

A TWINKL ORIGINAL

Away in a Spaceship



twinkl

twinkl
Quality Standard
Approved

Away in a Spaceship

A Christmas Play for Key Stage 2

Length: 45-60 minutes

Characters

Aliens

Bop*
Fizz*
Captain Zap*
Commander Buzz

Community

Ethel**
Mum*
Dad*
Salesperson
Mayor
Guest 1
Guest 2
Postal Worker
Betty

School

Teacher**
Tim*
Evie*
Child 1*
Child 2*
Child 3*

Non-speaking parts

2+ shepherds
3 wise men
Stable animals (optional)
Elf
Schoolchildren*
Choir (which consists of all the children not currently on stage)

Nativity

Narrator 1
Narrator 2
Angel
Mary
Joseph
Innkeeper

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Characters by Number of Lines

* sing in a group

** sing solo

Bop*	66
Captain Zap*	53
Fizz*	50
Tim*	26
Ethel**	23
Evie*	22
Teacher**	17
Commander Buzz	15
Child 1*	10
Child 2*	10
Child 3*	9
Dad*	7
Mum*	7
Guest 1	6
Narrator 2	6
Mayor	5
Guest 2	5
Narrator 1	4

Postal Worker	3
Angel	2
Mary	1
Joseph	1
Innkeeper	1
Salesperson	1
Betty	1
2+ shepherds	0
3 wise men	0
Elf	0
Schoolchildren*	0
Stable animals (optional)	0

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Characters by Scene

SCENE 1 The Alien Spaceship	CAPTAIN ZAP, FIZZ, COMMANDER BUZZ, BOP
SCENE 2 The Town Hall	BOP, FIZZ, ZAP, TEACHER, CHILD 1, CHILD 2, CHILD 3, TIM, EVIE
SCENE 3 The Alien's First Theory	FIZZ, BOP, ZAP
SCENE 4 Tim and Evie's Home	EVIE, TIM, FIZZ, BOP, ZAP, MUM, DAD
SCENE 5 The Aliens' Second Theory	FIZZ, BOP, ZAP, COMMANDER BUZZ
SCENE 6 The Nativity Play	NARRATOR 1, ANGEL, MARY, NARRATOR 2, JOSEPH, INNKEEPER, TEACHER
SCENE 7 The Alien's Third Theory	ZAP, FIZZ, BOP
SCENE 8 25 Gabriel Street	ZAP, FIZZ, BOP, ETHEL, POSTAL WORKER, CHILD 3, BETTY, MUM/TIM/DAD/EVIE, SALESPERSON
SCENE 9 The Aliens Crack the Case	MAYOR, ETHEL, CHILD 3, TEACHER, ZAP, FIZZ, BOP, GUEST 1, GUEST 2, TIM, EVIE, CHILD 1
SCENE 10 The Community Christmas Celebration	FIZZ, BOP, COMMANDER BUZZ, ZAP
SCENE 11 Final Report	FIZZ, BOP, COMMANDER BUZZ, ZAP

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Contents

Scene 1 The Alien Spaceship (small stage)	5
Scene 2 The Town Hall (main stage)	8
Scene 3 The Aliens' First Theory	12
Scene 4 Tim and Evie's Home (main stage)	13
Scene 5 The Aliens' Second Theory	18
Scene 6 The Nativity Play	20
Scene 7 The Aliens' Third Theory	23
Scene 8 25 Gabriel Street	25
Scene 9 The Aliens Crack the Case	30
Scene 10 The Community Christmas Celebration	34
Scene 11 Final Report (the spaceship)	39

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 1 – The Alien Spaceship (small stage)

LIGHTS UP on the stage.

The main action takes place on the central stage. The CHOIR (made up of all the children not currently on stage) are seated either on the left and right of the stage, or directly in front of the stage on a lower level. They join in with songs and reactions.

To one side¹ is a small staging area where three ALIENS gather around the controls of a spaceship. FIZZ and BOP stand while CAPTAIN ZAP lounges on the command chair¹. The spaceship will be visible to the audience at all times, as will the ALIENS.

In the spaceship, CAPTAIN ZAP stands with underlings FIZZ and BOP. FIZZ carries a tablet device² which can be used to both make notes and search for records; BOP stands at the controls¹; CAPTAIN ZAP carries a walkie-talkie. Three pairs of ZOGs² are concealed e.g. under the command chair. COMMANDER BUZZ is seated in the CHOIR and remains there throughout.

Backdrop on main stage should show Earth as seen from space.

Song 1: Away in a Spaceship

To the tune of 'Away in a Manger'

CHOIR:

Away in a spaceship,
Flying far out in space,
Three aliens heard rumours
Of the strange human race.

The stars in the bright sky
Watched over their flight,
As their ship sped to Earth on
A cold, wintry night.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Stand by for orders from the Commander.

COMMANDER BUZZ stands up from a seat in the CHOIR and speaks into a walkie-talkie².

COMMANDER BUZZ: Commander Buzz speaking. Captain Zap, do you copy?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Captain Zap reporting for duty, Commander. I'm here aboard the Spaceship Starshine with underlings Fizz and Bop. What are your orders, Commander?

As *COMMANDER BUZZ* speaks, *FIZZ* makes furious notes on the tablet and *BOP* begins to adjust the controls¹.

COMMANDER BUZZ: We've detected unusual activity in a galaxy known as the Milky Way. The Earthlings have taken a strange interest in sparkly lights, Brussels sprouts and – what was it? Ah, yes – really big socks.

ZAP, FIZZ and BOP: Really big socks?

COMMANDER BUZZ: They call them 'stockings'. I don't like it one bit, Zap. I need you and your crew to investigate.

CAPTAIN ZAP: (*muttering*) Not another pointless mission to an unimportant planet.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Sorry, Captain? I didn't quite catch that.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Nothing! We're on our way to Earth, Commander. Over and out.

COMMANDER BUZZ sits down.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop, plot a course for the Milky Way. Fizz, what can you tell us about this 'Earth' place?

