

Little Red Riding Hood

by Sarah Argent using exclusively the words of 3-6 year olds

To be performed at home by 3-6 year olds, their older siblings, and/or their grown-ups

Characters

Storyteller 1

Storyteller 2

Little Red Riding Hood - known as Little Red

Mum - Little Red's mum

Granny - Little Red's granny

Wolf

Woodchopper

Notes for performance

You can perform this piece with as few as 3 people with one person playing Little Red, Storyteller 1 also playing Granny and the Woodchopper, and Storyteller 2 also playing Mum and the Wolf.

As this is a storytelling piece, you can perform it without any costume or props, or you may wish to have a few key items:

- A red hat or scarf or cape for Little Red*
- A basket for Mum to give to Little Red for Granny's treats - and maybe real treats.*
- Flowers for Little Red to pick in the forest*
- Glasses, a night-cap and a nighty or pyjamas for Granny*
- An axe for the Woodchopper*

Storyteller 1 often tells Little Red what to say and do - feeding her lines to her and suggesting her actions.

Storyteller 1: Once upon a time ...

Storyteller 2: *(interrupting)* Oh, I love "Once upon a time".

Storyteller 1: Shh. I'm telling the story.

Storyteller 2: Sorry.

Storyteller 1: Once upon a time in Fairytale Land ...

Storyteller 2: *(interrupting)* Oh, I love "In Fairytale Land"

Storyteller 1: Stop interrupting.

Storyteller 2: Sorry.

Storyteller 1: Once upon a time ...

Storyteller 2: *(interrupting)* What is the time?

Storyteller 1: I said "Stop interrupting!"

Storyteller 2: Ok. Sorry.

Storyteller 1: *(demonstrating)* Fingers on lips.

Storyteller 2 closes lips and puts finger on lips to keep them shut.

Storyteller 2: *(With finger on lips)* Finger on lips.

Storyteller 1 stares at Storyteller 2 long and hard.

Storyteller 1: Once upon a time in Fairytale Land there was a girl.

Little Red enters.

Storyteller 1: She always wore red and she was little.
But when people called her little she stretched up really tall and said,
"I'm not little, see the size of me".

Little Red: *(stretching up tall)* I'm not little, see the size of me.

Storyteller 1: She wasn't so little, but she always wore red, and she was called Little Red Riding Hood, Little Red for short.

One day, Little Red's mummy, said,

Mum (Storyteller 2): Your granny's not feeling well. Can you take her some treats?

Mum hands Little Red a basket.

Mum: Here's a basket.
Little Red, what treats might Granny like to eat?

Little Red makes suggestions for all the treats Granny likes to eat - or Mum and Little Red take it in turns. Mum may want to add an alcoholic treat for Granny ... for later.

Mum hands Little Red Riding Hood all the treats (real or imaginary) and Little Red places everything in the basket.

Mum: Little Red, don't eat anything in the basket until you get to Granny's house. Follow the path, don't go off the path and don't talk to anybody on the way!

Storyteller 1: And Little Red said, "Ok".

Little Red: Ok.

Red Riding Hood in the Forest

Storyteller 1 should leave space for Little Red to do each of the actions.

Storyteller 1: Little Red waved goodbye to her mum. *(Little Red waves)*
She followed the path *(Little Red walks along the path)*
... and she walked into the forest
... and she walked
... and she walked
... and then she stopped
... and she looked up at the blossom in a cherry tree.
Then she heard a noise. She heard a bird singing.

Storyteller 2 makes the sound of birdsong.

Storyteller 1: She saw a bird and she watched the bird fly away.

Storyteller 2 makes sound of bird singing as it flies away.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red walked *(Little Red walks)*
... and she walked
... and she walked
... and then she stopped.
And though her mum had said "don't go off the path"
She went off the path to look at the flowers - at the daffodils.
She heard a noise. She heard a growl.

Storyteller 2: Is it a tiger? Tiger stories are most fun.

