



# PUPPET KIT

and

# READER'S THEATER SCRIPT

One Part of A  
Seven-Way Story Adventure



## NOTE TO GROWN-UPS

This kit comes with a full script of MYRTLE OVER THE MOON as well as printable puppets so you can use it whichever ways work best with your kid(s).

Puppetry is a fun way to improve reading aloud skills, reading fluency, listening skills, teamwork, cooperation, and more. Reader's theater is also a great way to improve these skills and works particularly well for older children

Simple printable puppets are included in the kit. Kids can cut these out or design their own.

This is one part of MYRTLE OVER THE MOON Seven-Way Story Adventure.

### Here are a few ways to use this kit:

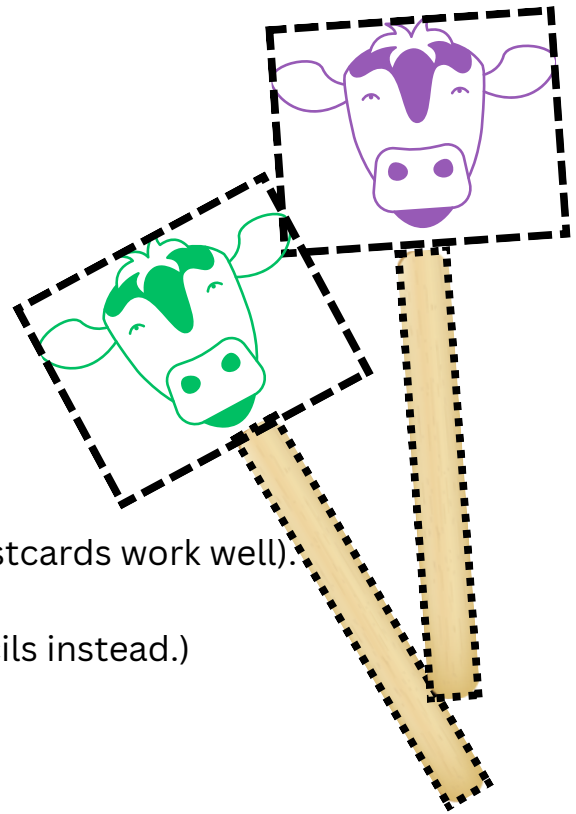
- Kids can use the puppets to retell the story in their own words.
- Put on a reader's theater performance, a puppet show, or an actual play with the enclosed script.
- Play the audiobook as a soundtrack as kids act out the story with puppets.
- Encourage kids to write their own original scripts.



## Hi, kids! Let's get on with the show!

The first thing you'll need for your puppet show is...puppets! On the following pages you'll find puppet characters from Myrtle Over the Moon.

You can also draw some of the characters yourself.



### WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO MAKE THE PUPPETS:

A printer (No printer? Draw your own pictures.)

Scissors

Card Stock or Old File Folders

(Don't have card stock or file folders? Junk mail postcards work well).

Popsicle Sticks

(No Popsicle Sticks? Try chopsticks, straws, or pencils instead.)

Glue Stick

Tape

### DIRECTIONS TO MAKE THE PUPPETS:

1. Ask a grownup to print out TWO sets of the characters. These can be printed on regular paper or directly onto card stock.

(If you print the characters onto card stock, then skip step 2).

2. Use the glue stick to paste the characters to the card stock (or file folder). Do this for two copies of each character.

3. Cut out the two sets of characters.

4. Use tape to attach the stick to the back of one character. Find the other picture of the same character and line up the blank sides. Tape the two pictures together. You end up with one stick that has the same picture showing on opposite sides. Do this for all the characters.