FIZZ: (*looking at tablet*) Earth is one of eight planets which orbit a star known as 'the Sun'. Earth is twelve thousand, seven hundred and forty-two kilometres wide and rotates at four hundred and sixty metres per second. It is inhabited by many species including homo sapiens, or humans, which –

BOP: (*interrupting, pointing to the screen¹, or else to the audience*) Is that Earth, there?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Where?

BOP: That small, blue planet with the swirly clouds.

CAPTAIN ZAP: (*unimpressed*) Blue? Who'd want to live on a planet that's blue?

BOP: (*sighing happily*) It's beeeea-uuutiful.

FIZZ: Here. The Commander has supplied us with very latest Zoom Optical Goggle technology, or ZOGs. These will enable us to observe the humans from the safety of our spaceship.

FIZZ passes a pair of strangely shaped spectacles – ZOGs² – to BOP and CAPTAIN ZAP. The three aliens peer through their ZOGs towards the audience.

CAPTAIN ZAP: What are all those scuttling things? With the bendy arms and legs and the fluffy heads?

FIZZ: Those are humans: a bipedal ape-like species.

BOP: They're so *cute*.

FIZZ: Bop, you think everything's cute. Even moonslugs.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Prepare landing protocols and hold on tight.
We're heading to Earth!

The ALIENS brace themselves by holding on to the stage or each other, as the CHOIR shake in their seats to signal that they are speeding towards planet Earth. Percussion instruments could be used to signify the ship's engines.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should change to the Town Hall.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 2 – The Town Hall (main stage)

LIGHTS UP.

In the town hall, a group of CHILDREN including CHILD 1, CHILD 2 and CHILD 3 move about carrying boxes of decorations², hanging tinsel and stars and sometimes messing around. Everything is being done silently. A TEACHER supervises, carrying a clipboard² and miming orders. This is an opportunity for a child to have fun impersonating a teacher from their own school. The ALIENS watch the main stage from their spaceship.

BOP: (staring, amazed) What is this place?

FIZZ: (looking at tablet) This is [location of school], a human settlement.

BOP: It's amazing! But where are all the you-mans?

FIZZ: They're all inside, hiding from the cold. But look – there's a lot of activity coming from the – (pauses to look at the tablet) – 'town hall', over there. Do I detect sparkly lights?

The children stop miming and begin to speak aloud.

CHILD 1: (looking in the box) Are there any more paper chains?

TEACHER More paper chains? I can barely see the ceiling for paper chains!

CHILD 1: (looking at the stage) Yes, but I want to make the town hall as Christmassy as possible. What about tinsel? Do you think it needs more tinsel?

CHILD 2: [Name of teacher], everyone keeps sticking decorations to my back when I'm not looking.

CHILDREN: No, we don't!

CHILD 2: Yes, they do – look!

CHILD 2 turns around – there are lots of glittery decorations stuck to the back of their jumper.²

- TEACHER:** Right, if you can't be sensible, I'll send you home. Decorating the town hall is meant to be a treat for the best-behaved children in the whole school. We need everything looking nice for Christmas Day.
- FIZZ:** (*interested*) Christmas Day?
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** (*suspicious*) Christmas Day?
- BOP:** (*excited*) Christmas Day!
- TEACHER:** Now, what do you say?
- CHILDREN:** (*droning chorus*) Sorry.
- TEACHER:** All that's missing now is the Christmas tree.
- CHILD 1:** The town hall is going to look so lovely for everyone who comes, isn't it? And they're going to be serving free Christmas dinner to everyone who comes, aren't they?
- CHILD 2:** Free Christmas dinner? Can *we* come?
- TEACHER:** You *are* coming! Or have you all forgotten that the school choir will be here to sing Christmas carols?
- CHILD 3:** I've never had a Christmas dinner before.
- CHILD 2:** (*appalled*) Never had a Christmas dinner?
- CHILD 3:** (*politely*) My family doesn't celebrate Christmas.
- CHILD 2:** Well, you'd be very welcome. It's a real treat! Roast turkey and thick gravy, potatoes and parsnips, pigs in blankets... not Brussels sprouts, though.
- CHILD 1:** Ugh! Brussels sprouts!
- ALIENS:** Ooh! Brussels sprouts!
- TEACHER:** (Looking around) Where have Tim and Evie got to with that tree? They can't have got lost on the way to the store cupboard.

The CHILDREN continue to put up decorations.

CAPTAIN ZAP: What's all this about a tree?

FIZZ: *(reading from the tablet)* Humans use trees to make furniture such as chairs, tables and bookcases. Additionally, they use tree pulp to make paper, which they use to write on and to wipe their –

CHILDREN: *(shouting)* The Christmas tree!

FIZZ is interrupted as TIM and EVIE enter, clutching an undecorated Christmas tree².

TEACHER: Evie! Tim! What took you so long?

TIM: *(flustered)* The cupboard was full of costumes for the drama club and Evie had to try them all on.

EVIE: I only tried on one dress! And by the time I'd finished, Tim was practising magic tricks with the bridge club's playing cards.

TEACHER: Well, let's get this tree decorated quickly and get back to school. *(looking towards a window)* It looks like snow!

CHILDREN: *(gasp)* Snowball fight!

TIM: *(searching pockets)* I've lost my gloves.

EVIE: Oh, Tim. Again?

TIM: It's not like I lose them on purpose!

TEACHER: Perhaps Father Christmas needs to put some new ones in your stocking.

TIM: But I don't want woolly gloves. I want white magician's gloves...

EVIE: *(rolling eyes)* Here we go again.

TIM: *(dreamily)* ...and a top hat and a magic wand and a rabbit so I can put on my very own magic show.

EVIE: He won't stop going on about it!

TEACHER: I think that sounds like a lovely Christmas present.

CHILD 1: Can we decorate the tree now?

TEACHER: Absolutely!

As they sing, they take out decorations – including fairy lights² – from the box and hang them on the tree.

Song 2: Fairy Lights

To the tune of 'Jingle Bells'

CHILDREN: Gold and silver stars,
And Santa on his sleigh,
Chocolates wrapped in foil,
Jesus in the hay.

