

# Little Red Riding Hood and the Five Senses

Adapted and dramatised from the  
traditional story

by

*Ellie Hallett*



*Me getting blown about by a stiff sea breeze in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.*

# Little Red Riding Hood and the Five Senses

This play works well as an Assembly item, to an invited younger class, as class groups performing for each other, or just for fun.

## CAST

**Storytellers - two groups of any number**

**Red Riding Hood**

**Mother**

**Granny**

**Wolf**

**Forest Ranger**

**NOTE: Group Director, Mother and Forest Ranger can be the same person.**

As a class reading exercise, groups can read/rehearse simultaneously, ideally in a large open space without desks. When each group's rendition has been polished to performance level, they read or recite the play for each other. Each Group Director runs the rehearsals.

The teacher/adjudicator gives formal and well-based comments plus a mark – Pass, Credit, Honours for Group Co-operation, Acting and Word Clarity. (A high mark needs to be well-earned if it is to be an incentive for striving for excellence for future plays/performances.)

**Volunteer stage hands** from a non-performing group - dressed in black – to carry in Granny's bed and large covered bedhead chair are also required.

## Wardrobe:

These are basic suggestions. More can be added if you wish.

Story Tellers (any number) wear black or school uniform plus identical crowns of their own design.

Red Riding Hood wears own choice and a red cape.

Mother wears black (if also playing the Forest ranger) and an apron – or own choice plus apron

Granny wears a nightie, a pair of glasses and carries a book.

Wolf wears a mask (many non-scary patterns are on the internet) and a long black loose man's shirt, black long pants and black shoes. Long black wig (optional).

Forest Ranger wears black (if sharing the part with Mother) and a Forest Ranger's cap. Optional binoculars.

## Props:

1. Bed for granny. (A camp stretcher with a large cloth-covered chair to resemble a bedhead at the pillow end for Granny to hide behind works well. An extra pillow needs to be on the bed. Stage hands bring bed, extra pillow and chair in as per the script.)

2. A bunch of flowers.

**Teaching Points:** The script should be read more slowly (than for silent reading) to enable the audience to understand, hear and enjoy every word.

Good actors speak very clearly and with exaggerated expression. They feel the natural rhythmic bounce of each sentence, and stretch out the vowels e.g. pla-a-y, s-e-e, p-i-e to stop them being too rushed. Ends of word consonants should be strongly pronounced – such as **Group end, Hood, that.**

Good rehearsals result in good performances!

And remember - use the performing space as widely as you can to avoid crowding together like scared chooks. Enjoy the fun!

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All characters enter and stand in a line in front of audience.

Say the senses words in capital letters more loudly and slowly so that they are noticed easily by the audience.

STORY TELLERS 1	Hello everyone! We are Story Tellers 1 ...
STORY TELLERS 2	... and we are Story Tellers 2.
STORY TELLERS 1	Our play today is called 'Little Red Riding Hood and the Five Senses'.
STORY TELLERS 2	While you are WATCHING and LISTENING, we would like you to notice how often the senses are mentioned.
STORY TELLERS 1	As you might already know, our five senses are SIGHT, HEARING, TOUCH, TASTE and SMELL.
STORY TELLERS 2	The characters in our play will now introduce themselves, so LISTEN carefully so that you can HEAR every word.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	As you can probably SEE by my red cape, I am Little Red Riding Hood.
Mother	<p>And I am Mother. I am wearing an apron because I've been cooking an apple pie and chocolate biscuits. Can you SMELL how delicious they are?</p> <p><i>(Other characters sniff the air and say 'Mmmmm ...delicious!' etc. Mother exits if sharing this part with Forest Ranger to take off apron and put on cap and binoculars.)</i></p>

