

“McCready’s Candy Cane Christmas”

by
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What The McCreadys’ use the candy cane to teach a lesson about Jesus.

Themes: Christmas, Salvation

Who Stevie
Petey
Mimi
Ralph

When Present

Costumes and Props Candy canes
Question of the day sign ‘Have you recognized how sweet the love of Jesus is this Christmas season?’

Why John 3:16

How Voices in puppet shows are important. Read over and practice the script to get to know the characters and how they should react and communicate with each other. These characters are siblings and their voices/personalities should be practiced as follows:

Stevie, the oldest and a little up-tight concerning Ralph’s antics.

Petey, extremely intelligent and kind.

Mimi, sweet and helpful explaining things to Ralph.

Ralph, the youngest, innocent, energetic, cute and funny.

Since the puppets’ expressions are fixed, over exaggerate their voices to project the drama and emotional part of the show.

Practice having the puppets say certain words simultaneously for effect (i.e. ‘We’re the McCreadys’, ‘Amen’ etc.).

PURCHASE
Movement in puppet shows are important. Read over and familiarize yourself with the script well enough to have your puppet reacting properly to each line. Even when the current line is not for your puppet, your puppet shouldn't be frozen; they should be looking at the puppet speaking, nodding, etc.

For ease of performance, having 2 persons per puppet works very well. One sits directly behind the other. The front puppeteer actually works the puppet, and the 2nd puppeteer does the voice, touching the front puppeteer on the shoulder when he has a line.

Ask middle school or older puppeteers to do the actual performance for the younger class. The middle schoolers will learn the lesson too.

Specific to this performance, before the show, give each child a candy cane so they can see the markings on the candy during the show. At the end of the show, give each child a second candy cane to share with a friend to tell them about Jesus. Also, print out a copy of 'Jesus and the Candy Cane' poem on the last page to share with the children. Have fun!

Time Approximately 6 minutes

REMOVE

WATERMARK

AT

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Stevie: *(appears)* Hi boys and girls! Let me introduce myself! I'm Stevie McCready...

Petey: *(appears)* ...and I'm Petey McCready!

Mimi: *(appears)* ...and I'm Mimi McCready!

Ralph: *(appears)* ...and I'm Ralph!

Stevie: And we've got a wonderful lesson for you today...don't we, Petey?

Petey: Indeed, we do! What are we talking about today, Mimi?

Mimi: Well since this is the Christmas season, we're going to learn how to share the good news of Jesus, and in the *sweetest way!*

Ralph: *(eagerly)* In the sweetest way? *(proudly)* Hey! I'm the *sweetest!*

Stevie: *(confused, to Ralph)* Ralph, what are you talking about?

Ralph: Cousin Edie McCready! She's always telling me *(changing to a higher voice to sound like Cousin Edie)* 'Oh my goodness Ralphie, you are just the *sweetest thing!*

Stevie: *(shaking his head)* Oh brother...

Ralph: *(confused)* Then she'll always give me a really long hard *s q u e e z e ...*

Mimi: *(giggles)* Ralphie dear, I believe she's giving you a hug!

Ralph: *(realization)* A hug? *(nodding)* Well...yeah now...that does makes sense...

Mimi: *(to Ralph)* But the 'sweet' I was referring to earlier...

Petey: *(to Mimi with much drama)* ...is the one and only...

Petey and Mimi: *(singing)* *candy cane!*

Stevie and Ralph: *(confused)* Huh?

Petey: The candy cane is most popular at Christmastime, and we're going to learn how to use this candy to tell others about Jesus!

Mimi: That's right, Petey! And our bible verse comes from John 3:16.

Stevie: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life!

Ralph: And God's only begotten Son is...JESUS!

Mimi: That's right, Ralphie! Now, there are many characteristics of the candy cane that point to Jesus!

Ralph: Like what, Mimi?

Mimi: Well, the first is the shape of the candy itself! The "J" shape reminds us of the name of Jesus!

Stevie: I never thought about that before, but it does look like the letter "J"!

Petey: So, for example, you could give someone a candy cane and say, "The 'J' stands for Jesus, our Savior and our Lord...Born a babe in Bethlehem, the One that we adore."

Ralph: *(excitedly)* Cool!

Petey: And, if you turn the candy upside down, it looks like a shepherd's staff!

Stevie: *(to Petey)* And Jesus is known as our "Good Shepherd" ...

Petey: *(to Stevie)* ...because He watches over His sheep!

Ralph: And we *are* His sheep! *(sounding like a sheep, loudly, eyes to the ceiling)* Baa! Baaaa!

Stevie: *(shaking his head)* Oh boy...

Mimi: Ralphie dear, we're just *symbolized* as sheep because as a shepherd will protect his sheep, Jesus is our Good Shepherd, and we follow Him!

Ralph: *(sounding like a sheep, loudly, eyes to the ceiling)* Baa! Jesus is my Good Shepherd! Baa! Baaaaa!

Stevie: Ralph...

Ralph: Yeah, Stevie?

Stevie: Are you done being a sheep?