TEACHER: This snowman's lost its head,
(holding up decorations) This bauble's lost its string,
These fairy lights are tied in knots,
This angel has no wings!

CHOIR: *Oh! Fairy lights, baubles bright,
Gold and sparkly.
Oh, what fun it is to hang
The tinsel on the tree!
Oh! Fairy lights, baubles bright,
Gold and sparkly.
Oh, what fun it is to hang
The tinsel on the tree!*

CHILDREN & TEACHER: We decorate the tree
To make the town hall bright
With baubles, stars and bells,
And twinkling fairy lights.

Now we're nearly done,
Our tree is looking neat.
We put an angel on the top
And now our tree's complete.

CHOIR: *Repeat chorus*

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should be replaced by Earth as seen from space.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 3 – The Aliens' First Theory (small stage)

LIGHTS UP.

The ALIENS remove their ZOGs to discuss the humans.

- FIZZ:** That's strange. The humans didn't use that tree to make chairs or tables. They didn't even use it to wipe their –
- BOP:** But, they did cover it in sparkly lights! Perhaps this is what Commander Buzz wanted us to report back on.
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** Is it some kind of communication device? A satellite? It all seems very illogical to me...
- FIZZ:** It might be some kind of ritual.
- BOP:** Maybe they eat them.
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** The little humans sang something about Santa 'slaying' people. You don't think they're preparing for war, do you?
- FIZZ:** I've never known a species prepare for war with trees and sparkly lights before, but there's a first time for everything...
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** The humans could be planning something nasty. Something devastating. We must find out all about Christmas Day...

LIGHTS DOWN.

Backdrop on main stage should change to Tim and Evie's home.

Scene 4 – Tim and Evie’s Home (main stage)

Two empty stockings hang at the back of the stage. On one side of the stage is the decorated tree² and on the other are several bags of Christmas shopping². ELF, a toy elf, stands at the back, keeping completely still and staring blankly into the distance.

EVIE: Come on, Tim. I just know Mum and Dad have hidden the Christmas chocolate in here.

TIM: Evie, I don’t want to!

EVIE: Why not?

TIM: *(pointing at the elf)* The elf will report everything we say to Santa Claus! What if the elf tells Santa that we’ve been naughty and Santa decides not to give us any presents?

EVIE: *(staring at the elf, who looks straight ahead)* But it’s only a little bit of chocolate... the elf won’t really tell Santa, will it?

TIM: That’s the whole reason the elf has come to visit, Evie. To spy on us!

TIM and EVIE peer at the ELF while the ALIENS are talking.

CAPTAIN ZAP: A spy in the home? I knew it. These humans have an enemy. A terrifying creature called the Santa.

FIZZ: *(making claws with hands)* With claws!

BOP: I thought they said that Santa Claus gave them presents?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Aren’t you listening, Bop? They’re terrified!

EVIE: *(to TIM)* I don’t care.

EVIE turns to the ELF.

EVIE: It’s only a chocolate or two. We both know that Santa won’t mind, don’t we, Mr Elf?

She marches towards the bags, but as she reaches them, MUM and DAD enter, talking and carrying wrapping paper, scissors and tape.

EVIE: Hide!

The children run and crouch behind the Christmas tree¹.

MUM: We'd better get these last few presents wrapped before the big day. Have you got the wrapping paper?

DAD: Check.

MUM: Sticky tape?

DAD: Check.

MUM: Scissors?

DAD: Check.

MUM: I think that's everything. You wrap the one for Tim's teacher; I'll wrap the one for Evie's.

They each pick up a bag of presents² and begin to wrap the contents.

Song 3: Have You Wrapped the Christmas Sweaters?

To the tune of 'Deck the Halls'

MUM and DAD: Have you wrapped the Christmas sweaters?
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Fluffy socks are even better.
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Silver bracelets, shiny locket,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Toys and games and sweets and chocolates,
Fa la la la la la la la la.

CHOIR Don't forget the Christmas Turkey,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Nut roast if we're feeling quirky,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Brussels sprouts and pigs in blankets,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Make for quite a festive banquet,
Fa la la la la la la la la.

CHOIR

Hot mince pies for Father Christmas,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 He'll get pie crumbs in his whiskers,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Crunchy carrots for his reindeer,
Fa la la la la la la la la.
 Make sure that they visit next year,
Fa la la la la la la la la.

EVIE: *(peering from her hiding spot)* Can you see the chocolates?

TIM: Shush, Evie! They'll hear you.

DAD: *(sighing)* I'm sure there was something that Tim really wanted for Christmas. But I can't remember what it was.

BOP: *(excited)* Ooh! I know what it was!

EVIE: *(to TIM)* Ouch! You're standing on my foot!

TIM: Quiet! The elf!

During the following conversation, the PARENTS keep wrapping and the CHILDREN peep out from behind the tree, EVIE with curiosity, TIM hardly bearing to look.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Cadets! We can't stand by while these poor humans suffer at the hands of The Santa. This spy must be eliminated. *(turning to FIZZ)* Fizz, I want you to go in there and take out that elf.

BOP: *(waving hand in the air)* I'll do it!

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(facing FIZZ, ignoring BOP)* I know I can trust you, Fizz.

BOP: Don't worry, I'm on it, Captain!

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(horrificed)* No, Bop!

BOP flings off the ZOGs, leaps from the spaceship and sneaks towards the ELF. Quickly, BOP pulls the ELF from the stage.

DAD: (without looking round) Did you hear something?

Panicked, BOP puts on the ELF's hat and sits in the ELF's spot, in exactly the same pose. MUM and DAD turn to look. On the spaceship, FIZZ and CAPTAIN ZAP look horrified.

DAD: I must have imagined it.

The PARENTS turn away and BOP sighs, wiping forehead.

MUM: Right, that's all the presents wrapped. Let's store these under the tree.

She stands back to admire the tree and stockings.

