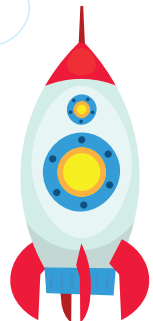


Book, Music & Lyrics by
Paul Collette & Gary Fritzen



 **Pioneer**
DRAMA SERVICE



**Book, music, and lyrics by
Paul Collette and Gary Fritzen**

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For Preview Only

TOY CAMP

A Musical

Book, music, and lyrics by Paul Collette and Gary Fritzen

CAST OF CHARACTERS

	<u># of lines</u>
MISS GROUCHSTICKtoys' teacher (or is she a witch?)	12
ROVERstuffed dog; everyone's best friend	19
COOL CATstudying up on proper "catiquette"	15
TED E. BEARteddy bear who is rough around the edges	16
PRINCESS ANNdoll, but not quite princess-like	19
PRIMA DONNAclumsy ballerina doll	22
GLOW TOYnot too bright	20
TOY SOLDIERmarches to a different drummer	18
JIGone piece of the puzzle	20
SAWanother piece of the puzzle	20
SIDE.....coordinator of the puzzle	16
WEDGELYanother coordinator of the puzzle	15
JACKjack-in-the-box clown with poor timing	28

SETTING

All of the action takes place in a classroom at Toy School in

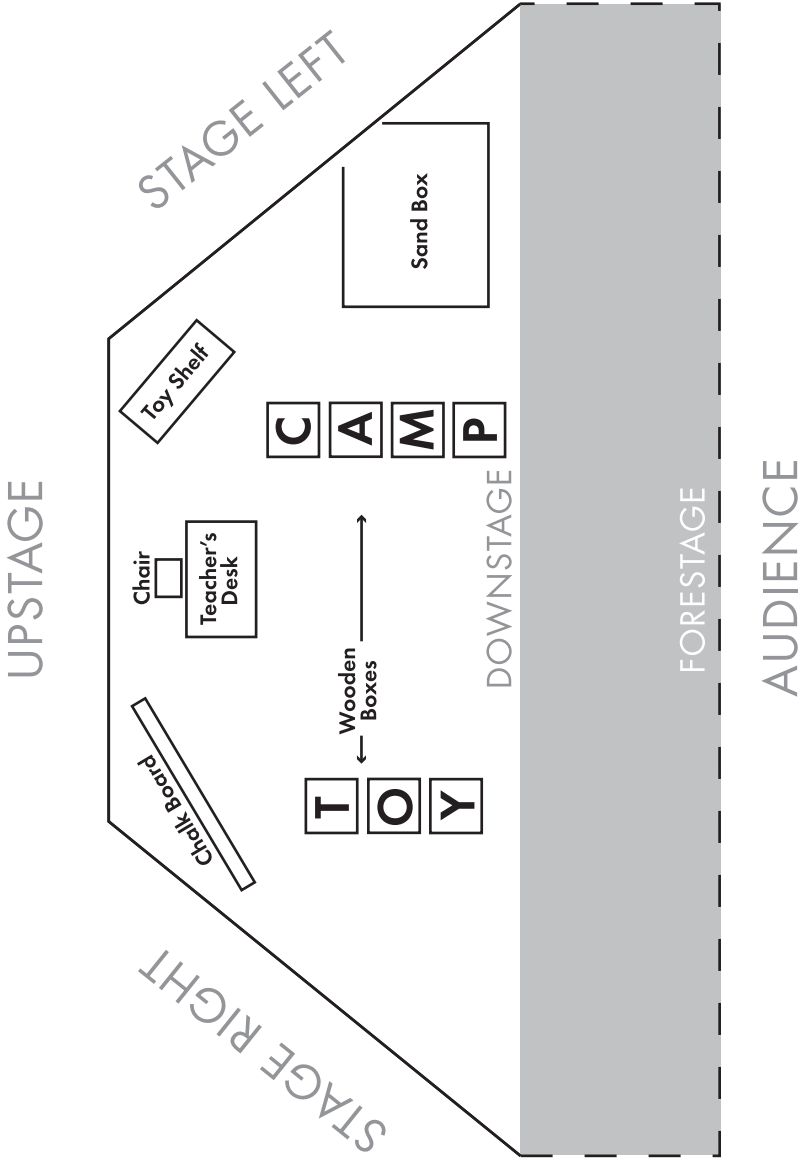
(Name of your town)

