

Don't Rock the Boat
(Sample Script)

E.K.Productions Musical

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Story Outline:

The play opens at the Annual Pirates' Picnic. It's the one day of the year when pirates can truly let their hair down. The big event of the day is the annual treasure hunt, the prize being the coveted Golden Skull & Crosses Flag and being named 'True Pirate of the Year.'

Captain Mighty comes from a long line of pirates and has a lot to live up to and though he has performed brave feats and pirate deeds, he does have one little problem. He gets seasick! Now this is very unpiratey, which is why it has been kept a secret. That is until Captain One Eye, our villain, who has known Mighty since they were children, blurts it out.

Captain Mighty must prove himself to be a true pirate, so with the help of his crew and an annoying parrot named Barnacle, he sets off to try and win the treasure hunt. Captain One Eye does his best to interfere, from cheating to stealing, but in the end, Captain Mighty faces his seasickness affliction and wins the treasure hunt.

This is a play full of fun, great characters and catchy music.

Costuming and props are simple and easily attainable and all children love a pirate theme.

Main Characters:

Captain Mighty: The hero of the play. In some ways, he has two personalities. The tough, cool pirate face that he presents to everyone and the true Mighty, who really doesn't want to be a pirate at all. He'd rather be a florist! Mighty cannot stand Barnacle the parrot!

Barnacle: He is an annoying parrot, repeating everything that is said. He is the key to the treasure hunt. Barnacle's voice is that of a typical talking parrot.

Mighty's Crew:

First Mate: Is Mighty's right hand man. He has known Mighty since he was a boy and has worked very hard to cover up Mighty's seasick "problem."

Port and Starboard: Two of the crew who admire the Captain but can also be the teasers of the group. They often torment their little crew mate, Crow's Nest.

Crow's Nest: Is the littlest member of the crew and is a bit of a worrier. He is always pleading about something and never wants to get into trouble.

Captain One Eye: The villain of the story. He has known Mighty since they were boys and has always beaten Mighty in every race or competition they have been in. He is determined to beat Mighty in the treasure hunt.

One Eye's Crew:

Weasel: Weasel by name and weasel by nature. He always gives a loud snort and wipes his nose before he speaks and walks and talks in a "weasely" type of manner.

Oh Phew: Is the smelly member of the crew. He has a true aversion to baths, and everyone makes him stand downwind throughout the play, because he smells so bad. He too, is not overly fond of the parrot, as Barnacle keeps calling him a "Smelly Boy." (He dresses in a very dirty and scruffy manner. At the end of the play, he is dressed very neatly, jacket, tie and his hair is slicked back.)

Nod and Agree: Two members of the crew who always agree with everything that is said. (Special Note: though Nod and Agree have no lines throughout the play, they always make their presence felt by their mimicking actions. A lot of fun ad-libbing throughout the play.)

Sail Away Sal: Is a no-nonsense type of pirate girl who is in charge of the Pirate's Picnic. Everyone respects and admires her.

Cut Throat Kate: Is a pirate girl who is always sharpening her sword, which makes the other pirates very nervous. She dislikes bad manners and is not above giving someone a poke with her sword if they step out of line.

Captain Bumble and 4 Crew: Are always in a dither about which way to go and throughout the play always appear to be lost!

Minor Parts:

Pirates 1/2/3. At the beginning of play.

Pirates at Picnic 1/2/3

Cheating Pirate

Bad Mannered Pirate

Chorus and Dancers: Chorus may be singing on steps in front of stage or may join dancers on stage.

Special Note: In the sword fight scene between the two crews, the piece should be well choreographed so that the fight flows safely. Be creative!

Costumes:

Pirate Gear: eye patches, scarves, beanies, earrings, t shirts, rolled up jeans etc. The captains all wear captain hats, white shirts, long pants, coloured scarves or bandanas around their necks/waists.

Barnacle: Hooded jacket with flared sleeves for wings, (covered in feathers)/ hat created to form parrot head and beak. Tracksuit pants and long striped socks.