Storyteller 1: No. It's not a tiger. Not in this story.
It's a wolf.
She heard a noise. She heard a growl.

Wolf appears with a growl.

Wolf: Hello, my dear.

Little Red doesn't answer.

Wolf: I said, "Hello, my dear".

Storyteller 1: And Little Red asked, "Are you a wolf? Are you a nice wolf?"

Little Red: Are you a wolf? Are you a nice wolf?

Wolf: Yes, I am.

Storyteller 1: It seemed like a nice wolf, and though her mum had said she mustn't talk to anybody on the way, Little Red said, "Hello, nice wolf"

Little Red: Hello, nice wolf.

Wolf: Where are you going, my dear?

Storyteller 1: And Little Red said, "I'm going to my granny's because my granny's not very well."

Little Red: I'm going to my granny's because my granny's not very well.

Wolf: And what's in your basket?

Storyteller 1: And Little Red said, "It's lots of treats for my granny".

Little Red: It's lots of treats for my granny.

Wolf: And what treats does your granny like?

Little Red (possibly with the prompting of the storyteller) tells Wolf what treats are in the basket for Granny.

Wolf: Hmmm. Very interesting.

Wolf thinks for a moment.

Wolf: Hmmm. Why don't you pick her some flowers?
Granny's love flowers.

Storyteller 1: It seemed like a nice wolf, so Little Red said, "Ok".

Little Red: Ok.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red stopped to pick some flowers and she sang this song:

I like the flowers,
I like the daffodils,
I like the blossom in the cherry trees.

Everyone can join in with the song.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red sang ...

Little Red: *(begins picking flowers)*
I like the flowers,
I like the daffodils,
I like the blossom in the cherry trees.

Wolf: *(watching Little Red. Whispers.)* She's picking flowers.
Here, I go. Rush, rush, rush - to the cottage where the granny lives.
Woohoo. Wooheeeeeeeeeee.

Wolf runs off.

Little Red: *(still picking flowers)*
I like the flowers,
I like the daffodils,
I like the blossom in the cherry trees.

Granny climbs into bed and lies there looking unwell.

Wolf knocks on the door.

Wolf: *(impersonating Little Red)* Knock, knock.

Granny (Storyteller 1): *(in a feeble voice)* Who's there?

Wolf: *(impersonating Little Red)* It's me, Granny.
It's me, Granny ... with a basket of treats.

Granny: Oh, come in, Little Red.
Lift up the latch and come inside.

Wolf lifts up the latch and comes inside. Wolf looks at Granny. Granny looks at Wolf.

Wolf: A tasty treat for me.

Wolf lets out a big bad wolf "Roar"

Granny: A wolf!

Wolf: Yes, I am!

Wolf begins to gobble up Granny.

Granny: Get off. Get off me!

Wolf continues eating.

Granny: Help. Help. A wolf's eating my toes ...

Wolf continues eating.

Granny: Help. Help. A wolf's eating my knees.

Wolf continues eating.

Granny: Help. Help. A wolf's eating my

Granny doesn't say anymore because she has been eaten (or has turned back into Storyteller 1).

Storyteller 1: And the wolf gobbled Granny up, every last bit.
Because wolves eat grannies - they eat grannies in stories.

Wolf gets dressed in Granny's spare nightie or pyjamas.

Wolf spots Granny's night-cap and puts it on.

Wolf spots Granny's glasses and puts them on.

Storyteller1: The wolf's not nice. The wolf is pretending it's Little Red's granny.

The wolf is dressed up as the granny.

Wolf jumps into bed and pretends to be Granny by putting on a Granny face.

Storyteller1: Little Red knocked on the door. "Knock, knock."

Little Red: Knock, knock.

Wolf: *(impersonating Granny)* Who's there?

Storyteller 1: And Little Red said, "It's me, Granny. Little Red."

Little Red: It's me, Granny. Little Red.

Wolf: Oh, come in, Little Red.
Lift up the latch and come inside.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red lifted the latch and went inside Granny's cottage.