There are colorful wooden blocks placed in rows STAGE RIGHT and STAGE LEFT. A colorful teacher's desk and chair are UP CENTER, another chair to the left of the desk, a sandbox DOWN RIGHT and a chalkboard UP RIGHT. Written neatly across the top of the chalkboard is the teacher's name, MISS GROUCHSTICK. Drawn next to it is a stick drawing of a witch and an arrow pointing to the teacher's name. There is a small toy shelf, either empty or covered, UP LEFT to display toy-sized versions of the characters at the final scene of the show. A Christmas tree DOWN LEFT is an optional set idea for a holiday production.

MUSICAL CUES

MC 1	Overture	
MC 2	Toy Dump	
MC 3	Pay Attention	Witch
MC 4	Bad Toys	
MC 5	Pay Attention (Reprise)	Miss Grouchstick, Toys
MC 6	Hurray for my Messes	Princess Ann, Toys
MC 7	Toy Dump (Messes)	
MC 8	I Go To Pieces	Jig, Saw
MC 9	March of the Stutterstep	Instrumental
MC 10	Pop! Goes the Weasal	Jack, Toys
MC 11	Practice Makes Purr-fect	Cool Cat, Rover
MC 12	The Huggable-sluggable	Ted E. Bear, Toys, Miss Grouchstick
MC 13	This Isn't Working	Side, Wedgely, Puzzle Pieces
MC 14	Ain't Too Bright	Glow Toy, Toys
MC 15	Toy Ballet	
MC 16	Things Are Ruff All Over, Rover	Rover, Toys
MC 17	Toy Dump (Announcement)	
MC 18	Pop! Goes the Weasal	
MC 19	Practice Makes Purr-fect (Reprise)	Miss Grouchstick, Toys
MC 20	Buy Me!	Miss Grouchstick, Toys

SET DESIGN



TOY CAMP

LESSON ONE: PAY ATTENTION

1 SONG: MC 1 OVERTURE. LIGHTS UP to half.

It is the first day at Toy Camp. Throughout the room are colorful wooden blocks. A colorful teacher's desk is UP CENTER, a sandbox DOWN LEFT, and a chalkboard UP RIGHT. Written neatly across the top of the
5 chalkboard is the teacher's name, MISS GROUCHSTICK. Drawn next to it is a stick drawing of a WITCH and an arrow pointing to the teacher's name. The TOYS begin to ENTER cautiously; they look around, checking things out. They include: COOL CAT, ROVER, TED E. BEAR, PRINCESS ANN, PRIMA DONNA, GLOW TOY AND TOY SOLDIER. After surveying the
10 situation, they address the audience.

GLOW TOY: How do toys learn to be toys?

ROVER: Well, they have to attend a type of school, a toy school.

TOY SOLDIER: It is actually a Toy Camp, where they get intensive training in order to graduate.

15 **TED E. BEAR:** If they work hard and graduate, they receive their price tags and move on to the toy store shelves, where they can be bought and taken to good homes.

PRIMA DONNA: If they fail they are taken to the — *(Pause - Beethoven's 5th... Da-da-da-DA! SONG: MC 2 TOY DUMP)* — Toy Dump and never
20 seen again. *(The toys react. AUTHOR'S NOTE: This Beethoven main theme is played directly before anyone says "Toy Dump" throughout the entire script.)*

PRINCESS ANN: What follows is a typical week at Toy Camp, where
25 toys have just one week to learn how to be toys. *(At this time, the toys make their way to the colored blocks and await the arrival of their teacher. With a burst, the PUZZLE PIECES ENTER.)*

JIG: I can't believe you made us late for the first day of Toy Camp!

SAW: No, I didn't. *(While JIG and SAW continue to argue, SIDE and WEDGELY massage their shoulders, mop their brows, and, in
30 general, act like managers of two prize fighters.)*

JIG: You did too!

SAW: Did not!

JIG: Did too!

SAW: Did not!

