

REX (THE KING'S HOUND) PUTS HIS NOSE OVER THE TABLE AND SNIFFS. HE SNIFFS ALL ALONG THE EDGE OF THE TABLE. REX'S HEAD DISAPPEARS, ONLY TO REAPPEAR AROUND THE EDGE OF ONE OF THE SIDE BANNERS WITH A SLIPPER IN HIS MOUTH.

KING: (UNDER TABLE) Rex! Rex! Here boy!

KING POKES HIS HEAD OUT FROM UNDER TABLE

KING: Rex! (SEES AUDIENCE) Oh! Sorry! Didn't know you were here. Jolly good luck that you are, however; you might be able to help me. Haven't seen my hound, Rex, by any chance, have you?

KING CRAWLS OUT FROM UNDER TABLE
AUDIENCE TELLS KING THEY HAVE SEEN REX

KING: Excellent! You see I've got this rubber bone for him. Give him something to chew, instead of the royal slippers. Rex! Rex! Daddy's got something for you!

REX APPEARS

KING: Loo-ook! Bone!!

REX TAKES THE BONE, BUT TOSSES IT BACK TO THE KING

REX: Ruff!

EXIT REX TO APPEARS BRIEFLY WITH A SLIPPER AND DISAPPEAR AGAIN

KING: Oh! Dear, dear. Perhaps he'd prefer something from the royal toy box.

KING PULLS THE TOY BOX OUT FROM UNDER THE TABLE.
REX APPEARS

KING: Hmm. Nothing here for a dog.

REX: Ruff!

KING: Sorry, Rex.

KING SITS DOWN AT TABLE.

KING: Dear me. All that crawling after Rex has made me quite hungry. I think I need a snack. What shall I have to eat? I know! I'll have a feast! There's nothing like a jolly old feast when you're feeling a bit peckish.

KING RINGS BELL
STODGE THE COOK APPEARS

KING: Ah, Stodge, there you are!

STODGE: Yes, your majesty; here I am. What would your majesty like?

KING: I'd like a feast, of course, Stodge. What else would a king eat?

STODGE: Yes, your majesty. Naturally. But what sort of feast?

KING: What sort of feast? Oh yes, oh yes; what sort of feast - yes, um - What sort of feasts do we have?

STODGE PRODUCES A LIST.

STODGE: We have: frozen turkey feast, frozen pork feast, frozen, beef feast, frozen bean feast, frozen chicken feast, frozen lamb feast, frozen egg feast and frozen fish finger feast.

KING: Hmmmmm ... I had pork feast yesterday and the frozen bean feast the day before ... I'll have the frozen chicken feast, I think, Stodge.

STODGE: Frozen chicken feast - Yes, your majesty. I'll pop it in the royal microwave straight away. (PUTS FEAST IN MICROWAVE) Shall I feed the hound, you majesty?

KING: Feed Rex? Jolly good idea.

STODGE POURS DOG BISCUITS INTO DOG BOWL ON TABLE. REX NUDGES THE BOWL WITH HIS NOSE OVER TO THE KING

KING: Thank you Rex. Awfully kind of you.

KING TAKES A DOG BISCUIT.

KING: Hmm. These dog bickies aren't at all bad, you know.

PING! GOES THE MICROWAVE.

STODGE: Your chicken feast, your majesty.

KING: Thank you Stodge.

KING TASTES THE FEAST.

KING: Did you say this was chicken feast, Stodge?

STODGE: Yes, you majesty. That's what it says on the packet.

KING: Well, it tastes just the same as the pork feast I had yesterday, and that tasted the same as the bean feast I had the day before that! In fact, Stodge, all these frozen feasts taste exactly the same! I want a different feast! I want a feast fit for a king! Here Rex, you can have this.

REX PUSHES THE FEAST BACK TO THE KING AND DISAPPEARS

STODGE: I'm sorry, your majesty, but those are all the feast we have in the royal deepfreeze.

KING: Well it's not good enough, Stodge! I want a proper feast!

MARRAGREW THE GARDENER CRAWLS OUT FROM UNDER THE TABLE

MARRAGREW: What's all this noise? Who keeps thumping the table?

KING: I say! Who are you?

MARRAGREW: Marragrew, of course, the gardener - Who are you?

KING: Me? I'm the king!

MARRAGREW: Which king?

KING: Which king? King Nibble IV!

