All Creatures Great and Small

**Costume/Prop Suggestions**

<table>
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<th>Suggestion</th>
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<td>Children should dress in school clothes as if attending a field trip. Some can wear hats or visors, as well as sunglasses. A few students can carry backpacks. Mrs. Martin, the teacher, should be dressed in jeans and shirt, wear a hat, have a whistle around her neck, and carry a clipboard.</td>
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**Set Suggestions**

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<td>Decorate the stage with pictures of zoo animals drawn by the children. Place various live plants and trees around the stage. Create a large sign to hang in the center of the back wall which reads “City Zoo.”</td>
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**Script Begins**

Please note: This script is created for a small cast but can be expanded to fit any number of children you would like to use.

**(A group of children and their teacher walk on stage.**)

**Shelly:** Thanks for bringing us to the zoo today, Mrs. Martin. You’re the best teacher ever!

**Mrs. Martin:** It’s my pleasure, kids. Besides, I love the zoo as much as you do.

**Mark:** This place is so big how will we ever know which way to go first?

**Jeremy:** And there are so many animals to see! I can’t wait to go to the monkey’s cage.

**Lauren:** I want to see the seals.

**Mrs. Martin:** You know, children, you can see the most fascinating things here at the zoo without having to look in a cage. *(presenting hands all around)* Why, use your eyes and ears and you’ll discover all that nature brings.

*(During the song, have three children dressed as grasshoppers, with fiddles in hand, pretend to play as the song is sung.)*
**Song 1: Grasshoppers Three, p. T284**

**Shelly:** *(pointing to the distance)* Oh, look! There’s a petting zoo!

**Mark:** I see all kinds of animals that we can actually touch and feed.

**Mrs. Martin:** Yes, children, these are fascinating animals, as well. Which ones are your favorites?

**Jeremy:** I like the pigs!

**Lauren:** I like the rabbits.

**Shelly:** *(pointing)* I like that black lamb over there. I wonder how he got such a dark coat of fur.

*(During the song have “Mary” and her “lamb” reenact the story as it is sung.)*

**Song 2: Mary’s Coal Black Lamb, p. T286**

**Mark:** Come on, Mrs. Martin. Let’s keep going. There’s still so much to see.

**Jeremy:** *(turning to Mrs. Martin)* How many animals do you think there are at this zoo?

**Lauren:** Yes, Mrs. Martin, and how are we ever going to remember the names for all of them when we write our zoo report?

**Mrs. Martin:** Well, I can’t name them all for you, but I do have a song that might help you remember some.

*(During the song have two children dressed as a “cat” and a “rat” pantomime the song.)*

**Song 3: Animal Song, p. T288**

**Shelly:** *(pointing to the distance)* Hey, everyone! Did you see those leopards over there? The sign said they are from the Philippines.

**Mark:** They are “purrrr-fect” looking, aren’t they?

*(All laugh.)*

**Jeremy:** They remind me of my cat at home…except a whole lot bigger!

**Lauren:** I wonder if those cats would be any better at catching rats and mice than my cat!
Mrs. Martin: (clapping hands several times to get everyone’s attention) Alright, everyone, it’s time for our picnic.

Jeremy: Now this is my favorite part of visiting the zoo!

Lauren: Somehow that doesn’t surprise me, Jeremy!

Shelly: Let’s go sit at that picnic table over there.

Mark: (looking at the table) It looks like it’s already taken.

Mrs. Martin: What do you mean, Mark?

Mark: It looks like there’s a group of ladybugs that beat us to it.

(During the song have twelve children dressed as ladybugs appear one at a time with lunch pails and proceed to have a picnic at the table as the children eat their lunch on the ground.)

Mrs. Martin: Ok, kids. It’s time to pick up your lunch trash before we continue our zoo tour. Be sure you clean up the things you dropped on the ground.

(All of the children begin picking up their trash quickly.)

Shelly: (laughing and pointing to the others) Look, Mrs. Martin! We look like chickens pecking at grain on the ground.

Mrs. Martin: (stops picking up trash and looks around) You’re right, Shelly!

Jeremy: This reminds me of the chicken song we sang in school the other day.

Mrs. Martin: I’ve got a great idea. Why don’t we all sing this song while we work. It will make the time go faster.

Lauren: That’s good thinking, Mrs. Martin!

(During the song Mrs. Martin and the children all sing the song as they continue to clean up the picnic area.)
**Song 6: Chickery Chick, p. T292**

**Mark:** Do we have time to go look in the amphibian house?

**Mrs. Martin:** Certainly, Mark!

**Shelly:** *(making a terrible face)* Ewww! I’m not so sure about that place. It scares me.

**Mrs. Martin:** What the problem, Shelly?

**Shelly:** Well, those “things” are so…cold…and slimy!

**Mark:** And that’s just why I like them!

**Song 7: Caribbean Amphibian, p. T294**

**Mrs. Martin:** *(looking at her watch)* Well, students, it looks like it’s time to go!

**Shelly:** I had so much fun at the zoo today.

**Mark:** Me, too! Thanks, Mrs. Martin, for letting us come on this trip.

**Mrs. Martin:** You’re welcome, children. What was your favorite part about today?

**Jeremy:** I liked the monkeys!

**Mark:** I liked the snakes!

**Lauren:** I liked the bears!

**Shelly:** You know, Mrs. Martin, I think my favorite part about today was being together as a class!

**Mrs. Martin:** Me, too, Shelly. Now come on…I’ve got to get you animals home!

*(All laugh and exit the stage.)*