you're talking. How about hide and seek?

Stassi: Hide and seek? I meant like a card game where we could just sit down and

Teddy: I want to play hide and seek! Not some boring old card game.

Stassi: I'll hide first.

Teddy: Yay! I'm hiding first! You count!

[Teddy runs out of the room.]

Stassi: One, two, three, four...

Teddy: I'm counting to 20 and begins to search.]

Stassi: I'm in the kitchen. Not in the dining room. Not in the laundry room, either.

Teddy: anywhere, Stassi! Come out, come out, wherever you are!

[Teddy goes to the guest bedroom to see Stassi asleep on the bed.]

Stassi: I was just too tired to make it to the countdown!

Teddy: I was here with her for a minute until... [snores]

Stassi: And, the countdown has begun. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Happy New Year!



EACH PLAY IS WRITTEN AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL – DIFFERENTIATE!

MIDNIGHT MISHAP



When the clock stops working, Kayden and Nicole have to figure out how to keep track of time.

MIDNIGHT MISHAP

Cast
Nicole
Kayden

Setting: Nicole's living room. Balloons and streamers are everywhere and the kids are wearing festive clothing.

Nicole: I can't believe it's almost next year!

Kayden: I know! A new year. Same class, but still, a new year.

Nicole: Kayden, how much time do we have left till the countdown?

Kayden: Let me check. [Pauses and looks at the clock hanging on the wall.] Wait. We still have an hour? That doesn't seem right. We had an hour left the last time I checked!

Nicole: [looking at the clock] That's weird. Wait! Is the second hand moving at all?

Kayden: [Getting really close to the clock to examine the second hand.] Oh no! It's not working! It stopped completely!

Nicole: Oh Kayden! What are we going to do? We have all these people here to celebrate the new year and we won't even know when it is happening!

Kayden: Let's figure this out. We can probably use other things to tell time, right? I checked the clock and there was an hour left, so let's say maybe three minutes have passed?

Nicole: So we have 57 minutes left till the new year!

Kayden: Yes, so how will we know when those 57 minutes have passed?

Nicole: [A light bulb goes off in her brain.] Ok, Kayden, I've never told you this, but you know Furball?

Kayden: Furball your hamster?

Nicole: Yes! Furball my hamster is a time-keeping genius.

Kayden: What on Earth are you talking about?

Nicole: Furball! Furball the hamster! He is a time-keeping genius! I have been training him to run laps in his hamster ball.

Kayden: What does that have to do with the midnight countdown?

Nicole: Well, it takes him exactly ten minutes to race around the entire house in his hamster ball.

Kayden: So we can use him to tell time, right now?



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HOW TO USE THESE PLAYS!

BELL
RINGER

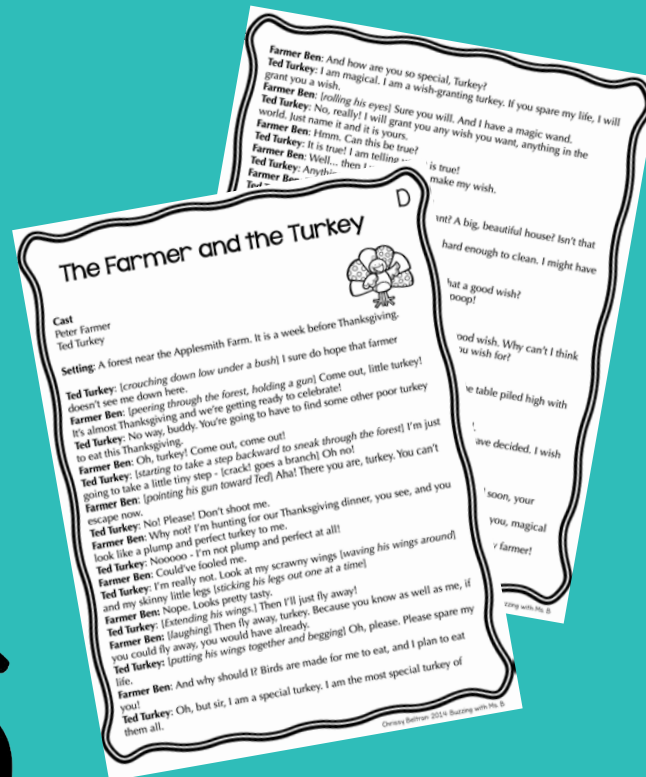
SMALL GROUP
WARMUP

DAILY
WARM-UP

FLUENCY
READ

CENTER
OR STATION

CLASS PARTY
OR FUN DAY



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