MARRAGREW: The fourth? Then what happened to King Nibble II and King Nibble III?

KING: I supposed they died.

MARRAGREW: Well, tumble my tubers! - I must have been asleep for ages! I fell asleep under that table after a bite of dinner and a couple of drinks with King Nibble the Great.

KING: King Nibble the Great! He was my great grandfather! You've been asleep under that table for 150 years!

MARRAGREW: Well, I was a bit tired. You wouldn't have something to eat, would you? I've come over a tad hungry.

KING: I'm not surprised, after 150 years. Would you like to share my feast?

MARRAGREW: Feast, eh? Don't mind if I do! Marragrew likes a good feast.

MARRAGREW SITS AT THE OPPOSITE END OF THE TABLE.

KING: Stodge, give Marragrew a portion of feast.

STODGE: If you say so, your majesty.

MARRAGREW: Ah, yes! Nothing like a good feast. Thick, crusty bread! Bubbling soup! Succulent cuts of roasted venison!

STODGE TAKES SOME OF THE KING'S FEAST AND, PUTTING IT ON A SEPARATE PLATE, GIVE IT TO MARRAGREW.

MARRAGREW LOOKS AT THE FEAST

MARRAGREW: What's this?

STODGE: Special Surprise Chicken Feast.

MARRAGREW: Yerrr ... surprising is right, but I wouldn't call it a feast.

MARRAGREW SNIFFS IT

MARRAGREW: Where's the smell?

HE TASTES IT

MARRAGREW: Where's the flavour? This here muck doesn't taste of anything!

KING: Exactly! Precisely what I've been saying! This is not a proper feast.

STODGE: But it says feast on the packet!

MARRAGREW: I don't care what it says; it's how it tastes and looks and smells that matters. In the days of your great grandfather, King Nibble the Great, a feast was a feast! Listen:

MARRAGREW LEADS EVERYONE IN THE ACTION SONG

King Nibble the Great he had a feast:

King Nibble the Great he had a feast
But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.

King Nibble the Great he had a feast
But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.

King Nibble the Great he had a feast
But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

The middle course was hot, roast pork
And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
The middle course was hot roast pork
And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.

King Nibble the Great he had a feast
But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

For pudding he had an apple crumble,
 And the crumble made his tummy rumble.
 For pudding he had an apple crumble,
 And the crumble made his tummy rumble.
 The middle course was hot, roast pork
 And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
 The middle course was hot roast pork
 And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
 The second course was a great big fish
 And they carried it in on a silver dish.
 The second course was a great big fish
 And they carried it in on a silver dish.
 He started off with a bowl of soup
 And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.
 He started off with a bowl of soup
 And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.

King Nibble the Great he had a feast
 But what was on his plate?
 King Nibble the Great he had a feast
 What do you think he ate?

He finished off with cheese and bread,
 "What a jolly good feast!" King Nibble said.
 He finished off with cheese and bread,
 "What a jolly good feast!" King Nibble said.

KING: Now that really sounds like a feast. Stodge! Bring me a feast like my great grandfather used to eat.

STODGE: But you majesty, they don't sell feasts like that any more.

MARRAGREW: You don't buy a feast like that. You have to make it.

KING & STODGE: Make it??

MARRAGREW: Oh yes. And not just make it. Your great grandfather sailed around the world searching for fruit and vegetables, herbs and spices. 'Cause when King Nibble the Great was a boy, no one in Britain had ever seen an tomato, let alone a banana or a pineapple. They had to be discovered.

STODGE: Never seen a tomato?

MARRAGREW: No,no. Tomatoes, you see, they came from South America, same as pineapples, spices came from India, and bananas, they came from West Africa. I should know. I sailed with King Nibble the Great.

KING: Must have been jolly exciting.

MARRAGREW: Exciting? It was! Imagine you are your great grandfather, your majesty, and this is your sailing ship. Stodge, imagine you are the ship's captain and I ... well, I'll be the first mate, and all of you can be the crew. Look lively now! for we're off around the world in search fruit and vegetables!

STODGE AND KING CLIMB ONTO THE TABLE. STODGE HOLDS A SHIP'S WHEEL, THE KING, A TELESCOPE

STODGE: Raise the anchor!

MARRAGREW: Right crew! The captain wants the anchor up. So we have to haul up the anchor like this. All together:
Heave-ho and up she rises,
Heave-ho and up she rises,
Heave-ho and up she rises,
Early in the morning.

