

How to be Hoppy

By Stephen Richards

Script



Making Tasks (See Making Mask and Task PDF)

The show is performed with four groups of pupils. One class at a time learn their scene with the Splats teacher and when not rehearsing their scene they can work on the tasks set below for the show and practice their lines for the scenes.

All Groups

Colour in and make the **Hoppy Head band**. They can choose pirate, hop star or super hopper. The **second group** need to have even numbers of these.



**PIRATE HOP
HEADBAND**



**HOP STAR
HEADBAND**



**SUPER HOPPER
HEADBAND**

1) Fill in your own **Seven Hops to Hoppiness**. See Making Mask and Task PDF. Printed A4 double sided and fold to A5. Pupils can answer in writing, pictures however you think best.

2) Hula Hoop Hoppys

We would like to make 4 big (brightly coloured) paper Hoppy faces which we will use as the set. A hula hoop works well as a base. Make a big circular face and attach some material or paper ears. On these faces you can cut out and stick the pupils' drawings of their Hoppys as explained below.

3) **My Hoppy** - Draw a Picture of your Hoppy.

- Remember Pouch
- Big Floppy ears
- Big Feet
- Beautiful big teeth
- Bright Colour
- Write down (or draw on) all the things your Hoppy likes doing - Favourite sports, hobbies, food!!!
- Name it! – e.g.: Hoppy Steve, Hoppy Emma.

SCENE ONE – WHAT IS HOPPINESS

- **Music: Henry Mancini – Theme from a Summer Place**

Pupils all float in like clouds from SL and SR.

They can flutter their hands, give a little wave, smile at the audience.

Narrator

When we feel happy it is very natural. You know the feeling. You don't have to think how to do it, it just happens. It often comes with a smile, sometimes with a giggle, even with a laugh.

Chicken runs past for the laugh.

So what makes us happy? Let's have a look

Narrator asks the pupils, so script is just an example.

Narrator

Being with friends, laughing at jokes, Running, Playing, Learning new skills, Silly things like comedy chickens.

Comedy chicken comes and nestles up like a good dog to the narrator.

It's different and the same for everyone.

Oh and one other thing that helps of course is a Hoppy.

- **Music ENDS**

Change in tone

All pupils (and chickens)

A Hoppy Who

Narrator

No not a Hoppy Who! - A Hoppy! You know the ones, big ears like a bunny and big floppy hoppy feet and a pouch like a Kangaroo?

All pupils

Never 'erd of 'em

Hands on hips

Narrator

Never 'erd of 'em! Ok well I had better introduce you. Let's find out more about the Hoppys on our Hoppiness journey in How to be Hoppy.

Pupils put on Hoppy head bands turned to Hoppy ears side and hop on

- **Music: Henry Mancini - Party Poop**

Narrator

Hoppys are half rabbit as you can see from their big floppy ears and beautiful teeth, and half Kangaroo – as you can see they just love boxing

Brush ears with the hands and show their teeth and shadow box.

But more than anything in the universe they love to Hop. I mean they really, really, really, really, love to Hop.

Narrator

They hop in the mornings

Pupils

Morning, Morning, Luverly day for Hopping

Narrator.

They hop at Breakfast. Hop, Hop, Yum, Yum, Hop, Hop, Yum, Yum.

Narrator

They even hop to school.

Pupils all sit down in their Hoppy classroom and Music Ends

Narrator

But there was one Hoppy who wasn't like the other Hoppys. Of course s/he liked Hopping, it was fun and a good way to get around, but s/he couldn't help thinking

Hoppy

There must be more to life than hopping.

Narrator

S/he wanted to travel. S/he wanted to see the whole universe. S/he wanted to find

Hoppy and Narrator

The true meaning of Hoppiness

Teacher

Hoppy, are you day dreaming AGAIN?

Hoppy

Sorry Miss I was just erm er em!

Teacher

Remember!

All pupils and Teacher

A Hoppy who dreams all day, Will up-e-go and float away.

Narrator

But Hoppy couldn't help dreaming, S/he just didn't feel just like hopping all the time. S/he was a deep thinker.