Ralph: Uhh...I think so. Let me check. *(opens his mouth widely then closes his mouth with no sound. Repeat 2 times)* *(to Stevie)* Yep! All finished!

Stevie: So...we could say...

Ralph: *(interrupting)* Baaaaa!

Stevie: Ralph! I thought you said you were finished!

Ralph: Wow! I must've had one more in me! Sorry!

Stevie: So...we could say...

Ralph: *(interrupting, shaking)* Baaaaa! Baaaaa!

Stevie: *(louder)* Ralph!!

Ralph: Golly Stevie, I don't even *know* where that one came from!

Mimi: *(to Ralph)* Ralphie, cover your mouth and hold your breath please!

Ralph: *(takes a deep breath and covers his mouth with his hand)*

Stevie: Thank you, Mimi! So...we could say, "And upside down a shepherd's staff, for also He is known...as the one and true 'Good Shepherd' who sits on Heaven's throne."

Mimi: I like that, Stevie! Good job!

Petey: Outstanding I must say!

Ralph: *(still holding his breath)* Mmm! Mmmm!! *(Ralph falls in the floor. Drop a large book to make a loud sound or use a sound effect)*

Mimi: *(looking down)* Oh dear, I forgot you were holding your breath...let it out dearie!

Ralph: *(exhales loudly then reappears)* I'm okay!

Stevie: *(shaking his head)* Oh brother!

Mimi: *(to Ralph)* Try to be more careful dearie!

Ralph: I will! *(rubbing his head)* That floor sure is *hard*!

Petey: Now notice the stripes on the candy cane. The bible says that Jesus took stripes upon His body before He was crucified, and these stripes were meant to be the payment for our sicknesses.

Mimi: So, we could say 'The stripes are for the beating Jesus took for you and me...they were given for our healing, so we can be set free'.

Ralph: Wow. Jesus suffered a lot for us, didn't He?

Mimi: Yes Ralphie, there's no doubt, He surely did.

Petey: Now, when we see the color red, it reminds us of the blood Jesus shed on the cross for the payment of our sins!

Stevie: So, we can go to heaven someday!

Petey: So, we could say 'The red is for the blood He shed high upon the tree...In payment for our wrongs and sins He died on Calvary'.

Ralph: Jesus died for me and Mimi and Petey and Stevie and *(leaning out toward the audience)* him and her and her and him...

Mimi: Yes Ralphie, Jesus died for each and every one!

Petey: And because He did, the color white reminds us of our sins that have been washed clean!

Mimi: So, we could say 'The white is for the cleansing of our sins of which we know, that all can be forgiven, and made as white as snow'.

Ralph: I'm glad my sins are forgiven! *(looking up)* Thank you Jesus!

All: Amen!

Mimi: And when we taste the sweetness of the candy cane, it reminds us of the sweet love Jesus has for each and every one!

Petey: So, we could say 'The sweetness is the knowing of each and every one...of the love and the devotion to His children He has shown'.

Petey: That's right! Let's give Him praise!

Ralph: *(enthusiastically)* We serve an awesome God!

Stevie: You can say that again!

Ralph: *(louder)* We serve an awesome God!

Petey: Most assuredly!

Mimi: Praise the name of Jesus!

All: Amen!

Stevie: Hey everybody, let's not keep this love to ourselves, let's share the news of Jesus with someone today!

Ralph: *(unsure)* So could we say, "As you enjoy the goodness of this candy every year, please share the joy of Jesus with people far and near?"

Stevie: Not bad little bro!

Petey: Well done, Ralph!

Mimi: Yes Ralphie, that was very good!

Ralph: *(embarrassed, shaking his head, looking down)* Aww...go on...
Petey: So...here is the question of the day...
Hold up 'Question of the Day' sign

Mimi: Have you recognized how sweet the love of Jesus is this Christmas season?

Ralph: Let God have *His* way, and it will be one of the best things you can ever do!

Petey: And don't forget to give a candy cane to someone and share the good news of Jesus with them!

All: Amen!

Stevie: Well, this is Stevie!

Petey: ...and this is Petey!

Mimi: ...and this is Mimi!

Ralph: ...and this is Ralph!

All: We're the McCready's! Merry Christmas! See you next time! Good-bye everybody! Good-bye!

Lights out.

Jesus and the Candy Cane

And now a poem to memorize and help us understand
The story of our Savior Lord and King the Great I Am
The candy cane is used to teach some things we can remember
And tell the tale we celebrate each year and in December
The 'J' stands for Jesus, our Savior and our Lord
Born a babe in Bethlehem, the One that we adore
And upside down a shepherds staff, for also He is known
As the one and true 'Good Shepherd' who sits on Heaven's
throne

The stripes are for the beating Jesus took for you and me
They were given for our healing, so we can be set free
The red is for the blood He shed high upon the tree
In payment for our wrongs and sins He died on Calvary
The white is for the cleansing of our sins of which we know
That all can be forgiven, and made as white as snow
The sweetness is the knowing of each and every one
Of the love and the devotion to His children He has shown
As you enjoy the goodness of this candy every year
Please share the joy of Jesus with people far and near.