STODGE: All hands aloft!

MARRAGREW: That means we have to climb up the rigging and let go the sails. So everyone climb like this Untie the sails. That's it! Now, everyone climb down the mast again.

THEY SING:
Shanty

Goodbye to to my home and my comfortable bed,
For we're searchin' for fruit that is yellow and red.
Goodbye to the cat and my horse in the stable,
For we're searchin' for salad to put on the king's table.
Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.
Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.

Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.
Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.

AS THEY SING THEY MOVE OFF THE SET AND THE CURTAINS OPEN TO REVEAL THE SHADOW SCREEN. ON THE SCREEN A SHADOW SHIP SAILS TOWARDS A SHADOW AMERICA.
RAT APPEARS THROUGH HOLE IN TABLE

RAT: (OFF) Land ho!

STODGE: What land do you see?

RAT: Mexico! I can smell chilli con carne!

MEXICAN MUSIC

KING: Drop the anchor, captain. Let's see what new vegetables we can find here in Mexico.

CUT OUT MOUNTAINS APPEAR AT THE BACK OF THE TABLE AND A LITTLE MODEL SHIP SAILS UP TO THEM.

STODGE: Anchors away! Pull for the shore, boys!

KING: Look! The local people are coming to meet us ... and they're carrying gifts of fruit and vegetables.

LITTLE FIGURES MOVE ON THE CUT OUT LANDSCAPE.

STODGE: The fruit they're carrying look like giant pine cones.

KING: We'll call them 'pineapples'.

THEY SING AS THE SHIP SAILS AWAY AGAIN:

ON THE SHADOW SCREEN THE SHIP SAILS TOWARDS INDIA, THEN AFRICA, SPAIN AND HOME TO ENGLAND.

ALL: Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.
Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.

RAT APPEARS

RAT: Land ho!

KING: What land is it?

RAT: India! I can smell samosas frying!

INDIAN MUSIC

KING: Ah, India! My favourite country. Home of flavour, home of spices.

ALL: Pull on my sou'wester and leather sea boots,
 For the king has a longing for colourful fruits.
 Put on my old scarf and a belt round my waist,
 And we'll bring back the spices the king loves to taste.
 Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
 And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.
 Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
 And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.

RAT APPEARS

RAT: Land ho!

KING: What land is this?

RAT: Spain! I can smell paella! Yee-hee-hee! Paella!

SPANISH MUSIC

KING: We'll fill the ship with oranges and lemons, captain, and then
 set sail for home.

THEY 'ROW' THE TOY BOX AROUND THE SET, CARRYING ORANGES

ALL: Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
 And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.
 Rock us and roll us wherever we roam,
 And blow the wind gently to bring us back home.

RAT APPEARS

RAT: Land ho!

KING: What land is this!

RAT: England! I can smell fish and chips! We're home! We're
 home! All rats, prepare to abandon ship! Abandon ship!

EXIT RAT

STODGE, MARRAGREW AND KING APPEAR 'ON DECK'.

MARRAGREW: The rats are leavin' the ship cap'n!

STODGE: All hands aloft to take in sail!

MARRAGREW: Right, shipmates! That means we all have to climb the mast
 again. Everyone, up the mast like this. ... Now we gather in
 the sails.

STODGE: All hands on deck to drop the anchor!

MARRAGREW: Climb down the mast again.

STODGE: Anchors away!

MARRAGREW: Throw the anchor overboard tie off the anchor rope
And we're home again. Thank you shipmates, you can sit
down and have a rest.

MUSIC

STODGE RENTERS, CARRYING A PLATTER WITH A PYRAMID OF COLOURFUL
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES TOPPED BY A PINEAPPLE. SHE PLACES THE
PLATTER ON THE CENTRE OF THE TABLE.

STODGE IS FOLLOWED BY MARRAGREW AND KING

MARRAGREW: And that, your majesty, is how your great grandfather found
fruit and vegetables of every shape and colour from around
the world for his feasts.

KING EXAMINES THE PYRAMID AND IDENTIFIES FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
WITH THE HELP OF THE AUDIENCE

KING: Jolly interesting - Let's see what he brought back. (TO
AUDIENCE) What fruit can you see? ... Bananas - yes,
yellow bananas from Africa, red tomatoes from South
America ... Oranges oranges from Spain.

MARRAGREW: Nothing like the smell of really fresh orange.