Hoppy takes the Thinker pose

Hoppy legend had it that one day a great Hoppy would find the seven hops to true Hoppiness. S/he wanted to be that special Hoppy.

Now in another time and space in a house not unlike yours lived a girl called Jenny. She was a deep thinker too.

Jenny is also in The Thinker pose then talking to the audience

Jenny

Tomorrow is my fancy dress birthday party. It's going to be the best party ever.

Jenny and Hoppy both go to sleep

- **Music: Dream Music**

Narrator

But when they fell asleep that night, something very magical happened. Jenny and the Hoppy began to dream at exactly the same time.

With her thinking about how to make her friends happy and the Hoppy thinking How to be Hoppy. Nothing so magical about that you may say, but they dreamt EXACTLY the same dream.

All pupils make the poses, moves for each character

- **Music: Funny dream**

With Pirates, Pop Stars, Air Guitar, Super Heroes.

Narrator

Their dreams that night were so big, so real, there just was no stopping them and the Hoppy floated up and out into space. Past moons, past stars and planets until with a big pop he landed in the middle of Jenny's room

Pupils make shapes to become stars and the Hoppy hops and spins, weaving through them.

Hoppy

Hello, I'm a Hoppy and I've come to find out How to be Hoppy.

Jenny

Don't you mean Happy?

Hoppy

No I mean Hoppy, but I think it's the same thing. So what makes you Hoppy?

Jenny

Well I like thinking and drawing and writing lists of things and being with my friends and today is my Birthday Party!

Hoppy

Oh a very Hoppy Birthday to you

Narrator

It was past midnight

Jenny

And well it's very nice to meet you Hoppy but I had better get some sleep so I am fit and ready for the morning.

Narrator

Now Hoppys never need any encouragement to sleep. The Hoppy was already snoring away in the corner of the room. S/he had already found the First hop to hoppiness which is to get a good night's sleep!

Let's have a big clap for our Hoppys and let's see what happens next on our hoppiness journey.

Scene Two – Eating Well and Try new things

Pupils are all sat with their headbands as Superheroes, Pirates and Stars. Hoppy hops in and sits and mime eats lots of carrots. The pupil on the side join in the script as detailed – the pupils at the side can yawn as they wake up, eat the carrots with the Hoppy etc. The narrator uses a white board to write a list of the 7 hops to happiness

Narrator

Well done our first Hoppys and let's write Sleep Well and a Big ZZZZZ on the Hoppys 7 Hops to Hoppiness.

Ok are we all rested. If not sleep a bit more. You won't miss anything honest.

That morning the Hoppy came down for Breakfast. Everyone seemed to think it was quite normal to have a Hoppy visiting.

All Pupils

It must be part of the magic!

Yawning as they say it and stretch and wake up too

Narrator

Now that morning the Hoppy ate a very healthy Breakfast of

All Pupils

carrots

Narrator

and erm

All Pupils

carrots

Narrator

and

All Pupils

carrot surprise

Narrator

which was erm

All Pupils

carrots.

Narrator

And that is the second key to hoppiness not be hungry and a Hoppy never is. Eat good food – it affects how you feel. Soon the time for the party arrived and The Hoppy and Jenny had a plan.

Jenny

Now you are going to hide and then you whisper, whisper, whisper.

Hoppy

I whisper, whisper, whisper?

Jenny

No that's me telling you the plan in a theatrical way. Quick hide, here they come!

• **Music: Arriving at Party**

Children arriving at party

All pupils walk in all in fancy dress using their Hoppy headbands. Split into three groups. Super Heroes to the right, Pirates to the left and Stars in the middle.

Super Heroes

We're Super Heroes, but we need some Baddies

Hands on hips

Pirates

And We're Pirates, but we need a ship. . . aaarrgh

Looking through mimed telescope or aaarrgh pose!

Stars

And We're Stars, but we need to be discovered!

Strike a posey pose! The Hoppy hops in

Hoppy

Hello, I'm a Hoppy and I am here to find out How to be Hoppy

All Pupils

Don't you mean Happy

Hoppy

I think it's the same thing. Now what makes you Hoppy?

Stars

Wow! can you make me a Star Pleeeeeeeease?