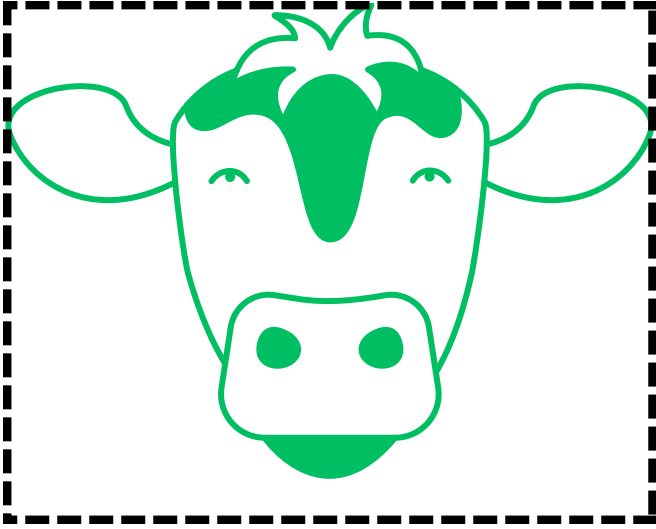
That's it, your puppets are ready!

### What about a Puppet Stage?

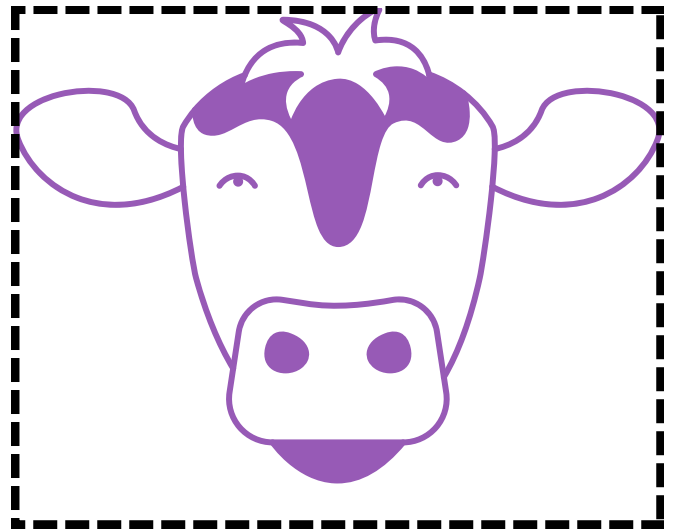
It's no problem if you don't have an actual puppet stage. Just about anything can be your stage. You can duck behind a chair, a couch, a table, or a counter. If these ideas do not work for your puppet stage, just look around and you'll find something that will work.

HAVE FUN!

