

Rete Disegnare il Futuro

Istituto Comprensivo 9 Valdonega-Borgo Trento

Scuola Primaria Ippolito Nievo

Classe 4A

Adventures with Mr Bliss

adapted for children by Catherine Stevenson

from J.R.R. Tolkien's *Mr Bliss*

Mr Bliss – Full Class Performance Script

Characters

Narrators

Mr Bliss

The Girabbit

Mr Binks

3 customers at the car shop

Mr Day

Mrs Knight

The Donkey

3 Bears: Archie, Teddy, Bruno

3 Dawkinses

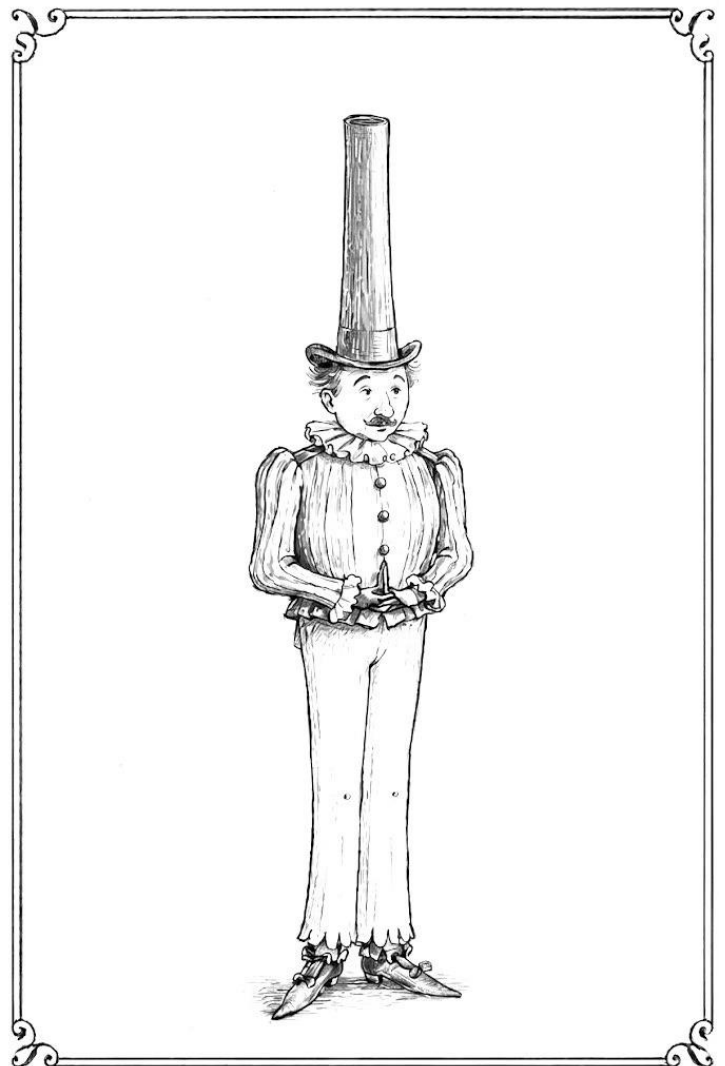
Sgt Boffin

Props to bring/find/make (time / resources permitting):

Mr Bliss's hat

Girabbit (head and neck?)

Mr Bliss's house



The hedge (chairs with a blanket/paper?)

Sun and moon

Cabbages

Bananas

Cakes

Police hat

Horn

Opening Chant (all)

Mr Bliss, Mr Bliss, Mr Bliss lives

In a tall house, a tall house, a tall house

With a Girabbit, a Girabbit, a Girabbit and

He likes to wear, he likes to wear, he likes to wear tall hats!

Characters Chant

All: These are the characters in the story:

Mr Bliss wears a tall, tall hat

The Girabbit is his pet

Mr Binks has got a car shop

Mr Day has got a barrow

Mrs Knight likes bananas

The donkey goes clip-clop

The bears go ROAR in the wood

The Dawkinses eat soup!