MUM: Doesn't it all look lovely? I can't wait to see the children's faces on Christmas morning when Santa Claus has filled their stockings with presents.

The parents deposit the presents under the tree and exit, taking the remaining props with them.

FIZZ: So that's what the really big socks are for! What strange creatures these humans are...

TIM and EVIE creep out from behind the tree.

EVIE: That was close.

TIM: Too close. Evie, the elf is going to report us to Santa Claus. He'll know we've been naughty children!

BOP: (hissing) Psst! Over here.

EVIE and TIM slowly turn to look at BOP with identical looks of horror on their faces.

BOP: Don't worry! I'm not going to report you. I'm a rebel elf.

TIM: A rebel elf? You mean you refuse to make toys for Santa's sleigh?

BOP: (horrified) I won't slay anyone! Violence is totally unnecessary.

- EVIE:** *(laughing)* Not that the kind of 'sleigh'. He means the giant sledge pulled through the air by magical reindeer. *(seeing BOP's confused face)* That's how Santa Claus delivers presents to children all over the world on Christmas Eve.
- TIM:** Are you quite new to being an elf?
- BOP:** *(hesitant)* Er... you could say that.
- TIM:** I thought so. Don't worry, you'll get the hang of it. The most important thing is to make sure that each boy and girl gets the present they want most in the whole wide world.
- BOP:** Ohhh! Like your top hat and magician's gloves?
- TIM:** Exactly! See? You're already doing a good job of being an elf.
- EVIE:** *(excited)* Do me, next! What do I want?
- BOP:** *(flustered)* Er... oh! I've just received a message from Santa Claus. He wants me aboard the sleigh at once. Must go. Over and out.

BOP exits. TIM and EVIE shrug at each other.

EVIE: What a strange elf.

TIM and EVIE exit.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should be replaced with Earth as seen from space.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 5 – The Aliens’ Second Theory

LIGHTS UP.

BOP sneaks aboard the spaceship, still wearing the ELF’s green hat. CAPTAIN ZAP and FIZZ remove their ZOGs. CAPTAIN ZAP looks furious.

BOP: That was so much fun!

CAPTAIN ZAP: Fun? It was a disaster!

BOP: I found out lots of useful information about Santa, didn’t I?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Hmph!

COMMANDER BUZZ stands up and begins to speak, making the ALIENS jump.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Commander Buzz speaking. Captain Zap, do you copy?

The ALIENS listen, staring at the walkie-talkie, and CAPTAIN ZAP speaks over the walkie-talkie.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Hearing you loud and clear, Commander.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Please report your findings on planet Earth.

CAPTAIN ZAP: We believe Earth to be in grave danger, Commander.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Danger? What sort of danger?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Cadet Bop has infiltrated the human dwelling and received intelligence of an enemy called Santa Claus.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Santa Claus?

CAPTAIN ZAP: This monster is said to ride a fearsome vehicle called a ‘slay’. Children tremble in their homes, afraid that he will snatch their presents away in the night...

BOP: That’s not what Tim and Evie said...

COMMANDER BUZZ: And you said that this vehicle slays people?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Precisely. I'm worried for the humans' safety, Commander.
Permission to formulate a plan?

COMMANDER BUZZ: Permission granted. I knew I could count on you, Zap.
Over and out.

COMMANDER BUZZ sits down.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Finally! Some action! Perhaps this mission to Earth won't be so boring after all. Now, let's try to find this Santa Claus and his so-called 'slay'.

FIZZ: Before you do that, Captain, you might want to look at this. *(looking at tablet)* I'm receiving intelligence of even stranger goings-on at the local school.

CAPTAIN ZAP: What is it this time?

FIZZ: It's most peculiar. All the adults are sitting on one side of the room, in the dark, and all the children are at the other end of the room, wearing strange clothes and pretending to be animals.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop, can you navigate to the local school please?

BOP: Yes, Captain.

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(to Fizz)* But what has it got to do with Christmas?

FIZZ: Don't worry, Captain. I'm going to search the record archives. We'll get to the bottom of this.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should change to the Nativity Play.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 6 – The Nativity Play

LIGHTS UP.

At the school, the CHILDREN are performing a traditional nativity. The ANGEL, INNKEEPER, SHEPHERDS, WISE MEN and STABLE ANIMALS stand either side of the stage, waiting for their cue. The CHOIR could turn to watch as if part of the audience, as the children on stage act out the story. MARY and JOSEPH sleep while the NARRATORS stand upstage, telling the story. The NARRATORS could be given printed lines to read from.

NARRATOR 1: Long ago and far away, there lived a young lady called Mary in the town of Nazareth. One night, she saw an angel in a dream.

The ANGEL appears.

NARRATOR 1: The angel had amazing news.

ANGEL: Mary, you are going to have a baby, and that baby will be the Son of God.

The ANGEL exits. MARY gasps and wakes JOSEPH.

MARY: Joseph, wake up! I've had the most amazing dream.

NARRATOR 2: Soon, Mary and her husband Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem.

MARY and JOSEPH get up and walk around the stage. The INNKEEPER enters.

NARRATOR 2: The city was bustling with travellers, who had all journeyed to pay their taxes. Mary and Joseph searched and searched for a place to stay...

MARY and JOSEPH cross the stage and knock on a door.

JOSEPH: Is there any room at the inn?

NARRATOR 2: ...but wherever they went, they were told the same thing:

INNKEEPER: (*wagging finger*) No, there's no room at the inn!

The INNKEEPER puts a manger² and doll in the centre of the stage and exits.

NARRATOR 1: Instead, they slept in a stable among the animals. That night, baby Jesus was born. There was no crib or basket in the stable, so Mary laid him in a manger of hay.

MARY carefully lifts the doll from the manger and cradles it. Children without speaking parts could be dressed as STABLE ANIMALS to signify the stable and gather around the manger.

NARRATOR 2: Nearby, some shepherds were watching their sheep when an angel appeared with a message.

Two or three SHEPHERDS enter downstage left. They gasp in shock as the ANGEL appears.

ANGEL: A saviour has been born! You will find him in a stable in Bethlehem.