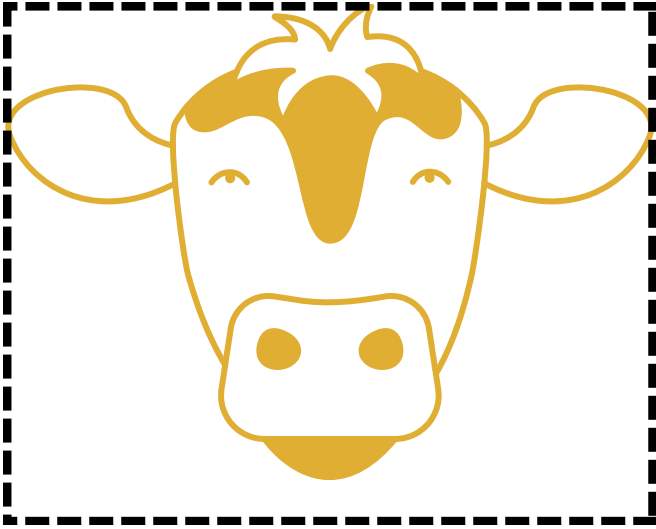
Cow 1



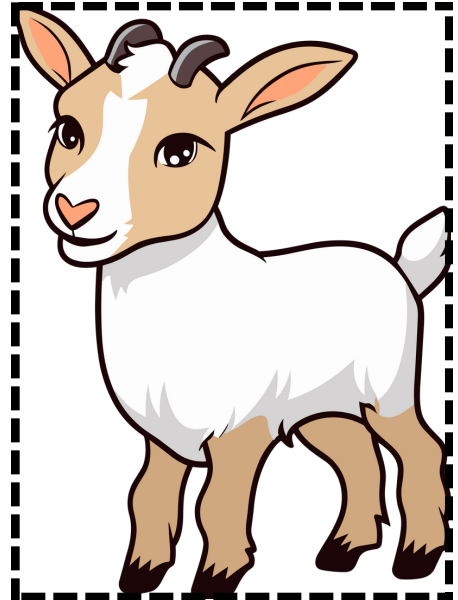
Cow 2



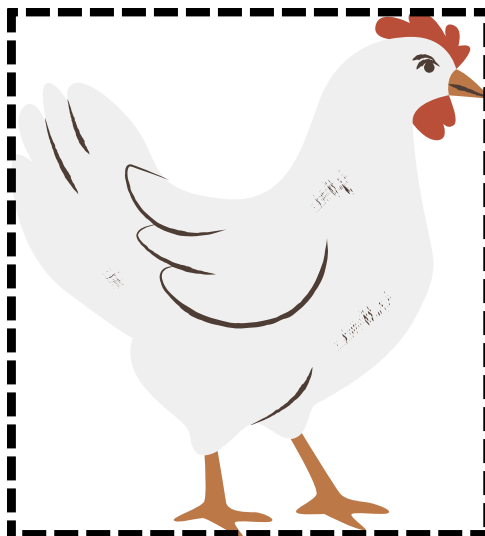
Cow 3



Vincent Van Goat



Chicken



## Narrator



## Reporters



Myrtle



Maurice



Fans



# Draw Your Own Characters



# Draw Your Own Characters







Great! Now that you have your puppets it's time to put on a show. You can retell the story of MYRTLE OVER THE MOON or make up your own story.

You can also use the script that's on the following pages. Scripts are what actors use when they're in a play or a movie. Puppeteers often use a script when they're creating a puppet show. This script can also be used to put on a play or reader's theater performance.



## PARTS OF A SCRIPT

### CHARACTERS/CAST

Characters are the people (or animals) in the play. Together, the people in a play are called a cast.

### DIALOGUE

Dialogue is what the characters in the script say.

### SCENE

A scene is like a chapter in a book. When the action or setting changes there will often be a new scene.

### SETTING

This is where the scene takes place.

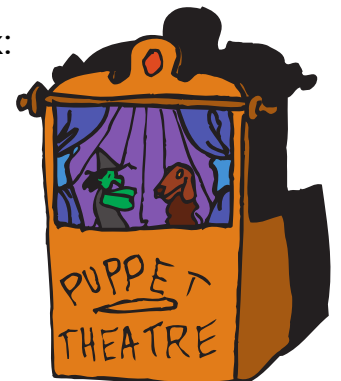
### STAGE DIRECTIONS

Stage directions tell the actor or puppeteer what to do. These are not meant to be said out loud.

We have labeled the stage directions so you don't confuse them with the words the actors say.

This is an example of how the stage directions look:

***[The character slowly walks off the stage.]***



# And Now...On With the Show!

READER'S THEATER  
MYRTLE OVER THE MOON

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Narrator

Myrtle

Maurice

Cow #1

Cow #2

Cow #3

Vincent Van Goat

Chicken

Reporters #1

Reporters #2

Fan #1

Fan #2

SETTING: A Farm

A daylight farm scene. Cows doing cow things.  
The pig is in his pen. A goat is munching grass.

NARRATOR

This story takes place on a farm.

Stage Direction  
*Narrator looks around at the farm scene.*

NARRATOR  
Oops. I forgot. This story takes place at night.  
And that's when things on the farm get interesting...

SETTING:  
The same Farm At Night

*Stage Direction*  
*Cows #1,#2,#3 gather in a group center stage talking to each other.*  
*Vincent Van Goat is painting a picture on an easel.*  
*Maurice The Pig begins to knit while Myrtle is holding the yarn*  
*with her feet/hooves and scrolling through her phone.*

COW #1  
It's so interesting here at night once the sun goes down!

COW #2  
Anyone know what Maurice is knitting?

COW #3  
No idea but I betcha Vincent Van Goat over there finishes  
his picture before Maurice finishes knitting!