If the person playing Little Red knows the story, they may not need to have these lines fed to them by the storyteller or maybe you just need to point to ears and eyes and teeth.

Storyteller 1: She looked hard at the granny in the bed and she said , "Granny, what big eyes you have."

Little Red: Granny, what big eyes you have.

Wolf: All the better to see you with.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red Riding Hood said, "Granny, what big ears you have."

Little Red: Granny, what big ears you have.

Wolf: All the better to see you with.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red Riding Hood said, "Granny, what big teeth you have."

Little Red: Granny, what big teeth you have.

Wolf/Granny: All the better to eat you with.

Wolf growls.

Storyteller 1: And Little Red knew it was not her granny. She knew it was the wolf.
And so she said, "You're not my granny, you're a wolf."

Little Red: You're not my granny, you're a wolf.

Wolf: Yes, I am!

Storyteller: And Little Red said, "Where's my granny?"

- Little Red:** Where's my granny?
- Wolf:** Your granny is in my tummy. She tasted horrible.
So, now, I'm going to eat you.
I'm going to gobble you up.
- Storyteller:** And Little Red said, "No, I don't think you are!"
- Little Red:** No, I don't think you are!
- Storyteller:** And Little Red said, "You're not a nice wolf".
- Little Red:** You're not a nice wolf.
- Wolf:** No, I'm a scary wolf.
- Storyteller 1:** And Little Red said, "Well, I'm very, very brave. I'm not scared of you".
- Little Red:** Well, I'm very, very brave. I'm not scared of you.
- Wolf:** I don't care. I'm going to eat you anyway.
Gobble you up, every last bit.
- Storyteller 1:** And then the wolf did a loud roar -
- Wolf:** *(loudly)* Roar.
- Storyteller 1:** - and gobbled Little Red Riding Hood up, every last bit.
- Wolf gobbles up Little Red with lots of noise and smacking of his lips.*
- Storyteller 1:** The wolf's belly went fat.
- The wolf rubs his fat belly and licks his lips.*
- Storyteller 1:** A woodchopper was in the forest and heard the roar.
- Woodchopper enters with an axe.*
- Wolf smiles and pretends not to have a mouthful of Little Red.*
- Woodchopper:** *(looking very closely)* Hello Granny. How are you today?
- Wolf:** *(speaking with a mouth full)* I'm very well, thank you.
- Woodchopper:** Really? They said you weren't very well.
- Woodchopper looking even more closely.*
- Woodchopper:** Have you eaten anything recently?
- Wolf:** *(speaking with a mouth full)* No.

- Woodchopper:** Are you sure?
- Wolf:** *(speaking with a mouth full)* Yes.
- Woodchopper:** Well, what are you eating now?
- Storyteller 1:** And from inside the wolf's tummy, Little Red shouted out, "Me, Little Red".
- Little Red:** Me, Little Red.
- Woodchopper:** You've eaten Little Red?
- Storyteller 1:** And Little Red shouted "Me ... and my granny".
- Little Red:** Me ... and my granny!
- Storyteller1 :** *(leaving room for each of the actions)*
And the woodchopper chopped open the wolf's tummy to see if Little Red was in there
... and out popped Little Red
... and then out popped Granny
... and they all threw the wolf out the window
... and they all shouted, "Never come back again, big bad wolf".
- Everyone:** Never come back again, big bad wolf.
- Storyteller 1:** And the wolf never came back again.
- Everyone cheers.*
- Storyteller 1:** And Little Red Riding Hood hugged granny
- Storyteller 2:** And granny hugged her back.
- Storyteller 1:** And then they all had tea with lots of treats. The end.
- Storyteller 2:** What about "happily ever after"? No "happily ever after"?
- Storyteller 1:** Not in this story.
- Storyteller 2:** But I love "happily ever after".
- Storyteller 1:** And then they all had tea with lots of treats and lived happily ever after
....
- Everyone:** The end!

You could now have a tea party (imaginary or real) with all granny's treats ... including something alcoholic for the grown-ups.