35 **JIG:** Did too!

SAW: Not!

JIG: Too! *(This continues until JACK, the jack-in-the-box clown, rushes
IN, sobbing.)*

- 1 **JACK:** Hey, has anyone -pop- seen our teacher?
ALL: No.
JACK: Well, I have -pop- .
- COOL CAT:** Say, hey man, tell it to me. What'd the dude look like?
5 *(Snaps fingers and the PUZZLE PIECES draw and add to the witch on the chalkboard as JACK continues to describe her.)*
- JACK:** I don't know -pop-. It was too dark. But... but... *(Starts sobbing again.)*
- ALL:** But, what?
- 10 **JACK:** Well, I think... I think -pop- she was dressed sort of funny.
ROVER: Well, so?
JACK: So, she had this long black coat, and I think she was -pop- wearing this long pointy black hat.
COOL CAT: So? Black is cool, hats are cool. What's the prob?
- 15 **JACK:** Well, it was real -pop- dark, but I think she was -pop-pop-pop- all green!
PRINCESS ANN: *(Playing In the sandbox.)* Green? Maybe she was playing with Play Dough.
SIDE: Play Dough? This is quite puzzling.
- 20 **WEDGELY:** Yes, very.
JACK: Naw, -pop- I don't think so. It also looked like she had a broom!
TED E. BEAR: Hey, maybe she was cleaning up the Play Dough.
JACK: *(Sobbing once again.)* No, no, no... she looked like a -pop- ... like a -pop- ... like a...
- 25 **ALL:** Like a what?!
JACK: She looked like a -pop-pop-pop-... a witch! *(A big gasp from ALL)*
PRINCESS ANN: What?! Miss Grouchstick, our teacher, is a witch? Miss Grouchstick can't be a witch! She can't be a witch! They wouldn't send us here to a witch. *(Plops down in sandbox.)*
- 30 **ALL:** Would they?
ROVER: Hey, ya know, I heard about a toy camp like this from my wise ol' pa. He said they scare ya into workin' your darn tails off.
PRINCESS ANN: I haven't got a tail, silly. See.
TED E. BEAR: Hey, maybe you already worked yours off.
- 35 **PRIMA DONNA:** No, silly. Dolls don't have tails.
TED E. BEAR: Oh. Well, if you don't have tails then what do you wag when you're happy? And how do you show your appreciation when—
- 40 **JACK:** Hey! -pop- What about the witch?! What are we -pop-going to do?

1 **ALL:** I don't know.

GLOW TOY: I know. We could call a meeting!

TOY SOLDIER: *(TOY SOLDIER. As he cracks a walnut.)* What good is that going to do? *(AUTHOR'S NOTE: Periodically throughout the*
5 *story, TOY SOLDIER cracks open walnut shells.)*

JIG: Well, we can all put our heads together.

SAW: And think.

TOY SOLDIER: I don't think it's going to work.

COOL CAT: Hey, now, Wooden Boy, it's worth a try.

10 **ROVER:** What the heck, what've we got to lose?

PRIMA DONNA: Yes, let's try it.

TED E. BEAR: *(To GLOW TOY.)* So, what do we do next?

GLOW TOY: Well, we all get up and get in a circle and put our heads together like this and call a meeting. *(They form a semi-circle and*
15 *put heads side by side. When they are in place GLOW TOY counts.)*
One - two - three.

ALL: *(Shouting together.)* Meeting!!!

JACK: *(Looking about.)* Nothing happened.

TOY SOLDIER: I told you it wasn't going to work. *(The TOYS react and*
20 *all start back to their seats.)*

GLOW TOY: Uh... Hey! Let's try it again. *(Again they put heads together*
when suddenly, on the count of three, MISS GROUCHSTICK ENTERS.
She does look a lot like a witch.)

JACK: Look! -pop- It's the witch! I mean our teacher!! Pop -pop- !!!
25 I mean Miss Grouchstick! Pop! *(Screams and shudders and*
moans. The TOYS are frozen with fear. The WITCH sings. SONG:
MC 3 PAY ATTENTION.)

WITCH: *(Spoken.)* Pay attention! Sit down! Get in your seats!
(Sings.) What do you think you're doing?