*Stage Direction*  
*Cows #1,#2,#3 turn towards Myrtle at the side of the stage.*

COW #2  
Hey Myrtle, what are you doing?

COW#3

Yeh Myrtle, what's going on?

COW #1

Myrtle, what do you do anyway?

MYRTLE

Sorry, I was looking at MooTube.

MAURICE

It's okay Myrtle. You don't have to DO anything. You're my best friend.

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle continues scrolling through her phone and  
shares the screen with Maurice*

*Meanwhile a giant moon is slowly rising in the background.*

MYRTLE

Yeh but wouldn't it be great to have more friends?  
Here look at this cat...Just because he put on a funny hat and  
played the piano, he has millions of likes and millions of friends!

MAURICE

More friends? Why do you need more friends?

MYRTLE

Because if one friend is good, a million friends would be better!  
Imagine a million likes from friends I don't ever know!  
A million fans adoring my fabulous MooTube Show!  
I'd be the greatest star of screen and farm!

MAURICE

Holy cow that sounds like fun!

Cows#1 #2 #3 all together  
Wake up girl. A million likes? What would you do to get even one?

MYRTLE  
They're right Maurice. What could I do?

Maurice  
Maybe you could...

Myrtle <interrupting Maurice>  
I got it!. I'll become a celebrity cook!  
I'll make a million milk berry pies and get my picture in the paper and...

Cow #2  
Myrtle, you don't have an oven!  
How are you going to bake a million milk berry pies?

MYRTLE  
Hmm, good point.  
I know Maurice, I'll become a famous gamer  
and win gold at the Eastwind Olympics

Cow #3  
A gamer?...Even I can beat you Myrtle.  
You need to stay here on earth and stop reaching for the moon.

MYRTLE  
THE MOON!!! THAT'S IT!!!  
I'll jump over the moon!!  
Once I make up my mind I know  
I can do anything!  
The word will spread  
I'm mooooooooooving ahead  
over the moon  
watch me fly!  
Then I'll be special!

MAURICE

I think you're already special, Myrtle.

MYRTLE

Thanks, Maurice. But you're my best friend.  
I want other people to think I'm special.

MAURICE

Oh.

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle pretends to drag a trampoline onto the stage.*

MYRTLE

Help me with this trampoline, Maurice

MAURICE

Oooh, fun!

MYRTLE

Fun is not the point, Maurice.  
I'm going to use this trampoline to jump over the moon.

Cow #1

Did she say she's going to jump over the moon?

Cow #3

I think she did.  
Seriously, the moon?

MYRTLE

That's right.

I will jump over the moon and  
then I will get a million likes on MooTube.

MAURICE

I know you will, Myrtle. You're incredible.  
You can do anything you set your mind to.

MYRTLE

It only counts if everyone sees me jump over the moon.  
You're going to record me with your phone,  
Maurice and we'll post it on MooTube and I will get a million likes!

COW #1

Oh, brother.

Why would she even try something like that?

MYRTLE

Okay. Are you ready, Maurice.

*Stage Direction*

*Maurice uses his phone to film each of  
Myrtle attempts at moon jumping.*

MAURICE

Ready, Myrtle. And...Action!

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle pretends to be jumping up  
and down on the trampoline.*

MYRTLE

One, two, three...here I come moooooooooon!

NARRATOR

Myrtle jumped and jumped and....landed in a bush.

*Stage Direction*

*The other cows watch and laugh at Myrtle  
while Maurice helps Myrtle out of  
the bushes and dusts her off.*

MAURICE

Wow, Myrtle. That was amazing!

MYRTLE

No, it most certainly was not amazing.

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle stomps into the barn and slams the door.  
Maurice looks sad, but we see him uploading  
the video of Myrtle to MooTube.*

NARRATOR

But Myrtle was determined to get a million likes.  
So she decided to give it another try.

*STAGE DIRECTION*

*Myrtle goes off stage and comes back wearing a helmet,  
pretend roller skates on her shoulder,  
and pushing a pretend ramp.*



MYRTLE

I just need a little more speed. I'll put on these roller skates  
and zoom up this ramp and fly over the moon.  
Then everyone will know that I am special.