MARRAGREW CUTS AN ORANGE IN HALF AND HOLDS THE HALVES FOR THE
OTHERS TO SMELL, THEN THEY TAKE IT TO THE AUDIENCE

MARRAGREW: Of course, King Nibble the Great didn't sail around the world
to find all his food. We used to make a lot of it right here in
the palace. Take cheese, for example.

STODGE: You made your own cheese? Isn't that a lot of work?

MARRAGREW: Making your own food maybe work, but it's fun too.

KING: But how does one make a cheese, Marragrew?

MARRAGREW: Cheese is made from milk, so first you need some cows.

KING: I've got a few toy cows in the royal toy box.

MARRAGREW: We'll put them on the table, and they can be our dairy herd.

KING: Right you are. Lend a hand, Stodge.

STODGE: Yes, your majesty.

THEY SET UP A HERD OF TOY COWS ON THE TABLE.
CUT OUT OF GREEN HILLS ON BACK OF TABLE
BLUE SKY ON SHADOW SCREEN

MARRAGREW: The cows are out in the field eating grass. But we want to milk them, so we have to round them up. The way you round up cows is you hold your arms like this and go: 'Hey-ooop! ... Hey!-ooop!'

KING, AUDIENCE AND STODGE JOIN IN

MARRAGREW: That's the way. You see? The herd is heading off to the dairy.

KING AND STODGE: Moo! Moo! Moo!

THEY WALK THE TOY COWS ACROSS THE TABLE AND BACK TO THE TOY BOX

MARRAGREW: Once you've got your cows in the dairy, then you have to milk 'em.

AS HE SPEAKS, MARRAGREW TAKES A SET OF COW HORNS AND A COW BELL FROM THE TOY BOX AND PUTS THEM ON STODGE.

MARRAGREW: You majesty, would you mind?

KING: Not at all.

THE KING, USING HIS CLOAK, BECOMES THE TAIL END OF THE COW.

I said to the dairy cow...

MARRAGREW: I said to the dairy cow; dairy cow, please,
I need a little milk to make some cheese.
And the dairy cow she said to me;

STODGE: Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

MARRAGREW: I said to the dairy cow; I'm happy to pay,
Give me some milk and I'll give you some hay.

STODGE: But all the dairy cow had to say was
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo,
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

MARRAGREW FETCHES A PAIL

MARRAGREW: I tied that cow to the milking rail,
I went and fetched my milking pail,
The dairy cow, she swished her tail,
STODGE: Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo,
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo,
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

KING AND STODGE RETURN TO BEING THEMSELVES

ALL: Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo,
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

EXIT MARRAGREW WITH PAIL

Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo,
Moo, moo, moo, moo, moo.

MARRAGREW APPEARS BEHIND TABLE WITH LARGE CHEESE

MARRAGREW: Now you've got your milk, so you can make your cheese.

STODGE: Marragrew, why is the cheese full of holes?

MARRAGREW: Ah yes, the holes. The holes were due to a slight misunderstanding between King Nibble the Great and his cat. The king's cat was called Pantaloon; a great, greedy, lazy, orange cat ...

KING TAKES CAT OUT OF THE TOY BOX AN STROKES IT

PANTALOOON: Meow.

MARRAGREW: The cat was supposed to catch mice. Every night the king would say to Pantaloon ...

KING: Now Pantaloon, I'm off to my bed, but you must stay here and catch mice. Do you understand?

PANTALOOON: Meow.

KING: Good pussy cat. You catch lots mice and there will be a reward for you.

MARRAGREW: ... And off the king would go to bed. As soon as the King was asleep, Pantaloon would steal a fish or two from the larder ...

CAT DISAPPEARS AND REAPPEARS WITH FISH IN MOUTH

MARRAGREW: ... and settle down to eat the fish in front of the kitchen fire.

PANTALOOON: Yum, yum, yum, yum, yum. Prrrrrrrr, prrrrrrr, prrrrrrrrr.

Fat, fat pussy cat.

PANTALOOON: If there's one thing a cat likes, it's fish.
In fact it's my favourite dish.
I don't care for mice,
They're not very nice,
They make me feel all ticklish.
No, I don't care for mice,
They're not very nice,
They make a cat all ticklish.

MICE APPEAR OUT OF THE HOLES IN THE CHEESE

MICE: Fat, fat pussy cat
We're not scared of you
We'll eat this cheese
Whenever we please
No matter what you do
Hee, hee!
No matter what you do.

