

SAVE THE PLANTS!

An Accompany Publishing Musical Play

CHARACTERS

The STUDENTS:

Pete Moss
Mary Gold
Daisy Chain
Bud Rose
Iris

The PLANTS:

The Family Peapod: #1, #2,
#3, #4

Burpee Tomato

Shrinking Violets: Violet #1
Violet #2

Hot Pepper

Sunny Flower

An Iris, Marigold, Daisy, Rose

The STUMBLING BUMBLEBEES:

Bumble
Buzz

A Chorus of HUNGRY APHIDS:

Aphid #1
Aphid #2
Aphid #3

The TEACHERS:

Principal Growforit
Professor Greenthumb

The GARDEN ROYALTY:

Lady Ladybug
Sir Field Mouse

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SCENES

Scene One: Outside School during Recess.

Scene Two: The Classroom.

Scene Three: The Garden.


Songs: *"Reaching For The Sun"*
"Let It Rain"
"Eat Those Leaves"

Scene Four: The Garden, later that day.

Songs: *"Photosynthesis"*
"Save The Plants"

SCENE ONE

Outside school. The stage is empty. A nearby garden is flourishing.

 [Sound Effect: the recess bell rings.]

ALL

[From offstage] Recess!

[PETE MOSS and BUD ROSE run on, BUD bouncing a basketball.]

BUD

Recess!

PETE

Recess!

BUD

He shoots! He scores!

PETE

He passes the ball. Hey. He passes the ball. Bud! Pass the ball!

[IRIS enters, carrying a tiny seed in one hand, and a pail and shovel in the other.]

BUD

Hey Iris, what's that?

IRIS

Shh. It needs quiet.

PETE

Is it a cockroach? I bet it's a cockroach.

IRIS

It's a pumpkin seed. I'm going to plant it.

PETE

That's a pumpkin? I can't even see it.

IRIS

It's not a pumpkin, it's a pumpkin seed.

PETE

I want it to be a pumpkin!

IRIS

It will be, if you give it time.

BUD

I'll give it ten seconds. One—

IRIS

Hey!

PETE

Two—

IRIS

It doesn't work that way, Pete.

PETE

Three, four, five—

BUD

[Quickly] Sixseveineightnineten. Where's my pumpkin?

PETE

Yeah, where's my pumpkin?

IRIS

A seed needs soil, and water, and carbon dioxide from the air, and then it needs time to grow.

BUD

Too complicated.

PETE

I'll just go buy a pumpkin.

IRIS

But every pumpkin is a seed first!

PETE

Not Mrs. Smith's Frozen Pumpkin Pie.

BUD

It grows in the box.

IRIS

You two are terrible. Go play basketball.

BUD

We are!

PETE

Only there's no playground, so we have to play here.

IRIS

Hey! Get out of the garden!

BUD

It's just a bunch of weeds.

PETE

They don't mind a little basketball action. See?

[PETE takes the basketball from BUD and begins dribbling.]

IRIS

Stop that!

BUD

[Mocking] Hello, Mr. Seed!

PETE

How are you, Mr. Seed?

BUD

Can't hear you, Mr. Seed!

PETE

Wanna go one-on-one, Mr. Seed?

[PETE and BUD go off, laughing.]


IRIS

I'm so sorry. They're awful. But let's get you planted. See? Nice moist earth. A little water. Mr. Seed. That's a good name for you.

[IRIS plants the seed with the shovel.]

IRIS

There, Mr. Seed. Now you'll get food from the soil. Your roots can go down, and your leaves will grow up. And then you'll grow into a beautiful pumpkin. Won't you? I love our garden.

 *[Sound Effect: the recess bell rings.]*

IRIS

I have to go back to class.

[End of Scene.]

SCENE TWO

The Classroom. MARY GOLD and DAISY CHAIN are sitting together. IRIS sits nearby. PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB enters.

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

Class, I have a special announcement for all of you. Where are Pete and Bud?

[PETE and BUD run in, out of breath, and race into their chairs. They don't have the basketball.]

PETE

Sorry, Professor Greenthumb.

BUD

Sorry, Professor Greenthumb.

PETE

Bud lost the basketball.

BUD

I didn't lose the basketball, you lost the basketball.

PETE

Professor Greenthumb? Now Bud's lying.

BUD

I am not lying! He threw the basketball into the dumb old garden.

PETE

I did not, Bud did!

BUD

And now we can't find it!

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

We can find the ball later. Because now we have a special guest.
Please say good morning to Principal Growforit.

EVERYONE

Good Morning, Principal Growforit.

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

[Entering] Good morning class. I have some wonderful news for you.
Greenhouse Elementary has just received a major grant from the
Urban Sprawl Cement Corporation.

[Silence. Nobody moves.]

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

I can see you're excited. They're going to build us a brand new
playground.

[Everyone cheers, except IRIS.]

MARY

Will we have huge swings?

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

Yes.

DAISY

And a climbing wall?

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

Yes!

PETE

Will we have—

PETE AND BUD

Basketball hoops?

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

Yes, yes, yes! It's all going to happen, boys and girls! You've been such a good class, you've earned this treat.

IRIS

Where will the playground go?

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

[Pointing] Right outside your classroom. See?

IRIS

But that's the garden.

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

Iris, this is wonderful news.

IRIS

That's our beautiful garden.

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

You're going to have a new playground, Iris.

PETE

Once we get rid of all those nasty weeds.

BUD

And crawly bugs.

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

Hush up, you two.