Background:

A giant pirate flag can be used as a backdrop. No need to change during scenes.

Props:

Scene 1. Picnic.

Table, balloons, toffee apple stall, sign: Annual Pirates Picnic.

Scene 2. Pirate Ship (in front of curtains works well)

Barrel, Flag, A few ropes, a mop & bucket

Scene 3. Island

Cardboard cutouts for scenery. (Trees, rocks)

Incidentals:

Wooden swords, toffee apples, golden flag, treasure chest, cardboard boat (optional) eggs and spoons, crepe paper seaweed, hula skirt, flower lei and wig, notes for clues.

DON'T ROCK THE BOAT

Scene 1: Pirates' Picnic

Opening: Curtains are closed.:

(In front of curtains. Pirate 1. is already on stage. Pirates 2. and 3. enter from the other side of the stage laughing and talking to each other.)

Pirate 1. *(Calls out across the stage.)* Hey there me hearties and where are you off too?

Pirate 2. Oh, matey have you forgotten what day it is?

Pirate 1. *(Puzzled.)* What day it is?

Pirate 3. Don't you remember? It's the one day of the year we pirates, the most fearsome scourge of the sea, look forward to with glee. It's the day of....

All: The Annual Pirates' Picnic.

Curtains open: *(The other pirates are ready on stage at the Pirates' Picnic.)*

Song: Annual Pirates Picnic.

(When song is finished, Sail Away Sal steps forward.)

Sail Away Sal: Alright you poor excuse for sailors. It's time to test out your skills of balance, speed and dexterity. You'll need all your wits about you for the next race.

Pirate 1. *(Eagerly)* What is it Sail Away Sal? Is it a race to see who can climb to the top of the crow's nest the quickest?

Pirate 2. Or is it a competition to see who can balance on the rigging with his eyes closed. *(Closes eyes and demonstrates.)*

Pirate 3. I bet we have to see who can dive the deepest, from the tallest part of the ship.

Sail Away Sal: *(In disgust.)* No, you fools! It's time for...the egg and spoon race! *(All the pirates clap their hands and shout with glee.)* Now go and get your gear from Cut Throat Kate. *(They all turn and look at Cut Throat Kate who is sharpening her sword.)* And whatever you do, remember to say please and thank you. You know how touchy Cut Throat Kate is about good manners.

(Cut Throat Kate glares at the pirates. They proceed to get their equipment, making sure that they say please and thank you. One pirate forgets to use his manners and just takes the egg and spoon. Cut Throat Kate grabs him by the scruff of the neck and points her sword at him.)

Cut Throat Kate: I do believe someone forgot to say the magic words.

Bad Mannered Pirate: *(In a frightened little voice.)* Oh Cut Throat Kate, oh jewel of the sea, may I please have an egg and spoon?

Cut Throat Kate: *(In a bright happy voice.)* Now that wasn't very hard to say, was it? *(Pirate shakes his head quickly.)* Of course you can have an egg and spoon.

Bad Mannered Pirate: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you very much. *(He grovels and quickly backs away to line up for the race with the other pirates.)*

Cut Throat Kate: *(In a happy voice.)* You're welcome.

Sail Away Sal: Is everyone ready? *(Pirates nod.)* On your marks, get set, go!

(Race proceeds. Pirates do a few laps of the stage, in slow motion, some dropping their eggs as they go. Finally....)

Sal Away Sal: The Winner! *(Sal holds up the winner's hand. Everyone cheers. The winning pirate holds up his other hand and waves it about but by doing so, shows the audience and the other pirates that his egg is stuck to his spoon. The cheers turn sour.)*

Pirates Together: He cheated! Make him walk the plank!
(Everyone joins in chanting.) Walk the plank. Walk the plank.
(Sail Away Sal holds up her hand for silence. She and Cut Throat Kate step towards the cheating pirate, getting menacingly closer. The pirate back off slowly.)