NARRATOR 2: The shepherds hurried to the stable to see baby Jesus.

The SHEPHERDS cross to the manger and kneel. Three WISE MEN enter downstage right, carrying gold, frankincense and myrrh², and point out towards the sky.

NARRATOR 1: Meanwhile, in the east, three wise men saw a star in the sky. They knew that the star meant that a king had been born so they followed the star until they reached the stable. There, they gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The WISE MEN approach the manger and kneel, offering gifts.

NARRATOR 2: Long ago and far away, the rich and the poor gathered to celebrate Jesus's birth – and that's why we gather each year to celebrate on Christmas Day.

Song 3: Silent Night

*Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night!
 Shepherds quake at the sight.
 Glories stream from heaven afar,
 Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
 Christ the Savior is born,
 Christ the Savior is born.*

Alternatively, choose a favourite nativity carol to sing such as 'O Little Town of Bethlehem' or 'Once in Royal David's City'.

The CHOIR applauds as the CHILDREN bow. TEACHER enters and speaks directly to the audience.

TEACHER: Weren't they magnificent?

The CHOIR cheers.

TEACHER: If you enjoyed our Nativity, don't forget that the school choir will be singing at the Community Christmas Celebration at the town hall on Christmas Day. Everyone is welcome! Now, can we have one last big round of applause for the talented children of [school name]?

Wait for applause. Exit all on main stage.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should change to Earth as seen from space.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 7 – The Aliens' Third Theory

LIGHTS UP.

In the spaceship, the ALIENS remove their ZOGs.

CAPTAIN ZAP: What was all that about?

FIZZ: Just a moment – where are those old files? – ah, here we go! I knew the word Christmas sounded familiar. (*reading from tablet*) “Observations of Earth by the crew of the Lightracer. Christmas is a major celebration in Earth’s calendar, during which Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Children sometimes tell the story of his birth in Nativity plays at Christmas time.”

BOP: So it’s a sort of festival?

FIZZ: Exactly! Apparently, Jesus was born over two thousand years ago! That’s a lot of birthdays.

BOP: You mean Christmas is a giant birthday party? Captain, can we join in? Please? Can we? I love presents. And party food.

CAPTAIN ZAP: (*suspicious*) Fizz, are you really trying to tell me that this isn’t some dangerous war between tree-wielding humans and a man in a flying sleigh?

FIZZ: Far from it, Captain.

BOP puts the ZOGs back on and watches the stage in amazement.

BOP: Where has everyone gone?

FIZZ: It’s night time, Bop. Humans go to sleep at night.

BOP: What, all of them?

FIZZ: Yes, Bop.

CAPTAIN ZAP:

Sleeping? At a time like this? I know you think this is all some sort of party, Fizz, but I'm not so sure. I can't stop thinking about this Santa Claus, captain of a ship he calls 'Slay', flying through the night and sneaking into houses... I'm going to think tactics.

BOP takes off the ZOGs and sits down, sulking. FIZZ sits down to read the tablet and CAPTAIN ZAP sits down and thinks deeply.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should change to 25 Gabriel Street.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 8 – 25 Gabriel Street

LIGHTS UP.

CAPTAIN ZAP has fallen asleep. FIZZ is reading a book entitled 'GREAT APES: Essential Facts for Curious Minds'. BOP has put the ZOGs back on and sits on the edge of the stage, staring at the audience, enraptured.

Gabriel Street is quiet street of terraced houses. ETHEL lives at number 25. In her house are no decorations but a small table, among any other furnishings possible.

BOP: Fizz?

FIZZ: *(without looking up from the book)* Yes, Bop?

BOP: *(eagerly)* Is it morning yet?

FIZZ: *(sighing)* No, Bop.

Pause.

BOP: Fizz?

FIZZ: Yes, Bop?

BOP: What about now?

FIZZ sighs and replies with a shake of the head. There is a pause, then the POSTAL WORKER begins to whistle offstage.

BOP: *(worried, staring at the back of the hall)* Fizz?

FIZZ: Yes, Bop?

BOP: There's something coming over the horizon.

FIZZ: *(still engrossed in the book)* What sort of thing?

BOP: *(panicking)* Like a big, glowing ball of fire.

FIZZ: *(without looking up, as if speaking to a toddler)*
That's the sun, Bop.

BOP: *(relieved)* Ohhh! The sun!

The *POSTAL WORKER* crosses the stage, carrying a postbag. They then walk around the hall and give out Christmas cards² to the *CHOIR* and audience as they pass. Meanwhile, *CHILD 3* enters in coat and gloves, putting up posters up which say:

**Community Christmas Celebration
Town Hall
Christmas Day
2 p.m.**

POSTAL WORKER: Good morning!

CHILD 3: Good morning!

POSTAL WORKER: What's this all about, then?

CHILD 3: It's the Community Christmas Celebration tomorrow at the town hall. There's going to be food and presents and carols! Everyone's welcome.

POSTAL WORKER: Perhaps I'll pop by.

The *POSTAL WORKER* whistles and exits, delivering the remaining cards and leaving three on the stage. *CHILD 3* exits, leaving a poster² stuck up near the entrance to the stage. *CAPTAIN ZAP* wakes up.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Did someone say 'morning'?

FIZZ snaps the book shut.

FIZZ: Morning! Goggles on, back to work.

The *ALIENS* all put on their *ZOGs* and stare at the stage.

BOP: Look at all those pointy red things down there.

FIZZ: You mean houses?

BOP: Yeah! They've all got sparkly lights and trees inside, and really big socks, too!

ETHEL enters in a nightgown with a handkerchief in the pocket, yawning and carrying a cup of tea². She picks up the three cards.

FIZZ: Not all of them. Look at that house, there – number twenty-five. There are no lights, there's no tree, and not a single sock to be seen.

BOP: How strange. I wonder why not...

ETHEL: (*sorting through the cards*) Now, let's see. Who has sent a card this year? This one's from Betty! How's my little sister getting on?

Each card² is read aloud by the sender standing up from the CHOIR. ETHEL opens the first card.