PANTALOOON POUNCES TOWARDS THE CHEESE
MICE DISAPPEAR

PANTALOOON: Mice are common and rude,
They all deserve to be chewed.
But they taste so of cheese,
And their tails make me sneeze,
So they're not my favourite food.
Yes, they taste so of cheese,
And their tails make me sneeze
Ahhhhh -chew!
So they're not my favourite food.

MICE POOP OUT OF HOLES AGAIN

MICE: Fat, fat pussy cat
You know what they say;
When the cat's away from home
The mice come out and play.
Hee, hee!
The mice come out and play.

MARRAGREW: Finally, the king decided to shut the cat and the cheese in the palace cellar. That way, Pantaloon wouldn't be able to steal any fish and he would be forced to eat the mice.

KING: Naughty, naughty pussy cat. You stay down here in the cellar until all the mice are eaten.

PANTALOON: Meow?

KING: No, Pantaloon, you do as you are told.

EXIT KING

PANTALOON: Maybe I'll have to eat mice after all. Yuck!

MICE PLAY HIDE AND SEEK WITH THE CAT.

MARRAGREW: Unfortunately for the king, the mice sent for their cousin the ship's rat to help them. And the ship's rat had a ready supply of fish.

RAT APPEARS WITH FISH IN ITS MOUTH. RAT PUTS DOWN THE FISH AND WHISTLES.

RAT: Oy! Pussy cat! How about a nice tasty haddock?

PANTALOON: Mmmmm! Haddock! Prrrr! Prrrrrr! I do like haddock.

RAT: Not so fast, pussums. Not so fast, There ain't no such thing as a free lunch. Not even for cats.

PANTALOON: What do you want me to do?

RAT: I wants you to promise, cross-your-heart-and -hope-to-die, not to bother my cousins the mice.

PANTALOON: That's a lot to promise for one haddock.

RAT: There's plenty more where that came from, but only if you promise to leave the mice alone

PANTALOON: Oh, I promise. Prrrrr, prrrrr. I promise. Meeeeeeow.

RAT: 'Ere you go then, pussy-wussy, 'elp yourself. Have an 'addock.

PANTALOON: Thank you, ratty. Thank you very much indeed

EXIT CAT WITH HADDOCK

RAT WHISTLES AGAIN.

RAT: Okay mice! The coast is clear. Get nibbling!

MICE POP OUT OF CHEESE

MICE: Fat, fat pussy cat
We're not scared of you
We'll eat this cheese
Whenever we please
No matter what you do
Hee, hee!
No matter what you do.

MARRAGREW: And so, you see, the cat never caught the mice and the royal cheese was always full of holes.

KING: Well, well, I always wondered why some cheeses had holes in them.

MARRAGREW: Mind you, the king's cat Pantaloon wasn't the only one who liked a bit of fish. King Nibble the Great was so fond of fresh fish that he ordered a competition each year to see who could catch the biggest fish for his mid winter feast. Fishermen and women would set out in their boats all around the coast to see if they could win the prize.

MARRAGREW AND THE KING PUT LITTLE BOATS ON THE TABLE.
SEA AND SKY ON THE SHADOW SCREEN

MARRAGREW: No matter what the weather; blazing sun lashing rain ... howling gales ... or freezing snow, the little fishing boats would set out to sea.

KING HOLDS A CUT-OUT SUN ON A STICK ABOVE THE BOATS FOLLOWED BY A CLOUD WITH SPARKLY STREAMERS FOR RAIN. HE BLOWS THE STREAMERS TO INDICATE GALES AND THEN SPRINKLES TORN PAPER FOR SNOW.

STODGE SAILS AROUND THE SET IN THE TOY BOX (PULLED BY THE KING)

STODGE SINGS (AND TEACHES THE ACTIONS) OF

Fishing for King Nibble

Fishing for King Nibble's table;
 Got to catch a fish as big as we are able,
 As big as we are able,
 As big as we are able,
 Got to catch a fish
 As big as we are able to.

Cast our nets into the ocean,
 Into the ocean,
 Into the ocean,
 Cast our nets into the ocean
 Into the ocean blue.

Pull in our nets
 Heave-ho my hearties
 Heave-ho my hearties
 Heave-ho my hearties
 Pull in our nets
 Heave-ho my hearties
 That's what we have to do.