Sail Away Sal: *(Sternly)* We pirates might fight, pillage and plunder.

Cut Throat Kate: We might even sink a few ships and steal.

Sail Away Sal: But something we pirates never, never, never do in the egg and spoon race.....

Cut Throat Kate: Is cheat!

All Together: Walk the plank.

(The pirate tries to plead for mercy but is taken off stage by some other pirates, as everyone is chanting, "Walk the plank. Walk the plank." Sail Away Sal holds up her hand for silence. They all listen carefully for the clip clop sound of footsteps on the plank, followed by a big splash. Use Splash Sound Effect. Everyone cheers and all go on with their picnic.)

(First Mate enters with the rest of Mighty's crew.)

First Mate: What a day! What a day! Where else would you find such a gathering of true villains, cut throats and scoundrels of the seven seas? Where else would you find pirates of such exceptional qualities?

Port: Nowhere First mate. It's great to see pirates behaving as true pirates should. *(In the background, the pirates are having a game with balloons.)*

First Mate: Crow's Nest, what are you eating? *(Crow's Nest has bought a toffee apple from a stall.)*

Crow's Nest: *(Hides the apple behind his back and pleads with First Mate.)* Oh please don't make me show you. Oh, please don't make me show you.

First Mate: *(Sternly.)* Hand it over. *(Crow's Nest hands over the toffee apple. First Mate is disgusted.)* A toffee apple! Crow's Nest me boy, we pirates and crew of the Powerful Pride have an image to maintain. And *(shaking his head in dismay)* heaven knows it's hard enough to maintain as it is. *(The others nod in agreement.)* Let me put it this way, toffee apples don't fit our image.

(Port and Starboard start to gang up on him.)

Starboard: First Mate's right! The crew of the Powerful Pride are known for their strength!

Port: Their courage!

Starboard: Their ruthless pirate natures!

Port: What do you think some of the other pirates would say if they found a member of the Powerful Pride eating toffee apples?

Crow's Nest: *(Pleading)* Oh please don't tell anyone. Please don't tell anyone!

First Mate: *(Puts his arm around Crow's Nest shoulders.)* There, there lad. This little breach of pirate conduct will go no further. But watch yourselves lads. Remember who our captain is!

Song: Captain Mighty. *(Sung by Mighty's crew and cast on stage. Dancers enter at beginning of song/exit at end of song.)*

(Enter Captain Mighty and Barnacle the Parrot. Everyone cheers and slaps him on the back.)

Sail Away Sal: Well, if it isn't Captain Mighty himself! And where have you been keeping yourself, you rouge?

Captain Mighty: Ah, Sail Away Sal. Pretty as a picture as always. *(He pinches her cheek.)* And Cut Throat Kate. *(He goes to pinch her cheek, but she points her sword into his stomach, and he thinks better of it.)* As affectionate as always.

Barnacle: *(Whistles.)* Give us a kiss sweetheart. *(Sal leans over and kisses the bird.)* What a doll! What a doll!

Captain Mighty: Hush up, you scrawny excuse for a bird. And to my mighty crew, how are you enjoying the day? Have you ever seen such a gathering? *(Grabs a toffee apple off a tray.)* And these toffee apples are delicious!

Barnacle: Delicious! Delicious!

(In the background, Crow's Nest is taking a toffee apple too. He pokes his tongue out at Port and Starboard. First Mate shakes his head in dismay and takes Mighty aside to have a chat, that only the audience can hear. The other pirates continue with the picnic.)

First Mate: Captain, might I have a word? I've known you since you were a wee lad, when I sailed the seas with your father, bless his soul and a more fearsome pirate you were never more likely to find. I fear he would roll over in his grave if he were to see you now. *(He points to the toffee apple.)* How many times have I told you that....

Captain Mighty: *(Strongly.)* That I must prove myself to be a true pirate and that I have the reputation of the Mighties to uphold. *(In a whining voice.)* But golly gee First Mate. Didn't I save those sailors that were in trouble in the storm? And haven't I found more buried treasure than any other captain this year? Not to mention all the other piratey things that I've done.