30 And who do you think you're fooling? *(The TOYS respond, rushing to*
their seats, obviously scared out of their wits.)

Pay attention! Pay attention!

Or you might just end up with detention!

Pay attention! Pay attention!

35 Or I will give you strain and stress and tension If you don't... don't
learn... learn how to pay attention.

(Spoken.) So keep a button on your lips

Or I'll mix you Into sour cream for chips and dip.

Or I'll tie you up and hang you by your tails

40 Then turn you into fish food and feed you to the whales!

And if that's not enough

1 I'll add some other stuff
And cast a spell so powerful with magic
That the end result will be horrible and tragic.
Heh heh heh heh heh heh heh heh...

5 *(The toys make a brief effort to sneak OUT.)*
So, sit down! Get in your seats!
Don't try to leave this room
Or I'll get you with my magic broom.
And pay attention! Pay attention!

10 Or you might just end up with detention!
Pay attention! Pay attention!
Or I'll mold you into a slimy new invention
If you don't... don't learn...
learn how to pay attention.

15 *(Spoken.)* Heh heh heh heh heh heh heh heh...
And now I'm going to cast a spell
And make it so you don't learn so well.
With brooms and coats and witches hats
And eyes of nerds and saturated fats.

20 Take these toys and make them dizzy
Stir their brains and make them fizzy.
From the dungeon floor to the castle roof
Confuse these toys and make them goof!
And when they hear me cackle they'll jump

25 And be on their way to the fateful—
Toy dump!!!

Heh heh heh heh heh heh heh heh...
(At end of song, she EXITS. Now the TOYS all look at each other in wide-eyed disbelief. Then suddenly they wander around the room like zombies, reciting MC 4 "Bad toys... Bad toys..." until they are in the following positions. COOL CAT is cat-napping. ROVER is rolling over and scratching. PRINCESS ANN is making a mess in the sandbox. JACK is sobbing quietly. PRIMA DONNA is doing aerobics. TED E. BEAR is shadow-boxing. TOY SOLDIER is slumped over eating walnuts. GLOW TOY is sunning herself. And the JIGSAW PUZZLE is arguing. We hear the cackle from the WITCH OFFSTAGE; the TOYS all Jump and react.)

JIG: *(To SAW.)* Your pieces are all wrong! Nothing you have fits. And you call yourself a puzzle? Look at this! What's this yellow piece doing way over there?

SAW: That's none of your business. Besides, you should talk! You've got pieces upside down!

1 **JIG:** Oh, yeah?! Where?

SAW: Right here! And here! Look at that blue sky piece down here. The sky's supposed to go on top!

JIG: Ha! That just shows how much you know, smarty! Those pieces
5 aren't sky. Those are ocean pieces! So, what do you think of that?

SAW: They look like sky.

JIG: Ocean.

SAW: Sky.

JIG: Ocean. *(TED E. BEAR crosses over and becomes a fight announcer.)*

10 **TED E. BEAR:** Hey, hey, hey... yes folks, welcome to the championship fights here at Toy Camp

_____ . *(Fill in the city)*

In this corner we have the challenger, from Hasbro, North Carolina; weighing in at 100 pieces, Juggling Jig! *(The TOYS all cheer.)* And
15 in this corner, tipping the puzzle scale at 150 pieces, from Mattel, California, we have the reigning champ, Soldering Saw! *(The TOYS cheer again and gather round to form a boxing ring as TED E. BEAR walks JIG and SAW to CENTER. SIDE and WEDGELY retreat to appropriate corners.)* All right, I want this to be a good, clean fight.
20 Keep your punches up high and don't try to pull any pieces. Okay, go to your corners and when the bell rings, come out fighting. *(They return to their respective corners, where they are prepared by their managers. The GLOW TOY rings the bell and JIG and SAW bounce out with fists poised, then go jaw to jaw with...)*

25 **JIG:** Ocean!

SAW: Sky!

JIG: Ocean!

SAW: Sky!

JIG: Ocean!

30 **SAW:** Sky! *(The battle continues, and it gets loud and frenzied as MISS GROUCHSTICK, now dressed as a pretty teacher, ENTERS. She surveys the situation. SONG: MC 5 PAY ATTENTION - REPRISE.)*

MISS GROUCHSTICK: Class... Oh, class... *(Calmly breaking up the ruckus. Sings.)* Please sit down.