Fishing for King Nibble's table;
 Got to catch a fish as big as we are able,
 As big as we are able,
 As big as we are able,
 Got to catch a fish
 As big as we are able to.

STODGE PULLS IN A NET FULL OF SMALL FISH.

STODGE: Look at all those fish. But they're not very big fish. I don't think I'll win the fishing competition with those. I'll get my fishing rod and try to catch a bigger fish.

STODGE TIES UP HER BOAT AND CLIMBS ONTO THE TABLE, WHERE SHE SITS WITH HER FISHING ROD.
 SHE SINGS AND TEACHES THE ACTIONS OF:

Swish, swish, swish!

We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
 And try to catch a great big fish.

We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
To catch a great big fish.

KING 'SWIMS' A FISH AROUND THE AUDIENCE

We look down in the water,
We make a little wish,
We pull our lines with a tug, tug, tug ...
And we catch a great big fish!

KING MAKES THE FISH JUMP AS IF HOOKED STODGE REELS IT IN

How big is that great big fish?
It's as big, as big, as big as this!
Let's try once more and see if we
Can catch an enormous fish!

STODGE LETS FISH GO AND KING SWIMS IT OFF

We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
And try to catch an enormous big fish.
We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
To catch an enormous fish.

KING ANIMATES A BIGGER FISH

We look down in the water,
We make a little wish,
We pull our lines with a tug, tug, tug ...
And we catch an enormous fish!

KING'S FISH IS CAUGHT

How big is that enormous fish?
It's as big, as big, as big as this!
Let's try once more and see if we
Can catch a giant fish!

STODGE LETS FISH GO AND KING SWIMS IT OFF

We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
And try to catch a giant fish.
We throw our lines with a swish, swish, swish,
To catch a giant fish.

KING SWIMS A VERY LARGE FISH AROUND THE AUDIENCE

We look down in the water,
 We make a little wish,
 We pull our lines with a tug, tug, tug
 And we catch a giant fish!

THE FISH IS CAUGHT

How big is that giant fish?
 It's as big, as big, as big as this!
 We'll go and see King Nibble the Great
 And give him our giant fish.

MARRAGREW: Once the fish for the competition had been caught, they were carried, as quickly as possible, to the royal train ...

KING TAKES A TOY TRAIN OUT OF THE TOY BOX.

MARRAGREW: ... then, to keep them fresh, they were rushed by train to the palace. Through rain through snow under storm clouds or blazing skies, the royal train would race across the countryside to the very door of king's palace. There, the competition was judged, and the largest fish carried in honour to the king's table.

FISH IS PLACED ON A PLATTER AND PARADED AROUND AND PLACED ON THE TABLE

PANTALON APPEARS AND TAKES GREAT INTEREST IN THE FISH. REX, THE DOG, SEES PANTALON AND CHASES HIM OFF.

KING: Rex! Rex! Come here! Come here this minute.

KING CHASES AFTER REX

MARRAGREW: Pantalon always did take a great interest in the fishing competition.

STODGE: Giant fish, home made cheese, exotic fruit and vegetables; the cooks in the old days must have kept very busy. Were there feasts every day?

MARRAGREW: No, no, no -Not every day, and for some feasts there was only one dish.

STODGE: One dish for a feast?

MARRAGREW: Like pancake day. Have you ever tossed a pancake?

STODGE: Tossed one? I just pop them in the microwave.

MARRAGREW: Pop them in the microwave! Where's the fun in that!? Jerusalem artichokes! you haven't lived, have you!?

STODGE: I can mash potato!

MARRAGREW: That does it! We're going to make pancakes. First we need eggs - Chooooook, chook, chook, chook, chook!

STODGE: What are you doing?

MARRAGREW: Calling the chicken.

STODGE: What chicken?

MARRAGREW: The one that was one under the table when I fell asleep.

STODGE: Don't be ridiculous! It won't be still under the table after 150 years!

MARRAGREW: Could be. Chooooook, chook chook, chook, chook!

HE SPRINKLES A LITTLE CORN ON THE TABLE.
CHICKEN (OPERATED BY KING) APPEARS AND PECKS AT THE CORN

MARRAGREW: There you are - One chicken!

CHICKEN: Berrrk, berrrk, berrrk, berrrk, berrrk, berrrk.

STODGE: Amazing.

MARRAGREW: 'Course, now you have to get the chicken to lay an egg.

STODGE: Me??

MARRAGREW: Why not?