MAURICE

I think you're special.

MYRTLE

Help me with these roller skates.

COW #2

Do you think that will work or is it udderly out of the question?

COW #3

I don't know about this...I hope she's careful!

MYRTLE

I'm ready. I'm gonna do it this time! Are you rolling Maurice?

*Stage Direction*

*Maurice aims his phone/camera at Myrtle.*

MAURICE

Ready Myrtle.

MYRTLE

ACTION!

Here I come moooooooooooooon!

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle pretends to do what the narrator is describing.*

NARRATOR

Myrtle skated down the ramp and up...up...up...into the air...  
and...kerplunk. She lands in the bush again.

MYRTLE

Oof!

*Stage Direction*

*Maurice pretends to help Myrtle get up  
and untangled from the bush.*

MAURICE

Wow, Myrtle. Did you see how high you were?  
That was fantastic.

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle is visibly disappointed and upset.*

MYRTLE

No it wasn't fantastic!

*Stage Direction*

*Maurice shrugs, turns away from Myrtle,  
and uploads this video to MooTube as well.*

MYRTLE

Okay, Maurice. I know you thought  
the trampoline was a good idea...

MAURICE

I don't think I--

MYRTLE

And then you thought we should  
use the roller skates to get more speed.

MAURICE

I did?

MYRTLE

The point is that none of those were bad ideas,  
they just needed something more. I wish I knew what!

*Stage Direction*

*Everyone on stage turns to face Myrtle.*

EVERYONE ON THE STAGE  
EXCEPT MYRTLE  
SHOUTS AT THE SAME TIME  
Oomph!

MYRTLE

Oomph?

EVERYONE ON THE STAGE

EXCEPT MYRTLE  
SHOUTS  
MORE QUIETLY AT THE SAME TIME  
YES, OOMPH!  
MYRTLE  
What's oomph?

*Stage Direction*  
*The 3 cows are now near center stage facing Myrtle.*

COW #1  
You've got desire deep in your heart

COW #2  
But you lack the fire to even start!

COW #3  
Well don't give in and don't look back

COW #1,2,3  
There's just one thing you lack!

OMPH! OMPH! OMPH!

MYRTLE  
HUH?

COW #2  
What turns a nut into a tree?

COW #1

What drives a fish to swim the giant sea?

COW #3

What drives you from your cozy bed...

COWS #1,2,3

To face that awful history test?

OOOOOOmph, OOOOOOmph,

OOMP!

When your last ounce of hope is gone,

What makes you stand up tall and carry on?

OOOOOOmph, OOOOOOmph, OOMP!

GO FIND YOUR OOMP

MYRTLE

AHH...OOMP!

NARRATOR

Myrtle is inspired and decides to give  
jumping over the moon one more try.

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle goes off stage and pretends to drag a jetpack center stage.  
She has now added goggles and gloves to her outfit and reaches for the Jet Pack.*

MAURICE

What is that Myrtle?

*Stage Direction*

*Myrtle puts on her jetpack.*

MYRTLE  
A jetpack.

MAURICE  
Wow!

MYRTLE  
Ready to capture this on your phone Maurice?

MAURICE  
Yep...Action!

MYRTLE  
3-2-1 BLAST OFF! Here I come moooooooooooooon!

*Stage Direction*  
*Myrtle pretends to do what the narrator is describing.*

NARRATOR  
This time Myrtle flies up and up and up and up and up and up  
And then...the engines sputter...  
And Myrtle flies down and down and down and down  
...finally landing in a pond. Splash!

*Stage Direction*

*Maurice pretends to help Myrtle get out of the pond and dry off.*

MAURICE

Holy cow! Myrtle that was absolutely stupendous.  
I think you broke through the earth's atmosphere that time.

MYRTLE

Stop it.

MAURICE

Seriously, Myrtle. That was incredible.

MAURICE

You went so high and--

MYRTLE

I said stop.