Sgt Boffin: ‘ello ‘ello ‘ello, don’t forget me, I’m Sergeant Boffin!

SCENE 1: Morning

Mr Bliss: What’s the weather like today?

Girabbit: It’s fine!

SCENE 2: Car Shop

Narrator 1: Mr Bliss goes down the hill on his silver bike to the car shop.

Customer: I want a new car!

Mr Binks: What colour?

Customer: describe your car

Mr Binks: That's £XXXXXX

Customer: Ok, here you are.

Mr Binks: Here's your car

Custome : Thank you, bye!

Mr Bliss:

I want a yellow car with red wheels!

Mr Binks: That's £XXXXXX

Mr Bliss: Oh no, my money is at home!

Mr Binks: OK, leave your bike.

Mr Bliss : OK, thank you, bye!

SCENE 3: Mr Bliss in the car - the crashes

Mr Bliss: Where are you going, Mr Bliss?

I don't know, Mr Bliss...

Mr Bliss: Let's go to the Dawkinses and give them a surprise!

Very well! Very well!

All: He turns left...

All: CRASH!

Mr Day: Oh no, my cabbages!

All: He turns right

All: CRASH!

Mrs Knight: Oh no, my bananas!

All: Everyone gets in the car. The donkey goes behind.

Narrator Rossy: They come to the woods...

SCENE 4: Bears in the woods

All: Uh-oh! It's the bears!

Archie: I like cabbages!

Teddy: I like bananas!

Bruno: I want a donkey!

Bears: We want a motorcar!

Mr Bliss: You can't have this motorcar!

Mr Day: You can't have these cabbages!

Mrs Knight: You can't have these bananas or this donkey!

Bears: We will eat you! ROAR!

Narrator: The bears take the cabbages and bananas to their house

Bears: Now we want to go in your car!

SCENE 5: Going to the Dawkinses

Narrator: The car goes slowly up the hill...

All: Slowly... slowly...slowly....slowly.....

Then faster... faster... faster... faster... faster... faster....faster...

CRASH!

Narrator: Everyone flies up in the air!

SCENE 6: The Dawkinses house

Narrator: The Dawkinses are eating soup

All: CRASH!

Narrator: Everyone lands in the soup! The Dawkinses are angry

Dawkinses: Next time, go to the front door!

Mr Bliss, Mr Day, Mrs Knight, Bears: Sorry!

Dawkinses: Did you come in a hot air balloon?

Mr Bliss: No, we came in a car!

Mrs Knight: Hello! Pleased to meet you!

Mr Bliss: We hope you are well!

Mr Day: Lovely weather!

Dawkinses: Please stay for lunch!

Narrator:

They eat cakes, bananas and cabbages.

SCENE 7: The bears eat everything...

Narrator: The bears eat everything in the garden...

...and go to sleep

Dawkinses (angry): Go away, bears!

Bears: Uh-oh! The dogs!

All: Woof! Woof!

Narrator: The dogs chase the bears . The bears run away.

Bears: Let's go home and eat cabbages and bananas!

Mr Day: But they're MY cabbages!

Mrs Knight: But they're MY bananas!

Mr Bliss, Mr Day, Mrs Knight and the Dawkinses: Let's catch the bears!

SCENE 8: The car is broken

Narrator: But the car is broken!

They fix the wheels!

They use a hammer!

Donkey: Hee-haw

Mrs Knight: The donkey can pull the car!

SCENE 9: The dark, scary woods

Narrator: They go into the woods...

It is dark...

It is scary...the dogs run away!

Bears: BOO! WOOOOO!

Bears: Only joking! Come in!

SCENE 10: Dinner at he Bears' house - Mr Bliss runs away

Narrator: They go to the bears' house for dinner.

But... where is Mr Bliss?