Pirate

A Ship and AAAaarrgh

Super Heroes

A Baddie to defeat and saving the world.

Narrator

And before you could say LONG LIVE ROCK N ROLL the Hoppy pulled pop star wigs out of his/her pouch and said,

Hoppy

Let's hold a talent show!

Narrator

- **Music: Talent show**

This was no ordinary Talent Show. It was jam packed full of skills that they were just learning, which is always the best fun. The Pirates went first with their amazing death defying feather balancing.

- **Music: Mission Impossible**

Pirates balance peacock feathers

- **Music: Superman Theme**

Next were the super plate spinners

Super heroes spin plates

- **Music: Try Everything - Shakira**

All Stars ribbons and poi

The final act was the Hoppy Rocker all stars.

The Hoppy Rocker All Stars Boogied all Night, well afternoon long.

Big cheer for all our Talent show artists.

Scene Three – Friendship and Activity

- **Music: Try Everything - Shakira**

The new group come on and carry on with the music and a bit of the circus skills ready for the Baddie to stop them.

Narrator

So they had found the 3rd Hop to Hoppiness which is . . .

All Pupils

Being Playful

They all say this as learning new tricks

Narrator

and Number 4 is . . .

All Pupils

Trying new things.

Narrator writes these on the board

They were just getting ready for a birthday cake treat, when strutting towards them came a very scary looking Baddie.

Baddie

Stop everything I am a Baddie and I'm in charge now. I am banning all toys and chocolate until you can defeat me in my far away land.

Narrator

The Baddie ran off laughing in a really evil way,

Baddie

Mwahahahaha! You'll never find me. Mwahahahaha!

Narrator

But as he ran off a piece of paper flew out his pocket.

Pirates

It's a map, there's a cross that marks the spot where the Baddie *is*.

Super Heroes

Yes! Let's save the world

Pirates

AAAAaarrgh . . . We have to cross the seven seas and I haven't got a ship

Hoppy

No problem,

Narrator

And the Hoppy built an amazing imaginary pirate ship, whilst all the children put away their circus toys.

- **Music: Captain Pugwash theme**

Pirates

Climb aboard me hearties we got a Baddie to find. They sailed for seven days and seven nights, until they all shouted,

All pupils

Land ahoy!

- **Music: Journey to Baddie**

Pupils all go one way and then the other- marching

Pirates

Follow me, said the pirate – it's this way.

Stars

No – it's this way.

Super Heroes

No – it's this way.

Narrator

Until finally they found the baddie sitting on a throne surrounded by toys and chocolate.

Baddie

What do you want!

All Pupils

All our toys and chocolate back.

Baddie

No, first you must beat me at invisible tennis.

- **Music: Invisible Tennis**

Pupils work in pairs and play each other, performing the actions described.

Narrator

So they served and volleyed, sliced and smashed, dived and rolled and jumped and bashed, until the Pirate beat the Baddie with an ace. Everyone cheered

All Pupils

Now give us back our toys and chocolate

Baddie

No, first you must beat me at Air Guitar King!

(this can play to end of scene if timing works but also separate tracks can be used)

- **Music: Air Guitar King or Air Guitar to End**

Music style is introduced in time with change of music

Narrator

So they HEAVY METALLED. They ROCKED and they ROLLED. They BOPPED and BOOGIED. They EVEN DISCOED! The Baddie was having such fun they all crept over to the Baddie and tried again,

All Pupils

Give us back our toys and chocolate

Narrator

The Baddie, pulling on some boxing gloves said,

Baddie

"NO . . . I WANT A BOXING FIGHT!"

- **Music: Rocky**

Pupils go into pairs and shadow punch each other. Works well to punch on each beat and then punch in air on the last one – so that is repeated twice until Baddie gets knocked out on comedy sound.

Narrator

Finally, the Hoppy, knocked the Baddie out with a splat.

Baddie

Sorry I just wanted some friends to play with. Exercise make me happy but with friends it's the best!

Narrator

To celebrate the new good baddie and his/ her new best friends did a conga all the way home

- **Music: Rockin all over the world – Status Quo**

Big cheer for all our adventurers. Now without anyone noticing we will meet our new group who are still doing a conga all the way home.

