Goldilocks and the Three Bears

By
Jonathan Lloyd and Joseph Coelho
Notes on script

This adaptation is for 2 actors, one male and one female. Lines in blue type are for the female actor, lines in black for the male actor.

The allocation of the lines merely reflects that of the original production at Polka Theatre; feel free to play around with who says what...

The original production was conceived on two scales: in most of the scenes, the bears are represented by teddy bears, and Goldilocks by a rag-doll. For these small scale scenes, we built a doll’s house size cottage, and set it on top of a playboard. When needed, it opened up to reveal 3 chairs, 3 bowls etc. The playboard also contained trees for the scenes in the woods. Where indicated, the scale changes and the actors themselves play the characters –ie. as if the teddy bears or rag-doll have come to life.

Original music by Julian Butler is available for this production on request.
1. Prologue

*A girl wanders towards the theatre. She’s carrying a rag-doll, with blonde locks.*

*She pauses at the door of the theatre, peers through the window. She rat-a-tat-tats on the honeycomb-shaped knocker. No answer.*

GIRL: Should we? Should we? Should we go in?

*The rag-doll nods. The girl nudges open the door, and sneaks inside.*

*We follow her...*

*Inside, the walls are covered in creepers; there are sounds and smells of the woods. In the distance, raised up on a playboard, is: a cottage (like a doll’s house, only not for dolls...). There’s a warm orange light inside.*

*When everyone’s settled, the girl approaches the cottage.*

*There’s a low, pathetic growl from behind the playboard. A paw, with claws on, appears. Trying, but failing, to be scary.*

*The girl smiles, goes behind the playboard. Waves.*

GIRL: Hello.

*The paw disappears, and a boy stands up.*

BOY: Hi. (waves)

*He takes off the bear’s paw. An awkward pause. The girl whispers in the boy’s ear. He nods.*

*They start to tell the story...*
2. Three Bears

Once, there were three bears...

(Too quiet.)

**ONCE, THERE WERE THREE BEARS...**

(Too loud.)

Once, there were three bears.

(Just right.)

Where?

In there.

The house!

One, two, three...

*THEY OPEN THE DOOR OF THE DOLL’S HOUSE COTTAGE.*

There was...

One.

A big bear.

How big?

Mahooossive

Ginormerous.

And he was the Daddy Bear.

*(DADDY’S MUSIC - REVEAL OF DADDY BEAR)*

And there was...

Two.

A medium-sized bear.
Medium?
Not massive.
Not minuscule.
In the middle.
Sort of...

SHOWS THE BEAR.

That size.

And she was the Mummy Bear.

(MUMMY’S MUSIC)

And last,
But not least,
There was...
Three.
A small bear.
How small?
Like a pea?
Like a flea?
Or small like...

SHOWS THE BEAR.

‘Me.’
A baby bear.
‘Me.’
An only bear.
‘Me.’
(BABY’S MUSIC)

A sleeping bear.

‘Sleeping?’

Sleeping.

3. Getting Up

THE BERS IN THEIR BEDS. BABY BEAR IN HIS COT. ASLEEP.

Sighing and snuffling

Quietly dreaming

Dreaming of the day to come.

A special day.

THREE ALARM CLOCKS GO OFF – LOUD, MEDIUM, AND QUIET.

‘Morning!’

(Said Dad.)

‘Morning!’

(Said Mum.)

‘Morning!’

(Said Baby Bear.)

Time to get up.

Time to get ready.

One.

Wash faces.

Wash faces!

DAD TESTS THE WATER FROM TAPS.
‘Nice and hot...’

HE WASHES HIS FACE:

‘Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe
Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe
Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe’

MUM TESTS THE WATER FROM TAPS.

‘Nice and cold...’

SHE WASHES HER FACE:

‘Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe
Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe
Splosh-Splosh-Splosh
Swipe-Swipe-Swipe’

IT’S BABY BEAR’S TURN – HE TESTS THE WATER.

‘Just right...
Swipe. Swipe...’

THEN MANIC FACE-WASHING.

Two.
Brush teeth.

Brush teeth!

*DAD BRUSHES TEETH.*

‘Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka
Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka
Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka’

*DAD GARGLES.*

*MUM BRUSHES TEETH:*

‘Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka
Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka
Shoock-shoock-shoock
Shicka-shicka-shicka’

*MUM GARGLES.*

*THEN IT’S BABY BEAR’S TURN – MANIC TEETHBRUSHING ETC.*

Three.

Get dressed.

Get dressed!

Zip-button-zip
Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Zip-button-zip
Zip-button, Zip-button
Zip-button-zip.

Zip-button-zip
Zip-button-zip
Zip-button, Zip-button
Zip-button-zip.

Zip-button-zip
Zip-button-zip
Zip-button, Zip-button
Zip-button-zip.

‘Zip-butt...
Zip-butt...
Ummmm...
Mummmm...?!
Ahh.
4. The bed, the chair & the bowl

Today was a special day
‘It’s a special day for me.’
Today Baby Bear
Was growing up
Growing bigger
Growing older
And maybe, just maybe
No longer a baby.
‘You see this cot?
It’s for babies.
Wah wah wahhhh!
Goo-goo-goo.
Mummmmmy!’
This cot was not, not, not
For him any more.

THE COT IS TAKEN AWAY.

Instead...

AND REPLACED BY:

A bed.
A grown-up bed.

‘It’s... just right.’