Narrator: Mr Bliss runs away...

He can see his house.

He goes to Mr Binks' shop and takes his bike!

Mr Bliss: Here is my bicycle – I'll pay Mr Binks later!

SCENE 11: Mr Binks & Sergeant Boffin - everyone arrives

Narrator: Mr Binks is angry!

Sergeant Boffin: 'ello, 'ello, 'ello!

Mr Binks: He's got my car! He's got the bike!

Sergeant Boffin: Catch him!

Narrator: Then, everyone arrives in the car!

All: BEEP BEEp!

All: Where is Mr Bliss?

Mr Binks: I want my money!

Mr Day: I want a new barrow!

Mrs Knight: I want a new cart!

Dawkinses: We want a new soup bowl!

Mr Day, Mrs Knight, Mr Binks, Dawkinses: Let's go to Mr Bliss's house!

SCENE 12: Mr Bliss's House

Narrator: The Girabbit is in the house. He was hungry. He's eatingcarpet!?

All: Oh no! What a mess!

Narrator: Stop... listen...What's that noise?

It's everyone! Oh no, they are angry!

All: Mr Bliss!

We want our money!

(Silence)

All: Mr Bliss!

We want our money!

(Silence)

All: MR BLISS!

WE WANT OUR MONEY!

Girabbit pops up: Aha! I see you! Go away, or I will jump on you!

All: Ahhh! Run away, run away

(Run and roll down the hill)

Mr Bliss: Ha ha ha! Bye-bye, everyone!

Bears pop up from behind hedge: Good morning Mr Bliss! Can we help you?

Mr Bliss: No! Well, maybe...

The Girabbit is in my house!

Bears (go and scare the girabbit): ROAR!

(Girabbit jumps away)

SCENE 13: How it ends

Narrator: So Mr Bliss pays the money.

Mr Day and Mrs Knight get married!

They open a fruit and vegetable shop

The Girabbit comes home.

And Mr Bliss?

Mr Bliss hasn't got a car.

He's got a donkey and a cart.

Sergeant Boffin:

How's your little pet?

Mr Bliss:

Fine, thank you!

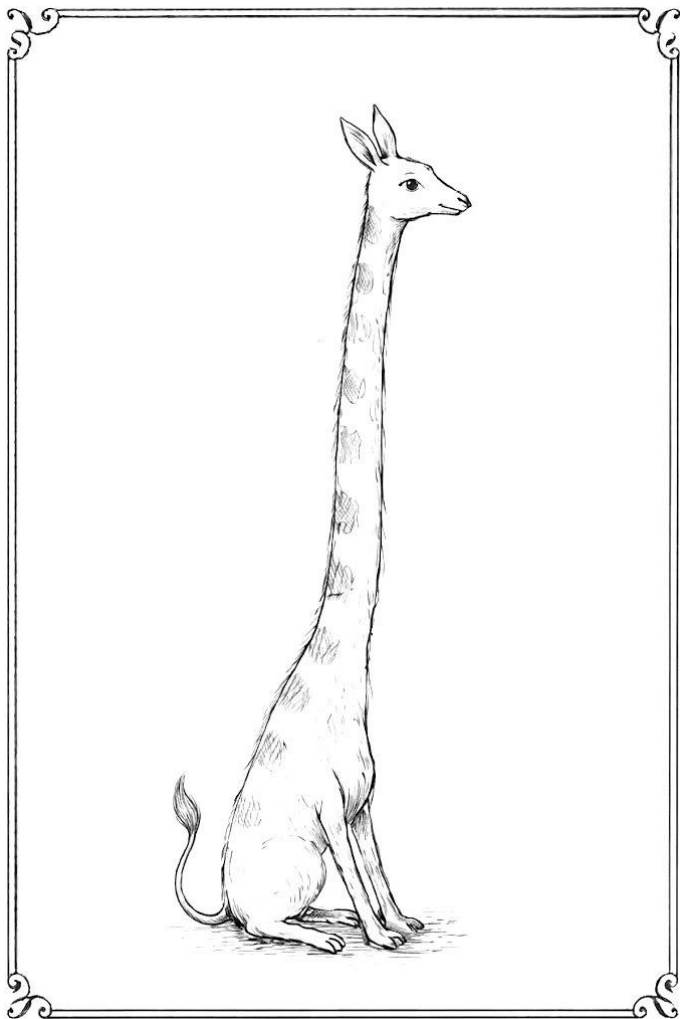
Narrator:

And his hat?

Mr Bliss wears a white hat in summer
and a brown hat in winter.

The green hat goes in the bin.

All: THE END



Adventures with Mr Bliss – La nascita di un’idea

Il laboratorio nasce dal desiderio di vivere la lingua inglese attraverso il racconto, non di “impararla” in senso prestazionale. La lingua è suono, ritmo, immagine, relazione.

Mr Bliss di Tolkien propone una narrazione semplice ma non banale, intreccia quotidiano e fantastico, valorizza l’errore, l’imprevisto, invita al piacere fonetico e all’invenzione linguistica.

Mr Bliss è una storia che suscita subito simpatia, fatta anche di errori, piccoli disastri quotidiani. I personaggi sbagliano, si perdono, rompono cose, eppure restano insieme, cercano soluzioni, ridono di sé.

Tolkien qui si concede un tono giocoso, che invita il lettore a meravigliarsi, sorridere e a fare altrettanto, creando nuovi personaggi, immaginando altre avventure.

Il progetto si fonda su un dialogo continuo tra inglese e italiano (nelle ore di italiano saranno ripresi i temi della storia) tra ascolto e creazione, tra oralità e riscrittura, favorendo cooperazione e fiducia.

Necessità della classe

Acquisire sempre più familiarità con la lingua inglese, sentendosi a proprio agio, facendo leva sull’interesse degli alunni per le storie.

Lavorare sulle possibilità creative delle parole, seguendo l’interesse della classe per la scrittura e l’invenzione di storie.

Sostenere un clima sereno, disteso e collaborativo in classe (ascoltare a ascoltarsi).

In sintesi

- * rafforzare la familiarità con l’inglese in modo naturale
- * costruire appartenenza e fiducia
- * valorizzare la creatività come via d’accesso alla lingua

Dimensione linguistica

- * sviluppare familiarità con la lingua inglese orale
- * potenziare ascolto, comprensione e produzione orale
- * scoprire il valore fonetico e musicale delle parole
- * avvicinarsi al confronto tra lingue (inglese/italiano)

Il lavoro sulle parole inventate – come il “giraniglio” o creazioni analoghe in inglese, consente ai bambini di diventare creatori del linguaggio (la cosiddetta lingua natia di cui parla Tolkien, ovvero frutto di scelte e gusti personali). Anche chi si sente “debole” in inglese può brillare: non per correttezza, ma per immaginazione. Un piccolo rovesciamento gentile, sullo stile di Mr Bliss.

Dimensione espressiva e creativa

- * sperimentare il racconto ad alta voce
- * inventare personaggi, animali e parole
- * giocare con immagini, suoni, nomi, ritmi

Dimensione relazionale ed emotiva

- * creare un clima sereno e collaborativo
- * rafforzare il senso di appartenenza al gruppo
- * sostenere i singoli bambini attraverso la coralità
- * valorizzare contributi diversi (voce, immaginazione, ascolto).

Usare la narrazione per creare un clima sereno e collaborativo crea uno spazio comune: la storia crea un campo comune: tutti ascoltano, tutti immaginano, tutti

possono intervenire. Non c'è il “bravo in inglese” e il “meno bravo”: c'è chi aggiunge un dettaglio, chi disegna, chi suggerisce un nome buffo, chi mima un personaggio.

