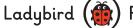


Work with the children to allocate characters and prepare a short performance. Discuss the stage directions in advance and make sure the children understand how to follow the script.

	(Clara is at home. There is a party going on.)
	(Ciura is ai nome. There is a party going on.)
Narrator 1:	It was Christmas, and there was a party at Clara's house.
	(Clara opens the door to the toymaker.)
Clara:	Hello!
	(Clara welcomes him in.)
Clara:	Great! My favorite friend is here!
	(Clara shows the toymaker the tree.)
Clara:	Look at our beautiful Christmas tree!
Toymaker:	I made this present for you.
Clara:	Thank you.
Narrator 2:	After the party, Clara sat with her present under the Christmas tree.
Narrator 1:	Her eyes were soon closed.
	(The clock strikes midnight.)



Narrator 2:	The noise of the clock woke Clara up. It was midnight.
	(The nutcracker is standing up in the box.)
Clara:	Oh, a nutcracker! What a nice present. But why am I so small?
	(A mouse is behind Clara, waiting to catch her.)
Nutcracker:	Clara, that mouse wants to catch you!
Narrator 1:	Clara threw a ball of paper at the mouse.
Nutcracker:	Well done. Now, let's go.
	(They get into the nutcracker's sleigh.)
Narrator 2:	The Nutcracker's sleigh flew above the houses and trees.
Clara:	Look at the snow. Let's stop and play!
	(Clara plays in the snow.)
Clara:	It's beautiful. I love snow!
Nutcracker:	Are you hungry now?
Clara:	Oh, yes!
Nutcracker:	We can eat in Candy Land.
Narrator 1:	Soon Clara could see many beautiful colors below the sleigh.

page 2



Nutcracker:	Look, it's all candy, chocolate, and cake.
	(The Sugarplum Fairy arrives.)
Nutcracker:	Meet my friend, the Sugarplum Fairy.
Clara:	What a nice dress! Is it candy?
	(The Sugarplum Fairy holds out her dress.)
Sugarplum Fairy:	Yes, my dress is candy. Let's sit and eat.
	(The table is full of sweet treats.)
Narrator 2:	They ate lots of candy, chocolate, and cake.
Sugarplum Fairy:	Would you like an apple?
Clara:	Yes, please!
Sugarplum Fairy:	Now, let's dance and sing.
Narrator 1:	They all danced and sang.
Nutcracker:	Thank you. We must go home now.
Narrator 2:	Clara woke up under the Christmas tree.
Clara:	Oh, I'm big again. Was it only a dream?
Narrator 1:	Then, she saw the Nutcracker next to her. There was snow under his feet, and he wore a warm coat

Ladybird 🏟 Readers