

Performance Notes for The Enormous Nose

THREE WAYS THAT STUDENTS AND TEACHERS CAN UTILIZE THIS PLAY

1. *Students can read the play aloud while sitting in the classroom.* Ask the readers to skip all bracketed stage directions. You may prefer to rotate your actors to give all students a chance to read the speaking parts.
2. *Students can perform the play in the classroom.* Clear an area that can be used as the stage. Have the audience sit on the floor in front of the stage. Students in the play can make simple costumes and/or sets as described below. When the scene change, the characters "on stage" simply walk to the back of the room where they wait until their next appearance "on stage."
3. *Students can perform the play on stage.* Refer to the production notes that follow. Ask the actors to enter from the back of the room and move through the audience as they approach the stage.



COSTUMES

Note: The actor who plays PRINCE ANDRÉ appears in three ages- in this scene. (Scene 2) as a 5-year-old boy, in the next scene (Scene 3) as a 10-year-old student, and later (Scene 5) as a young man. The different ages to be indicated by his hair style and headgear.

- KING HUBERT – Robes of red or purple worn over a black shirt and pants. A crown or other accessories may be worn.
- ENCHANTRESS – Shabby looking robes layered over one another in browns, blacks, grays, or dull greens. A white wig or messy hair. Should look old and unkempt.
- SERVANTS (non-speaking) – Black shirts and pants or ankle-length skirts. White aprons worn over top of black attire.

- QUEEN ORLENA – Robes of a shimmery or sparkling material over a black shirt and long black skirt. Adorn excessively with jewelry.
- ADRIENNE (name means “dark”) – A floor-length dress of one dark color, preferably with wide sleeves. A floor-length robe matching the color of the dress. Hair may be worn up in a bun.
- ADELA (name means “noble”) - A floor-length dress of blue color, preferably with wide sleeves. A floor-length robe matching the color of the dress. Hair may be worn up in a bun.
- ALICE (name means “dearly beloved”) - A floor-length dress of pink color, preferably with wide sleeves. A floor-length robe matching the color of the dress. Hair may be worn up in a bun.
- YOUNG PRINCE ANDRÉ– A white, long-sleeved shirt with dark pants, preferably breeches or something that fits snugly at the knee. White socks or sticking under the pants.
- PROFESSOR SINGLESNIFF – Black flowing robes with a black mortar board and gold tassel. May be worn over black shirt and pants. Must have glasses or monocle. Must carry some kind of educational paraphernalia: books, ruler, abacus, globe, paper, writing quill, map, etc.
- PROFESSOR SNUBBYNUB - Black flowing robes with a black mortar board and gold tassel. May be worn over black shirt and pants. Must have glasses or monocle. Must carry some kind of educational paraphernalia: books, ruler, abacus, globe, paper, writing quill, map, etc.
- PROFESSOR LONGENSNOOT - Black flowing robes with a black mortar board and gold tassel. May be worn over black shirt and pants. Must have glasses or monocle. Must carry some kind of educational paraphernalia: books, ruler, abacus, globe, paper, writing quill, map, etc.
- STUDENT PRINCE ANDRÉ - A white, long-sleeved shirt with dark pants, preferably breeches or something that fits snugly at the knee. White socks or sticking under the pants.
- PRINCE ANDRÉ – Dark boots and leggings with a long tunic of a distinct color. May also wear a gold or silver sash and carry a sword. May also wear a jacket of a distinct color.
- KING ALBERT - Robes of blue or yellow worn over a black shirt and pants. A crown or other accessories may be worn.

- PRINCESS ROSEBUD – An ornate, floor-length gown, gloves, jewels, and a crown.
- TRAVELERS – Ragged, earth-colored clothing. Should also carry things like: baskets, bags, carts, small children, animals, tools, knapsacks, etc.



PROPS

Scene 1

- A royal staff for KING HUBERT. This can be made out of cardboard, or you can use a broom handle. If you use a broom handle, you can make the top part out of cardboard and attach it. (Google image search for ideas on colors and styles.)
- Large swaths of gray or black cloth for Stage Hands to wave around ENCHANTRESS. This cloth may be of varying length and shades of gray. It may also be sheer or opaque.

Scene 2

- Things for SERVANTS to carry- trays, linens, baskets full of food, or other household objects.
- A baby doll wrapped in a blue blanket. The doll should have a large nose attached to it.
- Silverware for SERVANT #1 to polish. This can be real silverware or silver colored plastic utensils.
- A rag for SERVANT #1 to polish silverware with.
- A cloth for SERVANT #2 to wipe surfaces.
- Cloth napkins for SERVANTS #3 to fold. These can be washcloths or pieces of fabric cut into napkin-sized squares.

Scene 3

- Long noses for SERVANTS to wear. These need to be easy to put on quickly. The best way to this is to use elastic with a fake nose attached. You can buy the one that are already attached to an elastic band. Or you can make noses from cardboard and attach them to elastic bands.
- Several toys.
- Stuffed elephant for PRINCE ANDRÉ to hold.
- Things for SERVANTS to carry- baskets, sheets, trays, etc.