MAURICE

You are truly a cow among cows.  
You are the most spectacular, amazing,  
super stupendous cow I have ever--

MYRTLE

I SAID STOPPPPPP!!!! You are wrong,  
Maurice. I am not amazing or stupendous or  
spectacular. I am a failure Maurice.

MAURICE  
No, Myrtle--

MYRTLE  
I am never going to be on MooTube.  
I'm never going to get a million likes.  
Now leave me alone!

MAURICE  
But, Myrtle, you're already on--

MYRTLE  
Leave me alone, Maurice!!!

*Stage Direction*  
*Myrtle goes off stage and hides in the barn*  
*Maurice watches as she walks away.*  
*He looks incredibly baffled and hurt.*  
*He uploads this video on MooTube then walks sadly away.*

Maurice  
Oh Myrtle, you cannot know how it hurts to see you down and out.  
How can it be that a pig like me has got your problems figured out?  
There's more not less, you must confess, to friendship and  
encouraging your bestie. Don't you see, the  
reason you are in demand is because you try and try and try.  
Goodbye Myrtle

*Stage Direction*  
*Myrtle pretends to do what the narrator is describing.*



NARRATOR

Myrtle hid in the barn for three days,  
Each day, she expected Maurice to come and find her  
and tell her how special she was. But he never came.

Meanwhile, Maurice's posts on MooTube went viral!

On the third day, when Myrtle heard a knock on the door.  
She opened it expecting to see Maurice.

MYRTLE

Maurice is that you?

NARRATOR

But It wasn't Maurice. It was ...a chicken.

*Stage Direction*

*When Myrtle opens the door Chicken  
sticks out his paw and they shake.*

CHICKEN

Oh, my gosh. Are you Myrtle, the famous cow  
from MooTube will you sign my autograph book?

MYRTLE

Huh? No. I'm a failure. I wasn't on MooTube...

CHICKEN

But you're Myrtle the trampolining,  
roller skating, jetpacking cow, right?

MYRTLE

Yes, but...

CHICKEN

I'm never going to wash this paw again.

MYRTLE

I don't think that's a very good idea.

CHICKEN

It's her, you guys!!

MYRTLE

But I was never on Moo--

*Stage Direction*

*The barn doors burst open and Myrtle is swarmed  
by fans and reporters and COWS #1,2,3*

REPORTER #1

Pose for a picture, Myrtle?

FAN #1  
Can I get a selfie?

REPORTER #2  
Can we get an interview?

FAN #2  
What's your favorite breakfast cereal?

NARRATOR  
Myrtle was thrilled. She signed autographs and posed for photos.

REPORTER  
Myrtle, why are you so amazing?

MYRTLE  
Oh, let me think for a minute...

*Stage Direction*  
*Myrtle smiles and taps her foot while standing and thinking.*

NARRATOR  
Myrtle is thinking about all the ways that she tried to jump over the moon and how Maurice was there in all the memories, giving encouragement, helping her out, being a friend. Myrtle begins to realize what an amazing friend Maurice is and says...

MYRTLE

I'm amazing because I have an amazing,  
wonderful friend named Maurice!

*Stage Direction*

*Everyone nods, smiles, and looks around waiting for Maurice  
to come forward. But he is not there.*

MYRTLE

I SAID...I have a wonderful friend named Maurice!

NARRATOR

Still Maurice does not appear.

MYRTLE

Maurice? Maurice,  
where are you?  
I'm so sorry I yelled.  
Maurice, I miss you!

NARRATOR

A pink nose pushed through the crowd.

MAURICE

Do you mean it, Myrtle?

MYRTLE

Oh, Maurice, of course I mean it.  
You're my best friend. That's all I need.

*Stage Direction*

*They start to walk into the sunset, but then Myrtle stops.*

MYRTLE

Hey Maurice...maybe we shouldn't disappoint our fans.

MAURICE

You know Myrtle. You are just amazing.  
Of course we should be nice to our fans.

*Stage Direction*

*They turn back to the crowd and pose for pictures together*