STODGE: How do I do that?

MARRAGREW: Try the egg laying song.

STODGE: But ...

MARRAGREW: Don't tell me you don't know the egg laying song? How do you get eggs?

STODGE: At the shop.

MARRAGREW: The shop! Listen - It goes like this:

Chick, chick, chicken; chickadee,
Lay two little eggs for me;
One that's speckled,
One that's white,
And you will get some corn tonight.

MARRAGREW TEACHES THE SONG TO STODGE AND THE AUDIENCE, WHO THEN SING IT TO THE CHICKEN. THE CHICKEN LAYS ONE EGG.

MARRAGREW: There's the speckled egg. Now, if we sing the song again, she may lay us a white one.

THEY SING THE SONG AGAIN AND THE CHICKEN LAYS A WHITE EGG.

STODGE: Look! A white one!

MARRAGREW: What did I tell you? Thank you chicken, that's all for just now.

CHICKEN: Berrrrrrrk!

EXIT CHICKEN

MARRAGREW: Break an egg into a bowl. Add a little flour - beat together. Pour in half a pint of milk, a pinch of salt Mix well and there you have your pancake batter. Drop a little batter into a hot frying pan ... cook for a few seconds and your pancake is ready to toss. That one's for you, Stodge - and ...(TAKING A SECOND PAN) ... drop a little batter into a hot frying pan ... cook for a few seconds and here's one for me. Are you ready to toss your pancake, Stodge?

STODGE: I think so.

MARRAGREW: Watch closely:

MARRAGREW: Shake the pan

STODGE: Shake the pan

MARRAGREW: Quick as you can

STODGE: Quick as you can

MARRAGREW: Ready to flip

STODGE: Ready to flip

MARRAGREW: A little skip

STODGE: A little skip

MARRAGREW: Here we go

STODGE: Here we go

TOGETHER: One, two three - throw!

THEY TOSS THEIR PANCAKES

ENTER KING

KING: What are you doing?

STODGE: We're tossing pancakes, Your Majesty.

KING: That sounds fun! Can I try?

MARRAGREW: I'll fetch another pan, your majesty.

HE DOES

MARRAGREW: There you are, Your Majesty. Now, just you follow us.

KING: Very well, Marragrew. Off we go.

MARRAGREW: Shake the pan

STODGE & KING: Shake the pan

MARRAGREW: Quick as you can

STODGE & KING: Quick as you can

MARRAGREW: Ready to flip

STODGE & KING: Ready to flip

MARRAGREW: A little skip

STODGE & KING: A little skip

MARRAGREW: Here we go

STODGE & KING: Here we go

TOGETHER: One, two three - throw!

THEY TOSS THEIR PANCAKES

MARRAGREW: Very good. But this time, Stodge, you toss your pancake to me, I toss mine to his majesty and his majesty tosses his pancake to Stodge. Understand.

KING: Understood.

MARRAGREW: Ready? One, two, three!

MARRAGREW: Shake the pan

STODGE & KING: Shake the pan

MARRAGREW: Quick as you can

STODGE & KING: Quick as you can

MARRAGREW: Ready to flip

STODGE & KING: Ready to flip

MARRAGREW: A little skip
 STODGE & KING: A little skip
 MARRAGREW: Here we go
 STODGE & KING: Here we go
 TOGETHER: One, two three - throw!

MARRAGREW: And again!

MARRAGREW: Shake the pan
 STODGE & KING: Shake the pan
 MARRAGREW: Quick as you can
 STODGE & KING: Quick as you can
 MARRAGREW: Ready to flip
 STODGE & KING: Ready to flip
 MARRAGREW: A little skip
 STODGE & KING: A little skip
 MARRAGREW: Here we go
 STODGE & KING: Here we go
 TOGETHER: One, two three - throw!

MUCH PANCAKE TOSSING (AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU CAN DO WITH PANCAKES)

STODGE: This cooking is a lot more fun than I thought.

MARRAGREW: Ah yes, Stodge - But I've kept the best 'till last.

STODGE: The best?

MARRAGREW: Baking! How I loved the smell of baking. When the cooks were baking, that wonderful smell would fill every room of the palace.- the smell of big, crusty loaves of bread, hot from the oven - warm, crumbly scones, sweet pastries and cakes of every kind - and the pies! Oh, the pies they used to make: meat pies, cheese pies, fruit pies! Apple, blackberry, cherry pies ...