BETTY: My dear Ethel,
Season's Greetings!
I'll be thinking of you as I jet off to Spain to join the grandchildren for Christmas. I hope I don't get lost on the way to the villa!
All my love,
Betty

BETTY sits down.

ETHEL: Betty always did like jetting off to places – and she was always getting lost, too! I'll never forget the Christmas we went to the Alps, and Betty wandered off. The search and rescue were out looking for three days, and then she strolled back in, wearing a tinsel scarf and asking what was for supper.

Now, what about this one? (*opening the second card*) Oh, it's from the Bell family. They're very thoughtful. They always send a card.

MUM, DAD, TIM and EVIE stand up in the CHOIR.

**MUM, DAD,
TIM & EVIE:** Dear Ethel,

DAD: Merry Christmas and a Ho Ho Ho Happy New Year!

MUM: It's a big year for the children – they're both in year six and working very hard! We hope that you are enjoying the festive season.

EVIE & TIM: Love from Mr and Mrs Bell, Evie and Tim.

MUM, DAD, TIM and EVIE sit down.

ETHEL: Year six, already? It seems like only yesterday that I visited the Bells for a Christmas party and Evie and Tim were running around the Christmas tree in nappies. And now they're in year six...

ETHEL dabs her eyes with her handkerchief, suddenly emotional.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Why are these humans writing nonsense messages to each other inside folded bits of tree? (*waving the walkie-talkie*) Are their communicators malfunctioning? It doesn't seem sensible to me.

BOP: It doesn't need to be sensible if it's fun.

ETHEL pulls herself together and opens the third card.

ETHEL: Right. One more card. I wonder who it could be from?

SALESPERSON: Dear Resident,
Forgotten your stockings? Is your stock cupboard missing mince pies? Don't forget to do all your Christmas shopping at the [*town name*] Christmas Village! Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

SALESPERSON sits down.

ETHEL: (*sighing*) Well, at least it's one more card for the collection.

ETHEL places her three Christmas cards beside her cup of tea and gazes at them.

ETHEL: At least that cheers the place up a bit. After all, there's no sense putting up Christmas decorations if you've no one to share them with. Oh, Ethel, listen to you – nattering to yourself again. (*sighs*) Still, it gets very lonely, especially at Christmas...

Song 5: When I Was a Little Girl*To the tune of 'Good King Wenceslas'***ETHEL:**

When I was a little girl, I
 Woke on Christmas morning
 To the sound of chiming bells,
 Snowflakes softly falling.
 Rush downstairs to see the tree
 With its candles twinkling.
 Betty, Ma and Pa and me,
 Altogether singing.

ETHEL & CHOIR:

Roast potatoes, brussels sprouts,
 Dad pouring the gravy.
 Cracker pops and cheerful shouts,
 Presents for the baby.
 What did Father Christmas bring?
 Stockings overflowing.
 Brand new dresses, dazzling rings,
 Happy faces glowing.

*The song slows down.***CHOIR/SOLOIST:**

Now that she is old and grey,
 Waking Christmas morning,
 Just another lonely day,
 Watching snowflakes falling.
 Who will share their Christmas fare?
 Who will pour the gravy?
 Is there anybody there,
 To help a lonely lady?

*ETHEL exits with her cup of tea.***LIGHTS DOWN.**¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 9 – The Aliens Crack the Case

LIGHTS UP.

- FIZZ:** *(thinking)* Christmas trees, turkey, presents, stockings. Yes, yes, it's all coming together. The twinkling lights go on the tree and the presents go under it.
- BOP:** *(staring at the main stage)* Fizz?
- FIZZ:** *(looking at the tablet and scratching head)* Do the stockings go with the turkey somehow? No, that doesn't seem right... Why are the pigs wrapped in blankets?
- BOP:** *(prodding Fizz)* Fizz!
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** Not now, Bop – Fizz is on the verge of putting it all together.
- BOP:** *(pointing to the main stage)* But don't you see?
- FIZZ & CAPTAIN ZAP:** See what?
- BOP:** None of that matters. She's lonely.
- FIZZ & CAPTAIN ZAP:** Lonely?
- BOP:** At Christmas! Don't you realise? Christmas is all about people coming together and celebrating. But Ethel doesn't have anyone to celebrate with. We have to help her!
- CAPTAIN ZAP:** Bop! I don't see what that has to do with our mission. We're here to study the humans, not cheer up old ladies.
- BOP:** But it's Christmas, Captain! Why can't we help Ethel have a nice Christmas like everyone else?
- FIZZ:** How can we help her, Bop? We're not even from this planet!
- BOP:** I have a plan.

The ALIENS gather around BOP.

BOP: First we... (*mumbling*) ...then we... (*mumbling*) ...and finally we... (*mumbling*).

They break apart.

BOP: So, what are we waiting for?

BOP puts on the elf hat.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop, are you sure this is going to work?

BOP: It'll be easy! Just do exactly what I told you to do.

The ALIENS all hurry off stage in opposite directions. Moments later, they hurry back clutching fairy lights, a stocking, a bag of sprouts and some Christmas crackers. FIZZ and CAPTAIN ZAP are wearing makeshift elf hats fashioned from unusual objects such as tea cosies.

BOP: Got everything?

FIZZ and CAPTAIN ZAP nod.

BOP: Then, let the next phase of the plan commence.

The ALIENS walks up to ETHEL's house and BOP knocks on the door¹.

ETHEL: Hello? Oh! Who are you?

FIZZ: We are Santa's elves.

ETHEL: Santa's elves?

CAPTAIN ZAP: You have heard of the Santa Claus, yes?

ETHEL: Of course. I've just never had a visit from his elves before.

The ALIENS march past her so that they are surrounding her on the stage.

FIZZ: It's a new service that Santa is offering. We've come to bring you Christmas cheer.

The music for Song 6 begins to play.

ETHEL: Well, that's very kind, but –

The ALIENS have already taken their places and the song is starting. During the song, the ALIENS present ETHEL with the various items, draping the fairy lights over her shoulders and filling her arms with sprouts and crackers.