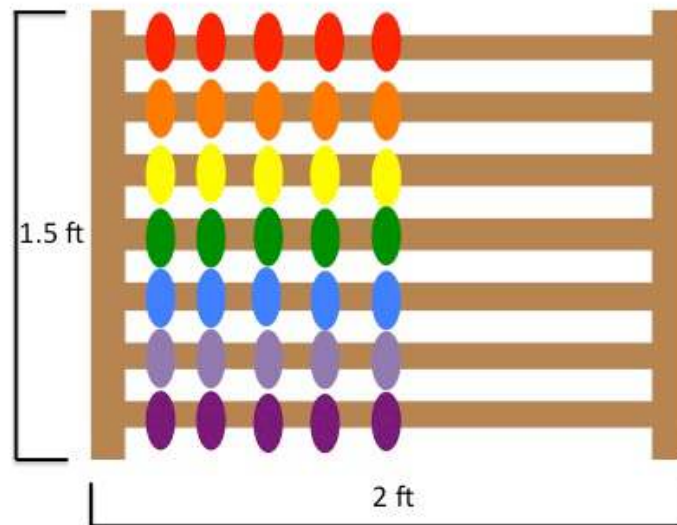
Scene 4

- School supplies for PROFESSORS to each carry- books, papers, quills (you can

use a long feather or tape a small feather to a pencil), maps, rulers, etc.

- An over-sized abacas. You can make this from a large piece of cardboard, about 2 ft wide and 1.5 ft tall. Use a box cutter to cut about one inch strips out of the cardboard, leaving about two or three inches on either side.

For the counters, you can make them moveable by cutting strips of construction paper and loop them around the cardboard rows, taping the loop together. Or you can make them fixed by cutting out round, flat pieces of construction paper and taping or gluing them to the cardboard rows. You can change the color from row to row, if you want, or make them all the same color.



Scene 5

- Long noses for everyone to wear.
- Birthday decorations- A “Happy Birthday” banner, balloons (these can be real or balloons cut from paper), party hats (bought or made from construction paper) for all the guests to wear (not servants).
- Wrapped gifts. You can wrap several small empty cardboard boxes. These can be placed on the floor in front of the long table.
- A birthday cake. This can be made from a cardboard box painted to look like a cake.
- Cups, to be used for the toast. Can be stackable plastic cups for safety and easy transportation.
- A stack of glossy pictures or something similar for QUEEN ORLENA to present to PRINCE ANDRÉ.

Scene 6

- Long noses for everyone to wear.
- Large swaths of gray or black cloth for Stage Hands to wave around
- ENCHANTRESS. This cloth may be of varying length and shades of gray. It may also be sheer or opaque.
- Something to use offstage to create the sound of thunder. If possible, you can use

a sheet of thick plastic or thin metal, and shake it back and forth. Another option is to use two wooden blocks and bang and rub them together. The latter won't sound as realistic, but it will create a loud sound.

Scene 7

- Things for TRAVELERS- bags, carts, baskets, tools, etc.
- PRINCESS ROSEBUD'S prison. This can be created from 2 clear shower curtains and a PVC pipe structure. Directions and suggestions on construction can be found at the following link: <http://theflirtyguide.blogspot.com/2013/06/a-tiny-diy-shower-for-teardrop-style.html>

*NOTE – Be sure to create an opening for PRINCESS ROSEBUD'S hand to reach through the curtain. You can do this by cutting a slit into the plastic.



SETS

To make scene transitions easier, you can divide the stage into two locations. If you want, you can make a backdrop that shows the two locations. Or you can use a grey backdrop, and differentiate the locations by draping different colored cloths over each of the two sections. For example, different colored green or brown cloth to indicate the countryside/forest, purples, reds, or “tapestries” to indicate the palaces. You can also rely on just set pieces.

The two locations are:

- 1) A wooded path (Scenes 1 and 7) on one side of the stage.

2) A throne room (Scenes 2-6) in the middle of the stage.

- **Scene 1** – The wooded path can be represented by placing several plants and shrubs in two rows creating a sort of path in the middle. You can use real plants, or make them out of cardboard, or use a combination of both. To make them out of cardboard, you can simply cut different sizes and shapes of shrubs, paint them different shades of green, and use small triangular pieces of cardboard to stand them up.
- **Scene 2** – KING HUBERT'S throne room consists of two thrones. These can be large chairs that are covered with rich cloth of red or purple. The chairs should be high-backed if possible. A small table sits to its right.
- **Scene 3** – Same as Scene 2, except you can add a few toys, strewn about the floor, to establish that it's a different time.
- **Scene 4** – Same as Scene 3, except toys are removed.
- **Scene 5** – KING HUBERT'S throne room is turned into the party scene. Stage hands bring on a table and chairs and place in front of throne. Servants bring out other items and decorate for the party. (See Prop Notes for items brought on.)
- **Scene 6** – KING ALBERT'S throne room consists of two thrones. These are the same two chairs but the fabric is switched. Stage hands can bring on new fabrics and swap them out. (Stage hands also remove the table and chairs from Scene 5. SERVANTS, KING HUBERT, QUEEN OLENA, and other guests on stage will all help clear the party props, by exiting with a few items each.)

The script calls for some tapestries to be hung in this throne room. These can be various types of fabrics with various prints. If you have a backdrop, you can hang them on there. If not, you can use one large cardboard box, cut out the top, paint it to look like a column, and hang the fabrics on it.
- **Scene 7** – Same as Scene 1.