MARRAGREW PLACES A LARGE PIE ON THE TABLE.

ALL: Sing a song of six pence,
 A pocket full of rye.
 Four-and-twenty black birds
 Baked in a pie.
 When the pie was opened
 The birds began to sing.
 Wasn't that a dainty dish
 To set before the king?

BLACKBIRDS APPEAR FROM THE PIE AND SING

MARRAGREW: Do you know what this is?

MARRAGREW TAKES OUT A HANDFUL OF WHEAT AND POURS IT INTO STODGE'S HAND

STODGE: They look like seeds. (TO AUDIENCE) What do you think they are?

MARRAGREW: Wheat. Fields of wheat grew all around the palace. From the wheat, the miller made flour, from the flour the cooks made their bread, pastries, cakes and pies.

Bread and butter

MARRAGREW: When the king was really hungry
King Nibble the Great would utter;

KING: Give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

ALL: Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

MARRAGREW: The farmer in the spring time sows the fields of wheat
To grow the grain to make the bread that we all love to eat.

ALL: The farmer in the spring time sows the fields of wheat
To grow the grain to make the bread that we all love to eat.

If it wasn't for the fields of wheat
There'd be no bread for us to eat.
Could any meal be quite complete
Without some bread and butter?

Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

MARRAGREW: The miller with his mill wheel grinds the grains of wheat
To make the flour to make the bread that we all love to eat.

ALL: The miller with his mill wheel grinds the grains of wheat
To make the flour to make the bread that we all love to eat.

If it wasn't for the fields of wheat
There'd be no bread for us to eat.
Could any meal be quite complete
Without some bread and butter?

Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

MARRAGREW: The baker with her oven bakes the bread we love to eat,

But there'd be no bread and butter if we didn't have fields of wheat.
 ALL: The baker with her oven bakes the bread we love to eat,
 But there'd be no bread and butter if we didn't have fields of wheat.

If it wasn't for the fields of wheat
 There'd be no bread for us to eat.
 Could any meal be quite complete
 Without some bread and butter?
 Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!
 Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

DURING THE SONG A LOAF OF FRESH BREAD IS PLACED ON THE TABLE. THEY SLICE IT UP, BUTTER THE SLICES AND EAT THEM. IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL IF WE COULD CREATE THE SMELL OF BAKING IN THE THEATRE.

KING: Mmmmmmm!

STODGE: Mmmmmmm!

KING & STODGE: Delicious!

MARRAGREW: So you see, your majesty, when we had a feast in the old days, we really had a feast!

KING: A feast fit for a king!

MARRAGREW: A feast fit for a king. Fruit and vegetables of every colour and flavour ...

STODGE: Home made cheeses

KING: Fresh fish ...

STODGE: Pancakes ...

MARRAGREW: Delicious pies ...

ALL: Bread and butter!

ALL: When the king was really hungry
 King Nibble the Great would utter;
 Give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!
 Give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!

Give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and butter!
Oh, give me a lovely, give me a lovely slice of bread and
butter!

KING: But Marragrew, that all happened a long time ago.
Nowadays, everything seems to have lost its flavour.

MARRAGREW: No it hasn't. You just have to be prepared to make a bit of an
effort. You could grow your own vegetables!

KING: But ...

MARRAGREW: No 'buts' your majesty - Here, let me seeYes, I though so!
I just happen to have a few seeds in my pocket. I'll leave
them with you to get you started.

KING: Thank you Marragrew. That's very kind of you. Maybe my
friends here would help me.

MARRAGREW: Maybe they would. And Stodge, you could practice cooking.

STODGE: I'll start with pancakes.

MARRAGREW: That's the spirit!

ALL: King Nibble the Great he had a feast
But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

For pudding he had an apple crumble,
And the crumble made his tummy rumble.
For pudding he had an apple crumble,
And the crumble made his tummy rumble.
The middle course was hot, roast pork
And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
The middle course was hot roast pork
And he cut it up with his knife and fork.
The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
The second course was a great big fish
And they carried it in on a silver dish.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.
He started off with a bowl of soup
And he spooned it up with a scoop, scoop, scoop.

King Nibble the Great he had a feast

But what was on his plate?
King Nibble the Great he had a feast
What do you think he ate?

He finished off with cheese and bread,
"What a jolly good feast!" King Nibble said.
He finished off with cheese and bread,
"What a jolly good feast!" King Nibble said.