Song 6: We've Come to Bring You Christmas Cheer

To the tune of 'I Saw Three Ships'

ALIENS: We've come to bring you Christmas cheer
On Christmas Eve, on Christmas Eve.
To make your worries disappear,
On Christmas Eve in the morning.

ALIENS & CHOIR: But first you need some sparkly lights
On Christmas Eve, on Christmas Eve.
To make your home feel warm and bright
On Christmas Eve in the morning

And don't forget a stocking full
On Christmas Eve, on Christmas Eve.
Some sprouts to munch, crackers to pull
On Christmas Eve in the morning.

And last you need some company
On Christmas **Day**, on Christmas **Day**.
So join with the community
On Christmas **Day** in the morning.

ALIENS: We've come to bring you Christmas cheer
(twirling and skipping off the stage)
On Christmas Eve, on Christmas Eve.
To make your worries disappear,
On Christmas Eve in the morning.

At the end of the song, the ALIENS exit as EVIE and TIM arrive, wearing coats, with a roll of posters and see CHILD 3's poster.

EVIE: Looks like someone has already done this street.

TIM: Is that Ethel Morris? Hello, Ethel! *(waves)*

ETHEL: Tim! Evie! How lovely to see you both.

EVIE: Are you coming to the Community Christmas Celebration, Ethel?

ETHEL: Community Christmas Celebration? What's that?

EVIE hands ETHEL a poster.

EVIE: It's at the town hall tomorrow. The mayor is hosting it.

TIM: And we're singing carols.

ETHEL: Oh, I don't want to be any trouble. I'll just stay at home, I think, and make myself some nice sprout soup.

TIM: Sprout soup? Oh, Ethel, you have to come!

ETHEL: Well... *(pause)* OK then. Yes, I will come along. Now, if you don't mind, I'm going to go and tidy myself up.

TIM and EVIE continue their walk through the hall and exit. ETHEL exits back through her house. The ALIENS enter the spaceship.

BOP: See? I knew it would work!

FIZZ: Are you sure we did the right thing? She seemed rather surprised when I handed her that box of crackers.

CAPTAIN ZAP: She's going to the party, isn't she? That's what counts.

BOP: Captain, can we go too?

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(exasperated)* Bop, really!

BOP: We can wear our elf disguises. And it will give Fizz a chance to do some last-minute research.

FIZZ: Oh, yes, Captain! It would be a valuable research opportunity.

BOP: Please, please, please!

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(sighing)* Well... since we're coming to the end of our mission... I suppose it couldn't hurt.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should change to the Community Christmas Celebration.

Scene 10 - The Community Christmas Celebration

LIGHTS UP.

At the town hall. The decorations are up, the tree is at the back of the stage. GUESTS 1 and 2 sit at a table wearing Christmas hats. Other guests, including TIM, EVIE, MUM, DAD, TEACHER and the SCHOOL CHILDREN mingle at the back. CHILD 3 is taking around a plate of nibbles, eating bits on the way around. The MAYOR is in the centre of the stage.

MAYOR: Hello, and welcome to the Community Christmas Celebration.

ETHEL: Merry Christmas, Mayor! I'm not late, am I?

MAYOR: Not at all! Grab a seat and tuck in!

ETHEL sits down with GUESTS 1 and 2.

TEACHER: *(to CHILD 3)* You're meant to be offering those to the guests, not eating them all yourself.

CHILD 3: I can't help it! They're too delicious.

The ALIENS arrive dressed as Santa's elves.

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(in an undertone)* Are you sure about this, Bop?

MAYOR: Oh, how wonderful! I didn't know we were expecting Santa's elves.

FIZZ: We're here to ensure that your present delivery arrived correctly.

BOP: And to bring joy and cheer.

FIZZ: Ah, yes, I see that you have correctly installed numerous gifts under the sparkly tree. But where are your big socks?

MAYOR: Er... come in, grab something to eat, why don't you?

The ALIENS enter and begin to try to blend in with the guests, while they surreptitiously investigate the Christmas decorations.

ETHEL: (To *GUESTS 1 and 2*) It's my first time at the Community Christmas Celebration. I'm Ethel.

GUEST 1: Merry Christmas, Ethel! Where's your Christmas hat?

ETHEL: I haven't got one yet.

GUEST 2: Not to worry, here's a Christmas cracker. One, two, three, pull!

ETHEL, GUEST 1 and GUEST 2 pull their crackers, and ETHEL puts on the Christmas hat.

GUEST 1: Go on, read us the joke then...

ETHEL: (*reading*) Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? (*pause*) They always drop their needles!

All laugh.

GUEST 1: Here, listen to this: How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizza? (*pause*) Deep pan, crisp and even.

GUEST 2: My turn! What do you call a cat on a beach?

ETHEL: Oh! I know this one! Sandy Claws!

They chortle. A small SCHOOL CHOIR which includes TIM, EVIE, CHILD 1, CHILD 2 and CHILD 3 push to the front wearing red Santa hats. BOP joins them, still wearing the green elf hat. They stand at the back of the stage. The TEACHER taps a spoon against a glass to get everyone's attention.

TEACHER: Before we tuck in, I have a special treat for you. The choir of [*school name*] are here to sing some carols for your delight and entertainment. This is one you'll all know, so feel free to join in. (*to the school choir*) Ready?

Song 7: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

SCHOOL CHOIR: We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ALL: Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding,
 Oh, bring us some figgy pudding,
 Oh, bring us some figgy pudding, oh bring some out here!

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We won't go until we get some,
 We won't go until we get some,
 We won't go until we get some, so bring some out here!

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We wish you a Merry Christmas,
 We wish you a Merry Christmas,
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The GUESTS applaud the SCHOOL CHOIR.

GUEST 1: That was lovely, wasn't it?

GUEST 2: Just glorious. Ethel, did you enjoy it?

ETHEL: *(feeling emotional)* This is the best Christmas I've had since I was a girl.