*MUSIC – LOVE THEME (BABY BEAR LOVES HIS NEW BED).*

*DOWNSTAIRS. THE SITTING ROOM.*

Today Baby Bear

Was growing up

Growing bigger

Growing older

And maybe, just maybe

No longer a baby.

‘You see this high chair?

It’s for babies.

Wah wah wahhhh!

Goo-goo-goo.

Mummmmy!’

This high chair

Was not, not, not

For this bear.

Not any more. Not today.

‘Throw it away!’
And in its place...

A grown-up chair.

‘It’s... just right.’

*MUSIC – LOVE THEME (BABY BEAR LOVES HIS NEW CHAIR.)*

*THE KITCHEN.*

Today Baby Bear

Was growing up

Growing bigger

Growing older

And maybe, just maybe

No longer a baby.

‘You see this plastic plate?

You see this bib?

They’re for babies.

Wah wah wahhhh!

Goo-goo-goo.

Mummmmy!’

This bib, this plastic,

Were *not* fantastic.

‘No more baby food!

No more baby goo!
Enough of mush!

A stop to slop!’

Instead of which...

Porridge.

5. Completely perfect porridge.

NB. CHANGE IN SCALE – MUM AND BABY BEAR NOW PLAYED BY THE ACTORS.

MUM IS TEACHING BABY HOW TO MAKE PORRIDGE. IN A SONG:

MUM: Take some oats and shake the oats
    Scottish oats will flake the most
    Flaky oats from John O’Groats
    Completely perfect porridge.

    A pan of milk as smooth as silk
    Don’t overfill, ‘cause milk gets spilt
    Heat the milk (it takes some skill)

MUM/BABY: Completely perfect porridge.

MUM: Take the oats and take the milk
    (Two parts milk to one part oats)
    Swish and swill until, I quote,

MUM/BABY: “Completely perfect porridge.”

    What a way to start the day
    Wash your worries clean away
    What a way to start the day
    Completely perfect porridge
    Completely perfect porridge

TAP-DANCE!
What a way to start the day
Wash your worries clean away
What a way to start the day
Completely perfect porridge
Completely perfect porridge

SHOW (THE REAL, BUBBLING, STEAMING) PORRIDGE TO AUDIENCE

MUM: Please your tummy: add some honey...

BABY: Please your tummy: add some honey!

MUM/BABY: Please your tummy: add some honey!

BABY: Mummy? There’s no honey!

MUM: (Looking.) That’s funny...

MUM/BABY: NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

But that means, we’ve got to see...

The bees!

The bees.

And that means, we’ve got to go...

To the woods?

To the woods.

To the woods...

To the woods!

6. Goldilocks in the Woods
The woods
The dark woods
The cold dark woods
With a wicked whipping wind

The trees
The tangling trees
The tangling towering trees
With large leaves

The bushes
The prickerly bushes
The prickerly spiky bushes
With - Ohh!
Aghhh!
Och!
Eeeek!
Oooh!
Thorns!

The animals
The strange animals
The strange noisy animals
Making strange animal sounds

Ahoom!
Aha!
A-hoo A-hoo
A-yabba yabba

A girl
A girl from the woods
A little girl
With lots of golden locks
Goldilocks
Goldi

Goldi is walking
Walking through the tall trees with the large leaves
Walking through the prickerly bushes with the Ooh! Agh! och! thorns
Walking through the strange animals making strange animal noises

She sees a tall tree
With glistening orange sap

Goldi climbs the tall tree as quickly as a kite
Goldi peers through her telescope
Goldi spies a little light

A bright light
A warm bright light
A warm bright light
In a small cozy house

Goldi abseils down from the tree
Using a rope and carabeena
The forest is cool and mysterious
The shadows are looking greener

Goldi steps on some twigs...
Snap!
Snap!
Snap!
Snap!
Snappety!
Snap snap!

Goldi ducks behind some hedges
Duck!
Duck!
Goose!!!
She gets startled by a sound
Rebbit!
Rebbit!
Rebbit!

*IT’S A FROG. SHE KISSES IT. IT TURNS INTO A PRINCE.*

Yuurrghhh!

She crunches on some pebbles...
Crunch!
Crunch!
Crunch!
Crunchety!
Crunchety!
Crunch, crunch!

Things are lurking
In the leaves around her feet
Goldi picks up an earwig
Looking for something to eat.

The small cozy house is nearer
Goldi can see it has a small yellow door
Goldi’s never seen a house
In the cool mysterious woods before
Goldi wades through quicksand

Goldi swims across a lake

Goldi lets out a yawn

Her legs are starting to ache

Goldi hears something...

Meow!

Meow!

Meow

Is it a cat?

She hears something else...

Grumble!

Grumble!

Grumble!

Is it her stomach?

She hears something else...

Mush!

Mush!

Mush!

It's a...Mushroom!

KA-YAH!!!!!!!
SHE FIGHTS THE (WILD) MUSHROOM... AS THE BEAR'S HOUSE APPEARS.

BUT THE GIRL'S GONE. LEAVING THE BOY ON HIS OWN.

She's at the small cozy house
She can smell the smoking chimney
She can touch the small yellow door

And she can see it has
a honey-comb shaped knocker.

What's this for?

Once – Ding dong
Twice – Drrnnnnng drrrrnnnnng Drnnnnngggg
Thrice – BOOOM BOOOM BOOOM

No one answers!

The small cozy house
With the smoking chimney
And the yellow door
And the honey-comb knocker
Has small, neat, perfect windows

And one is open!
Wide open

Should she?
Should she climb through???
Should she?
Should she?
Should she?