Granny	<i>(cough cough)</i> Just LISTEN to my awful cough! I am Granny, and I live on the other side of the forest. My throat FEELS sore so I am going to have a nice quiet day reading in bed. <i>(exits)</i>
Wolf	I am the hungry wolf. I'll now disappear out of SIGHT and hide so that I can SEE what is going on but no-one can SEE me <i>(hides in audience or where appropriate)</i>
Forest Ranger	<i>(enters)</i> And I am the Forest Ranger. I have very good HEARING because I LISTEN for animals in distress and LOOK for baby birds in their nests through my binoculars to see if they are safe. <i>(exits and changes into Mother if also playing this part)</i>
Story Tellers 1	Remember to listen to all the senses words of SIGHT, HEARING, TOUCH, TASTE and SMELL.
Story Tellers 2	And now let the play begin. We hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoy performing it!
Mother	<i>(enters calling)</i> Red Riding Hood! I can't SEE you! Where are you?  <i>(Red Riding Hood enters)</i> Oh - there you are.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Did I HEAR you calling, Mama!
Mother	Yes you did! Granny isn't FEELING too well, so could you take this basket of goodies over to her house on the other side of the forest?
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	I'm sorry Granny isn't FEELING very well, so she will love these TASTY goodies when I SEE her.

Mother	Granny will be so pleased to SEE you, but remember, my darling Red Riding Hood, please stay on the path, go straight to Granny's house, and don't talk to strangers.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	I'll remember. Bye bye Mama! <i>(Mother exits)</i>  Mmmm - these goodies SMELL so nice they are sure to make dear Granny FEEL much better.
STORY TELLERS 1	So off went Red Riding Hood to visit Granny. However, first she had to go through the deep, dark forest. She walked for quite a long time until came to the thickest and darkest part.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	This forest suddenly FEELS really scary, and I can't even SEE the sunshine any more. <i>(pause and listens)</i>  Ohhh - what's that I can HEAR rustling in the bushes?
Wolf	<i>(enter Wolf)</i> Good morning, little girl!
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Oh! Who are you? Mama said I was not to talk to any strangers.
Wolf	I'm not a stranger! I'm a charming and good-looking and hungry - oops - I mean friendly Wolf. Are you walking through this deep, dark forest by yourself, pretty little girl?
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Yes - I'm all alone, and I'm FEELING just a little bit cold and frightened at the moment.
STORY TELLERS 2 (share speech)	The wolf had such lovely manners - and his voice SOUNDED so smooth and helpful - that Little Red Riding Hood forgot her mother's warning.
Wolf	And where might you be going, you sweet young thing?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	<p>I'm on my way to SEE my Granny on the other side of the forest to give her these goodies to make her FEEL better.</p> <p><i>(Wolf sniffs the basket and Red Riding Hood.)</i></p> <p><i>[Note to teacher: Explain how a wolf is a member of the dog family, and thus sniffs a lot!]</i></p> <p><i>(It is good if the audience laughs here.)</i></p>
Wolf	<p>What a TASTY and SWEET-SMELLING little girl you are! OOPS - I mean - what a kind and sweet-natured little girl you are ...</p>
STORY TELLERS 1	<p>The wolf suddenly stopped sniffing and began thinking.</p>
Wolf	<p>Hmmm ... Let me walk with you through the dark forest, little girl, because you can never tell what dangers may be lurking about, and my good EYES can SEE extremely well.</p>
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	<p>You're very kind Mr Wolf!</p>
STORY TELLERS 2	<p>Under one of the trees in a shaft of sunshine, Little Red Riding Hood SAW some BRIGHTLY-COLOURED wildflowers and SMELT their beautiful perfume.</p>
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	<p>Oh! These are the most beautiful flowers I have ever SEEN!</p>
Wolf	<p>Why don't you pick a bunch for your Granny, SWEET ONE!</p> <p>They SMELL so nice that your sick Granny will FEEL better right away.</p> <p>Well - goodbye, little girl. I've suddenly thought of a few jobs I must do ... <i>(rubs hands, licks lips and exits)</i></p>