35 Please take your seats.

What would you like to be taught

So you can get yourself ready to be bought?

Please pay attention.

ALL: *(Sing.)* Pay attention.

40 **MISS GROUCHSTICK:** *(Sings.)*

You can be friends and live without dissension.

1 **ALL:** (*Sing.*) Pay attention. Pay attention.

MISS GROUCHSTICK: (*Sings.*)

It relieves the strain and stress and tension.
If you learn... learn how...

5 **ALL:** (*Sing.*) Learn how to pay attention.

MISS GROUCHSTICK: (*Sings.*) Pay attention at any price,

For merely going through the motions won't suffice.

Pay attention at all cost

Otherwise your memory will soon be lost!

10 So, please sit down. Please take your seats.

For I mustn't fail to mention,

If you want to remember with retention...

ALL: (*Sing.*) Pay attention! Pay attention!

We can be friends and live without dissension.

15 Pay attention! Pay attention!

Oh, it's a marvelous, bamboozalous invention

When we learn... learn how...

Learn how to pay attention! (*BLACKOUT.*)

LESSON TWO: PRACTICE

SAME SETTING: The toys are all in their seats listening attentively
20 to their teacher.

MISS GROUCHSTICK: Now, remember class, you all have your
assignments and you have one week to practice. So, I suggest

you start in right now. And don't be afraid to help each other. One
week might seem like a lot of time to you, but it isn't really. Don't

25 waste the time you have. Now, remember, Rover, study that
leaflet I gave you on the "Toy Dogma." Jig, Saw, puzzles must
learn to work together. And Ted E. Bear, teddy bears are cuddly

and huggable. They are not supposed to fight. And Princess Ann.
(*Shaking head sadly.*) Remember that princess dolls are soft and

30 frilly and very gentle. Now, you may all start practicing. I will return
shortly. (*MISS GROUCHSTICK EXITS as the TOYS start to work. We*

*hear the cackle of the WITCH OFFSTAGE and PRINCESS ANN takes
the stage in the sandbox.*)

PRINCESS ANN: Oh, it's so nice to be so pretty and frilly and look so

35 nice and beautiful and be so fresh and clean and so... ARRHHH!!!
I can't stand it! Miss Grouchstick tells me I've got to change, but I
don't want to rearrange my life. (*She grabs fistfuls of sand and lets*

it sift through her fingers. SONG: MC 6 HURRAY FOR MY MESSES.)
(*Sings.*) I like playing in the mud.

40 I like cows chewing on their cud.

I like the feel of a milk dud squishing through my fingers, (*Spoken.*)

- 1 Or a cupcake — splotch!
Or a ding-dong — splish!
(Sings.) Or some raspberry cream-filled zingers — Pow!
I really must confess I love to make a mess,
- 5 But, on the other hand,
It causes so much grief and stress
When I have to wear a frilly dress — Yechh!
I sing hurray for my messes,
I vow I'll never ever wear frilly dresses!
- 10 **ALL:** (Sing.) Frilly dresses... Silly dresses... (Repeat 5 times.)
PRINCESS ANN: I vow I will never wear those frilly dresses.
I vow I will never wear those dresses anymore!
I like rolling on the lawn
Until all the grass is gone.
- 15 I like staying up till dawn playing with my favorite toys,
(Spoken.) Like finger paints — swish! And dump trucks — fwump!
(Sings.) Or just banging on some pots and pans
trying to make noise—
Pow!
- 20 I really must confess I love to make a mess,
But, on the other hand, It causes so much grief and stress
When I have to wear a frilly dress —Yechh! (She climbs up on top of
the teacher's desk.) I sing hurray for my messes,
I vow I'll never ever wear frilly dresses.
- 25 **ALL:** (Sing.) Frilly dresses... Silly dresses... (Repeat 5 times.)
PRINCESS ANN: (Sings.) I vow I will never wear those frilly dresses,
I vow I will never wear those dresses anymore! (After the song,
she naps down on the teacher's desk.) Oh, I don't care what Miss
Grouchstick says, I don't want to change.
- 30 **PRIMA DONNA:** (Crossing to her.) But, you have to! You have to
work at it!
PRINCESS ANN: Naw.
PRIMA DONNA: Miss Grouchstick will be very disappointed.
WEDGELY: Don't you care even a little bit?
- 35 **PRINCESS ANN:** Naw, I don't care.
SIDE: Not even a teensy, eensy, weensy bit?
PRINCESS ANN: Nope.
TOY SOLDIER: (Crossing to join them.) Well, you do want to graduate,
don't you?
- 40 **PRINCESS ANN:** Naw, I don't care.
TOY SOLDIER: Well, you don't want to go to the... (Beethoven's main
theme. SONG: MC 7 TOY DUMP-MESSES.) Toy Dump, do you?