First Mate: *(Patiently.)* I admit you have lad, but it takes more than that to be a true pirate. It takes a certain kind of courage to face your greatest fears and problems.

Captain Mighty: But golly gee First Mate. I don't even want to be a pirate. I want to be a florist. *(Dreamingly.)* Imagine being surrounded by all those beautiful flowers.

First Mate: *(Horried.)* Ssh! Don't let that get out! I have enough trouble as it is covering up your other little 'problem.'

Captain Mighty: *(Sighing.)* I know. I know. But golly gee. Why did Dad have to leave me his pirate ship the Powerful Pride and this ornery parrot in his will? He knew I hated the water and this talking feather duster.

Barnacle: Love you too, Sweetheart.

Captain Mighty: *(Snaps.)* Will you cut that out?!

First Mate: I guess he thought you'd outgrow your little 'problem'. And he always said that Barnacle here would come in handy. Now look mean, fearsome and make your father proud.

Captain Mighty: (*Hangs his head and scuffs his boots.*) Oh, golly gee.

First Mate: (*Sighs.*) And no more golly gees.

(*Mighty and First Mate return to the rest of the cast.*)

Captain Mighty: (*In his stern captain's voice.*) Starboard, is all shipshape aboard the Powerful Pride? Is she ready for the treasure hunt?

Starboard: (*Steps forward and salutes.*) Aye Captain, and without a doubt we'll win the Golden Skull and Crosses Flag.

Cut Throat Kate: (*Still sharpening her sword.*) And with you as captain, how could they fail? You, the mighty Captain Mighty!

(*A great, wicked laugh is heard off stage. Enter Captain One Eye and crew.*)

Captain One Eye: Captain Mighty, is he now? Well, your father, grandfather and even great grandfather may have been mighty pirates but you. Ha! I bet apart from your crew, most of the pirates here don't know your little secret. Isn't that right Weasel? (*Turns to a crew member.*)

Weasel: (*Gives off a loud snort before he speaks then wipes his nose.*) It sure is Captain. It sure is!

Captain Mighty: (*Angry with what One Eye has said, Mighty steps towards One Eye threatening him with the toffee apple still in his hand.*) One Eye, you just close that flapping landlubber's gob of yours or I'll close it for you!

Captain One Eye: (*Being very sarcastic.*) Oooo! I'm so frightened.

Sail Away Sal: (*Steps into between Mighty and One Eye.*) You two aren't at it again are you?

Captain One Eye: Ah Sal, I was just teasing. *(To Mighty.)* That's right. I remember. Even as a kid you were a bit touchy about your secret. *(Slyly)* I mean, who ever heard of a true pirate that disliked the water all because *(he pauses for effect)* he gets seasick! *(Everyone at the picnic gasps in disbelief. One Eye feigns sorrow.)* Oh dear. How could I have let that just slip out?

Captain Mighty: *(Very determined.)* Just you wait until the treasure hunt and then we'll see who's a true pirate.

Captain One Eye: Big words Pirate Boy! But as I recall, I've always won every competition we've ever been in.

Crow's Nest: *(Can't believe what he's hearing.)* Oh Captain, please tell me it isn't true! Please tell me it isn't true!

Captain One Eye: *(Laughs.)* True? True? Tell them. When we were kids, who always won the toy boat races?

Captain Mighty: *(Looking a little sheepish.)* You did.

Barnacle: You did!

Captain One Eye: And the pretend sword fights?

Captain Mighty: You did.

Barnacle: You did!

Captain One Eye: And who won the races up the main mast?

Captain Mighty: *(Head hanging low.)* You did.

Barnacle: You did!

Captain One Eye: *(Gives another laugh.)* And you think you'll beat me in the treasure hunt? That sure is funny, isn't it Weasel?

Weasel: *(Snorts and wipes nose.)* It sure is Captain. It sure is!