<p>STORY TELLERS 1</p>	<p>So off went the wolf, straight to Granny's house. <i>(Red Riding Hood exits opposite side to Wolf)</i></p> <p>Let's now go to Granny's house to SEE what happens next and HEAR what the wolf has to say for himself...</p> <p><i>(Granny's bed and covered chair bedhead is put into place centre stage by stage hands)</i></p>
<p>Granny</p>	<p><i>(sitting up in bed reading)</i> My sore throat is FEELING better already. A day in bed with my favourite book is just what I needed. <i>(loud knocking)</i></p> <p>What's that I can HEAR? It sounds like someone knocking at the door. <i>(calls out)</i> Who is it?</p>
<p>Wolf</p>	<p><i>(in a high girlish voice)</i> It's me, your sweet-SMELLING granddaughter!</p>
<p>Granny</p>	<p>The door is unlocked. Come in my dear, so I can SEE you more clearly. <i>(wolf enters)</i> Ahhh! <i>(Granny screams loudly)</i></p>
<p>Wolf</p>	<p>Surprise! Surprise! <i>(Wolf with back to audience noisily 'eats' Granny, who hides behind the draped chair bedhead)</i></p> <p>Mmmmmm!! TASTY! TASTY! I was so hungry I didn't even have time to chew eight times after every mouthful. Now I must hurry to get myself ready for my next course.</p> <p><i>(puts on Granny's glasses and jumps into bed)</i></p>
<p>LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD</p>	<p><i>(enter Little Red Riding Hood carrying a bunch of flowers.)</i></p> <p>Yooohoo! Hello, Granny! Can you HEAR me? I know you are sick, so I will creep in QUIETLY so I don't give you a fright.</p>

Wolf	<i>(in a wolfish voice)</i> And here comes my DELICIOUS dessert!  <i>(said in a sweet Granny-sort-of-voice)</i> Who is it?
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	It is me - Little Red Riding Hood!
Wolf	Come in my dear, so that I can SEE you clearly!
STORY TELLERS 2	Little Red Riding Hood couldn't believe how different her Granny LOOKED.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Why Granny - what big eyes you have!
Wolf	All the better to SEE you with, my dear!
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	And Granny - what a long nose you have!
Wolf	All the better to SMELL you with, my dear!
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	And Granny - what a long, drippy tongue you have! <i>(wolf locks lips wickedly)</i>
Wolf	All the better to TASTE you with, my dear!
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	And Granny - what big teeth you have!
Wolf	All the better to EAT you with, my dear!
STORY TELLERS 1	And as we all know, the wolf ate up Little Red Riding Hood in one gulp. <i>(Little Red Riding Hood also hides behind chair bedhead. The Wolf gets back into bed looking very satisfied.)</i>

Wolf	<p>Ahh! I feel much better now. Mmmm - I think I'll have a little nap ...</p> <p><i>(settles down and soon starts snoring very loudly; wolf wriggles a lot as if settling; puts extra pillow under shirt)</i></p>
STORY TELLERS 2	A Forest Ranger passing by HEARD the wolf's loud snoring.
Forest Ranger	<p>Now <b>that</b> doesn't SOUND one bit like Granny! I wonder who is making that dreadful NOISE!</p> <p>Oh no! <i>(looks through binoculars)</i> It's the wolf in Granny's bed, and I can SEE he's looking surprisingly fat.</p> <p>I think he has eaten Granny! <i>(goes quickly to the bed)</i></p>
STORY TELLERS 1	<p>The Forest Ranger tickled and prodded the wolf so much that out jumped both Granny and Little Red Riding Hood.</p> <p><i>(The wolf leaves the pillow under messy covers and leaps out at the same moment that Granny and Little Red Riding Hood come out from where they are hiding. This manoeuvre should be as smooth and as true to the story as possible.)</i></p>
STORY TELLERS 2	The wolf scooted off into the forest and was never SEEN or HEARD of ever again. <i>(Wolf exits)</i>
Granny	<p>OOH! Thank you for saving us, Mr Forest Ranger! It was very dark in there, and I couldn't SEE a thing!</p> <p>May I introduce my granddaughter, Little Red Riding Hood.</p>
Forest Ranger	Pleased to meet you - and are you alright, Little Red Riding Hood? You LOOK rather frightened!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Thank you for rescuing us, Mr Ranger!  Yes - I'm FEELING much better now, thanks to you. It's just as well you HEARD the wolf's loud snoring!
Forest Ranger	Fancy the wolf eating both of you!  He got such a fright when he saw me that I don't think you will be bothered by him ever again.
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	And I promise I will never talk to strangers ever again!
Story Tellers  1 and 2	And - <i>(pause)</i> she never did!!

*The whole cast stands in their groups in front of the audience. The Story Tellers bow first, and then the main characters do their bow.*

*To bow professionally, smile and look at the audience for four silent counts, look at your shoes for four silent counts, and then look at the audience again for four silent counts. Keep together!*

*In other words:*

*LOOK at AUDIENCE 2 3 4  
SHOES 2 3 4  
AUDIENCE 2 3 4*

*All exit.*

*Well done!*