FIZZ: *(in an undertone to Captain Zap)* Incoming message from Commander Buzz.

CAPTAIN ZAP: What does it say?

FIZZ: The commander wants to know if we're safe and requests an urgent report.

BOP: Shhh! I want to hear what the Mayor is going to say...

MAYOR: Before I send you home to your nice, cosy houses, we have a special surprise for all our guests. Beneath the beautiful Christmas tree, Santa Claus has left all sorts of lovely presents. There's a present for each and every guest. Why don't the school choir help to hand them out?

The members of the SCHOOL CHOIR take the presents and pass them out.

TIM: (clutching his present) I really hope this is what I think it is...

He opens the present.

TIM: It is! It's a top hat and white gloves – ooh, and a deck of cards as well!

EVIE: Ooh, I wonder if Santa got me the right thing? (She opens her present.) Thank goodness! Noise-cancelling headphones, so I don't have to listen to you anymore, Tim. What have you got, [name of teacher]?

TEACHER: Let's see... oh dear. A fidget spinner [or the latest craze]!

TIM: Evie, do you want to see a magic trick?

EVIE: (wearing her headphones) I can't hear you.

TIM: [Name of teacher], do you want to see a magic trick?

TEACHER: Er, maybe later. I'm a bit busy.

TIM looks disappointed as the others hurry away. Meanwhile, the guests are unwrapping their presents.

GUEST 1: Ooh, what could this be? (opening present) Slippers! That's lucky, my old slippers have holes in the toes...

EVIE: Let me guess – it's a book. No, a pot plant. Oh, I don't know... (opening present) Oh look! A bobble hat! I didn't expect that...

By now, everyone has a present except for ETHEL.

CHILD 2: There must be a mistake. There's one present missing.

ETHEL: Oh, don't worry about me! I only decided to come at the last minute – I don't expect a present.

CHILD 1: But you've got to have one – it's Christmas!

TIM takes off his top hat and holds it in both hands.

ETHEL: No, no. Being here, among friends, having a jolly old time – that’s all I could ever ask for, really.

TIM: Here, Ethel. (*He holds out his hat.*) You can have my top hat, if you like. I got it as a present, but I don’t mind giving it to you instead.

ETHEL: (*touched*) Oh, my dear! That’s very kind – very kind indeed – but I can’t take it, it’s yours!

TIM: But I’m giving it to you as a gift. Please take it.

He holds it out to her. ETHEL puts a hand on the hat and pushes it back to him.

ETHEL: Do you know what I’d much rather have for my Christmas present? I’d much rather have a magic show. Do you know any tricks, Tim?

TIM brightens as he puts the hat on his head. He fans out his deck of cards.

TIM: Pick a card, any card...

ETHEL begins to pick a card and TIM begins his trick as the ALIENS speak.

FIZZ: Captain, we really must go. Commander Buzz is getting impatient.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Back to the ship then. Come on, Bop!

BOP: (*waving as they leave*) Good night! Merry Christmas!

GUESTS: Merry Christmas!

BOP: (*to the ALIENS*) Aren’t humans just the best things ever?

The ALIENS exit the stage.

LIGHTS DOWN. Backdrop on main stage should be replaced by Earth as seen from space.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource

Scene 11 – Final Report (the spaceship)

LIGHTS UP.

The ALIENS gather around the ship's controls. COMMANDER BUZZ stands up in the CHOIR and speaks into the walkie-talkie.

COMMANDER BUZZ: *(frantic)* Captain Zap, this is Commander Buzz. Do you copy?

CAPTAIN ZAP: *(into the walkie-talkie)* Hearing you loud and clear.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Oh, thank goodness! I'm expecting an urgent report. Are the humans at war? What about those really big socks? Are you and your crew safe?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Quite safe, Commander. It seems it was a misunderstanding. There has been no slaying of any kind. In fact, the humans seem to be having a party. Fizz, your report please.

FIZZ: The humans are celebrating something called Christmas –

BOP: *(interrupting)* – which is like a big birthday party for someone called Jesus, who's over two thousand years old!

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop –

FIZZ: They use trees covered in sparkly lights to decorate their homes, they use really big socks to store Christmas presents, and as for Brussels sprouts –

BOP: They just seem to think sprouts are a bit icky.

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop –

FIZZ: As well as presents and Christmas trees, humans celebrate by singing songs about figgy pudding, dressing up as shepherds and pulling cardboard tubes in half. And on Christmas Eve, Santa Claus and his elves deliver presents to children all over the world.

COMMANDER BUZZ: Very interesting. What highly unusual behaviour. But I suppose, if they find it fun...

BOP: But it's more than that, though, isn't it?

CAPTAIN ZAP: Bop!

COMMANDER BUZZ: Let Bop finish, Captain.

BOP: Well, it is! Christmas is about humans coming together – even some who don't really celebrate it – to be kind and generous and part of a community. Christmas is... well, it's almost like magic!

COMMANDER BUZZ: How intriguing. I see that you have plenty to report. Write it up, Fizz, and send it over.

BOP: No need, Commander. We can tell you now...

Song 8: On Our First Trip to Planet Earth

To the tune of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'

ALIENS: *On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
An angel on top of a tree.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Two giant socks
And an angel on top of a tree.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Three Christmas cards,
Two giant socks
And an angel on top of a tree.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Four bobbly hats, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Five Brussels sprouts! etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Six bags of shopping, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Seven snowballs flying, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Eight fluffy mittens, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Nine Christmas crackers, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Ten pigs in blankets, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Eleven wrapped-up presents, etc.*

*On our first trip to Earth, our spaceship went to see:
Twelve humans laughing,
Eleven wrapped-up presents,
Ten pigs in blankets,
Nine Christmas crackers,
Eight decorations,
Seven snowballs flying,
Six bags of shopping,
Five Brussels sprouts!
Four bobbly hats,
Three Christmas cards,
Two giant socks,
And an angel on top of a tree.*

LIGHTS DOWN.

See [these suggestions](#) for how to perform the final walkdown/curtain call.

¹see staging options resource ²see properties options resource