PRODUCTION NOTES

FLEXIBLE CASTING

MISS GROUCHSTICK (WITCH), PRINCESS ANN and PRIMA DONNA are female parts. All other characters can be played by either sex. Extras can be created by adding more puzzle pieces, teddy bears, cats, or, if desired, other toys. Be creative!

SET PIECES (See Set Design)

Teacher's desk and chair - UP STAGE CENTER

Large chalkboard - UP STAGE RIGHT

Sandbox - DOWN STAGE LEFT

Seven wooden boxes (painted to look like wooden letter blocks) placed in rows - STAGE LEFT and STAGE RIGHT Toy shelf (empty or covered until the final spotlight at the end of the play) - UP STAGE LEFT

PROPERTY PLOT

Stage Props:

Chalk, eraser, bell, extra puzzle pieces, small toys (with price tags) to match each character (for final spotlighted scene on the toy shelf)

Personal Props:

MISS GROUCHSTICK: clipboard with papers, pencils, and 12-plus price tags (enough for each toy in the graduation scene)

WITCH: broom

ROVER: Toy Dogma leaflet, ukulele, Ventura guitar, dark glasses

COOL CAT: guide book

TED E. BEAR: red boxing gloves

PRINCESS ANN: toys in the sandbox (song lyrics give suggestions)

PRIMA DONNA: none

GLOW TOY: none

TOY SOLDIER: bag of walnuts (in the shell), hand-held nutcracker

JIG: none

SAW: none

SIDE: plan sheet for completed puzzle (obviously erroneous)

WEDGELY: plan sheet for completed puzzle (also obviously bogus)

JACK: crank handle for jack-in-the-box

COSTUME IDEAS

MISS GROUCHSTICK: Standard teacher's attire; hair and makeup to match. For the WITCH, use traditional black cape and cap, costume and make-up.

ROVER: Any standard dog costume and makeup.

COOL CAT: Any standard cat costume and makeup.

TED E. BEAR: Any standard huggable teddy bear costume and makeup.

PRINCESS ANN: First, a very frilly pretty dress and then a Raggedy Ann costume and makeup for the last scene.

PRIMA DONNA: Any standard ballerina attire and makeup, including tutu.

GLOW TOY: Basic colored outfit (beige, light green) with battery operated small white Christmas lights interwoven throughout the costume (stocking cap is optional). This way GLOW TOY can control his/her own lights when flickering or at full power. (Another option is to use a large light-weight flashlight sewn into the stomach of a fluorescent material and rigged so GLOW TOY can turn it on and off.)

JACK: Needs a light-weight box (can be constructed of deerskin) large enough to be able to duck down inside (approx. 3.5 to 4 feet high). The box needs a removable crank and a jack-in-the-box paint job. Note: The box needs to be constructed with no top or bottom so the feet are always seen when JACK walks. The box is strapped around JACK'S shoulders much like suspenders and a clown's baggy pants. Face makeup should be to match a jack-in-the-box clown.

TOY SOLDIER: Any suitable toy soldier costume and makeup.

PUZZLE PIECES (JIG, SAW, SIDE, WEDGELY): The puzzle pieces work best cut out of large colorful foam rubber (or other material with give) due to the physical nature of their parts. The actors should wear all black and secure the pieces to their costumes with velcro. Some funny bits can be created between the characters by moving pieces on and off during arguments and songs.

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