They all bow and sit down and the next group get up and take over the conga

Scene Four – Hoppiness training and HOP

- **Music: End of Rockin all over the world – Status Quo**

*All pupils enter in a conga line – still carrying on the party from the last scene and just arriving home;
They can be dressed up in wigs etc as long as safe for juggling.*

They now all have a juggling scarf each. Narrator writes on the board.

Narrator

Jenny and her friends had really started to get the hang of this hoppiness thing. So the 5th hop to Hoppiness is . . .

Pupils all do star jumps and say

All Pupils

Be Active

Narrator

And the 6th hop Baddie is?

All Pupils and Baddie

Friendships!

Pupils walk around swopping scarves, throw shake hands catch, throw high five etc. and then all flop to the floor exhausted and happy. The Hoppy joins in but then starts to think about Hoppy friends and sits on own looking upset.

All Pupils and Narrator

Are you ok Hoppy? You don't look very Hoppy.

Hoppy

I am missing my Hoppy friends. I think I am feeling UnHoppy!

Narrator

The children all took turns to talk to the Hoppy

Pupil Pair one

We understand, we all feel unhoppy sometimes

Pupil Pair two

We can get upset. We can feel lonely.

Pupil Pair three

We can get hurt. We can feel silly.

Pupil Pair four

We can even get angry.

They get the Hoppy to join them and lie down with the scarf over the face and blow it up

Narrator

Sometimes you just need some help from your friends and family and take a little time to breathe.

Pupil Pair five

You can even pretend to be happy even if you are not.

They can kick the scarf in the air whilst on back

Lie on your back and wriggle your feet in the air, it usually works.

Narrator

And remember, try new things

They all jump up and start making new juggling tricks up

Do your best and keep going

Be playful

Make a flower with the scarf

Narrator

The children taught the Hoppys all the things that they loved.

They use the scarves for all these activities and on the organizing they gather them into separate colours and then mix them all up again- should be active and fun and silly but be aware of slipping on scarves so more of a passing them all around.

- **Music: Things we love**

Football, Dancing, Kung Fu Fighting, Organising things into colours, mucking them all up again. Exercise, Disco, Laughter

But however hard the children tried still no Hoppys appeared. They were stumped!

Narrator or Jenny

We must go back to basics. Remember No 1 is to sleep well.

We just need to find one more hop to hoppiness. We've found six, I'm sure we can find another if we all dream together.

- **Music: Dream**

Narrator

That night when all Jenny's friend went to sleep their dreams were so big, so colourful that they floated up and out into space

They dreamt about,

- **Funny dream**

Pirates,

Pop Stars,

Air Guitar,

Super Heroes,

- **Music: Henry Mancini – Theme from a Summer Place**

And then something really remarkable happened. The children's imaginations created their very own Hoppy

Exactly the same as themselves but different. All the Hoppys and all the different children became the best of friends.

*Pupils can swop from being children to being Hoppys and back by turning around their head band.
They all shake hands with the Hoppys and wave to the audience.*

The Hoppy was right Hoppiness and Happiness were the same thing. The happier the children were, the hoppier the Hoppys were and the hoppier the Hoppys were, the happier the children.

The Hoppys helped give the children that extra bit of bounce when they needed it and the children helped the Hoppys hops to be the best they had ever been.

So what is the 7th hop to hoppiness.

Easy. It's all in the HOP.

All pupils

Helping other people.

Narrator

It gives you all an extra bounce. Go on Hop off you lot.

THE END

Props supplied by Splats

- ✓ Two chicken masks
- ✓ 12 Peacock feathers
- ✓ 12 Spinning plates
- ✓ 12 Ribbons/ Poi
- ✓ 36 Juggling Scarves
- ✓ Assorted Pop wigs, Pop Star glasses, fancy dress

Requested from the School

- ✓ White board and pen
- ✓ Music player/ speakers or link to use from computer
- ✓ Paper/card and tape/staples for the headbands
- ✓ Print out the Hoppiness leaflet
- ✓ Hula Hoops and paper to cover