IRIS

You'll kill the garden. You'll cover it with cement. Won't you?

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

Yes, that's part of the Urban Sprawl plan.

IRIS

I won't let you, I won't let you, I won't let you!!!

[IRIS runs offstage.]

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

Iris, you come back this instant!

PETE, MARY, DAISY AND BUD

[Running off after IRIS] I'll get her, I'll get her, I'll get her, I'll get her!

PROFESSOR GREENTHUMB

Class, come back here! I'm sorry, Principal Growforit. Iris is a sensitive girl.

PRINCIPAL GROWFORIT

I don't understand. Who wouldn't want a new playground?

[End of Scene.]

SCENE THREE

Into The Garden. The FAMILY PEAPOD enters in a row and then comes to a halt in a straight line. They sing.

 **SONG: REACHING FOR THE SUN**

Little seed that wants to grow
Roots put down where water flows
And one leaf has begun
Reaching for the sun

Sitting in the morning shade
Soil and stem where water plays
And one leaf has begun
Reaching for the sun

Sending darkness far away
Branching out to brighter days

Little seed that's far from home
Looking where the light has shone
And one leaf has begun
Reaching for the sun

And one leaf has begun
Reaching for the sun

[The STUDENTS: PETE, MARY, DAISY and BUD run on stage.]

DAISY

Iris!

MARY

Iris!

I don't see her anywhere!

DAISY

I think we're lost.

PETE

We're not lost.

BUD

Which way is back?

DAISY

I don't know, I'm lost!

BUD

What is this place?

MARY

[The FAMILY PEAPOD speak quickly, one right after the other.]

Hey neighbor.

PEAPOD #1

Hey neighbor.

PEAPOD #2

Hey neighbor.

PEAPOD #3

How's life?

PEAPOD #4

What are you?

DAISY

PEAPOD #1
Sorry.

PEAPOD #2
Don't mean to be rude.

PEAPOD #3
We're the Family—

PEAPOD #4
Peapod!

PEAPOD #3
Peapod!

PEAPOD #2
Peapod!

PEAPOD #1
We're green.

PETE
Wonderful.

MARY
We're looking for our friend. Her name is Iris.

PEAPOD #1
Iris!

PEAPOD #2
Iris!

PEAPOD #3
Iris!

PEAPOD #4
That's a funny name. Isn't she a flower?

PEAPOD #3

She's a bright—

PEAPOD #2

She's a yellow—

PEAPOD #1

Good smelling—

PEAPOD FAMILY

Flower!

MARY

That is so annoying.

DAISY

Why do you talk like that?

PEAPOD #1

I don't know.

PEAPOD #2

I don't know.

PEAPOD #3

I don't know.

PEAPOD #4

Habit?

DAISY

Anyway, she's not a flower.

BUD

She's an annoying girl, who is keeping me from my new playground.

PETE

With her stupid garden.

PEAPOD #1

That's terrible!

PEAPOD #2

That's terrible!

PEAPOD #3

That's terrible!

PEAPOD #4

What's a playground?

MARY

It's what's going to go right here, after we — well — *[sighs]* — never mind.

[BURPEE TOMATO staggers on, grumpy and grouchy from lack of water.]

BURPEE TOMATO

[Groaning] Oh. Oh. Oh.

MARY

What's the matter?

BURPEE TOMATO

Oh, no. Oh...no.

[BURPEE collapses in a heap.]

PETE

Okay...that's like...a tomato...

MARY

This is getting really weird.

DAISY

[To BURPEE] Are you all right?

BURPEE TOMATO

[With a hoarse voice] No.

PETE

A giant talking tomato.

BURPEE TOMATO

Water. Water. Please.

DAISY

Look, he's all dried out.

MARY

He's all wrinkly.

BURPEE TOMATO

Water.

DAISY

My name is Daisy. I don't have any water.

BURPEE TOMATO

I'm not gonna make it. I'm history. It's the end of Burpee Tomato.

DAISY

Burpee Tomato?

BURPEE TOMATO

I could have been somebody. I could have been a big tomato. Goodbye, cruel world. You'll never know what you missed.

BUD

I'm sorry.

BURPEE TOMATO

Sorry? Look at these wrinkles. I was cute. I was sassy. It's all over.

DAISY

I thought it rained this morning.

BURPEE TOMATO

That was then. What have you done for me lately?

MARY

It's only been a couple hours.

BURPEE TOMATO

I get thirsty. Okay?

DAISY

Can't you go without water?

BURPEE TOMATO

Who do you think you're talking to, girlie? I would have been a star. Now I'm a big fat raisin.

PETE

[Trying to leave] Okay, we're just looking for our friend, Iris, so we'll just go that way—

[BURPEE points the other way.]

BURPEE TOMATO

She's over there.

DAISY

Iris? She is?

BURPEE TOMATO

We had a date. I was gonna take her to a movie. But I got all wrinkly, and she turned me down. The nerve!

MARY

Are we talking about the same Iris?

BURPEE TOMATO

Let it rain. Please let it rain!

[Cue Music: "Let It Rain". The PEAPODS and STUDENTS sing with BURPEE.]

 **SONG: LET IT RAIN**

Rain clouds floating in the sky
They keep plants from going dry
Ready for the next downpour
Needed water will be stored

Let it rain!
Let it rain!
Let it rain!

Flowers open towards the moon
They know rain is coming soon
Can you feel it in the air?
Water falling everywhere

Let it rain!
Let it rain!
Let it rain!