

The Inventive Princess of Floralee

A Theater for Young Audiences play incorporating challenges based in STEM by
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ACTOR 1

Self
Princess

ACTOR 2

Self
Narrator
Pirate Captain
Gate
Dragon
King
Kid From School

ACTOR 1

Hello (insert venue name)! My name is (insert actor's name).

ACTOR 2

And mine is (insert actor's name) and today we have a very special treat for you.

ACTOR 1

Today we will be performing a play for you. Raise your hand if you've ever seen a play before. Watching a play is kind of like watching a movie or a TV show, but there are some big differences. Raise your hand if you can tell me how a play is different from a movie or TV show?

ACTOR 1 fields answers from audience. Try to hit these three points:

- *We are real people in the room with you*
- *Just like you can see and hear us, we can see and hear you*
- *We use theatrical magic instead of special effects to bring our story to life*

ACTOR 2

This play has lots of characters; however, how many actors do you see? Two! That's right. Good thing we as actors have a few tools to help us tell our story. We'll use our voices, our bodies, and most importantly, our imaginations. We will be changing our voices, the way we stand and move, and parts of our costumes to show you we're playing different characters; however, we will need some help from you too. We'll need you to use your imaginations to make believe we are playing different characters.

ACTOR 1

Also, we may need your help in another way. At different times, we may need some volunteers to help us tell the story. Raise your hand to tell me what makes a good volunteer?

ACTOR 2 encourages audience to do the following:

- *Sit patiently*
- *Raise your hands*
- *Be excited for your friends, even if you aren't picked*

ACTOR 2

There are also times that I'll need everyone's help to create sound effects during the play. So, if I do this, (*raises right hand and points left hand at audience*) I want you all to make the sound I'm describing. And when I do this (*hand motion like a conductor at the end of a piece of music*) that means you go completely silent. Let's practice, shall we? 'The kittens meowed with all their might!'

ACTOR 2 raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

'And the dogs barked all across town.'

ACTOR 2 raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

ACTOR 1

Great job everyone! Well, I think we are ready to get this play started! Is everyone ready to start the show? I said is everyone ready to see a play? Ladies and gents, please put your hands together for The Inventive Princess of Floralee!

ACTORS 1 and 2 take places to begin show

Music starts

NARRATOR

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away named Floralee, there was a kingdom as lovely as it was pleasant. Streets were lined with flower boxes spilling blossoms overhead. You could hear the bees busying themselves with gentle *buzzing*

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

Children playing in courtyards could be heard gleefully and joyfully *laughing* and *giggling*.

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

And if you listened closely on a clear day, you could hear the gentle waves *crashing* onto the shore.

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

Princess music starts

The sun shone every day and the lives of the townspeople were pleasant as pleasant could be. In short, it was awesome! In the kingdom of Floralee there lived... well, all the things you'd expect in a fairy tale kingdom. Townspeople, fairies, a king, and yes, even a princess.

Enter PRINCESS

PRINCESS

(singing)
In this perfect world,
I sleep in my perfect bed.
I awake to find my hair placed,
Perfectly atop my head.

NARRATOR

This princess had all the things you'd expect a princess to have, poofy dresses, jewels, heaps of primped and pampered poodles, you know, the whole kit and caboodle.

NARRATOR throws poodle at PRINCESS

Yet she still wasn't happy.

PRINCESS

(singing)
In this perfect life,
Perfection can grow old
And more dull, I think,
With every trinket I hold.

NARRATOR

The princess was a curious, brave girl, some would even say, she walked to the beat of her own drummer. And even though she loved her father the king, very much, and she was proud to be a royal member of Floralee, she grew tired of the droning, monotonous, and flat out boring life of a royal princess that her royal father, the royal king, wanted to her live... royally. You see, she longed to be something bigger.

PRINCESS

An inventor to be precise!

(singing)
In this perfect world,
I know that I can be
An inventor,
Not perfect, but perfect for me.

Who needs perfection,
With creations to create?
Gartles and Chisms,
I call this a Fizzy-pate!

NARRATOR

Every day, she rushed to get through her predisposed and pragmatic princess-ly duties so she could escape to her top-secret laboratory and work on her top-secret inventions.

PRINCESS puts on magnifying goggles and pulls out her lab table

PRINCESS

(singing)
Who needs perfection,
With inventions to invent?
I've made tistics and zee-zooms,
I call this what-zee-zent!

Because who needs perfection,
When I can admit,
I'm perfectly imperfect,
And I'm perfectly fine with it.

NARRATOR

And even though experimenting her experiments and inventing her inventions made the princess happy, she didn't feel like she could share her secret inventor life with anyone...

PRINCESS packs away lab equipment and table becomes school desk

PRINCESS

You see, princesses are supposed to be just that, princesses! I've never told anyone about my inventive dreams, not even my father, the king.

KING enters

KING

Hello my darling daughter!

PRINCESS

Hello Father!

KING

And just what are you up to on this beautiful Floralee day?

PRINCESS

Just the usual, Father, school, ballroom etiquette class, all before the ribbon cutting at the new castle down the street.

KING

That's wonderful dear. *(Starts to exit)* Dear, you know I love being King of Floralee...

PRINCESS

Of course Father.

KING

And you know I would never want to keep anything from you, my darling daughter...

PRINCESS

Of course Father. Nor I from you.

KING

All that being said, I have something very important to tell you...

PRINCESS

And I have something to tell you! What is it Father?

KING

Just... for all these years, I've always wanted to let you know...

PRINCESS

What is it Father?

KING

I wanted to let you know... *(pause)* ... to keep up the good work! I'll see you tonight at the ribbon cutting! *(Starts to exit)* Oh, what was it you wanted to tell me?

PRINCESS

Just... *(pause)* ... That I might be a few minutes late to the ribbon cutting. We're covering forks in etiquette class.

KING

Of course... Those forks can be very tricky! Well... I'll see you tonight! *(kisses the top of her head)*

KING exits

PRINCESS

Oh! I was so close, but I just couldn't tell him. I love my father so much, but what if he didn't understand? Are you ever afraid say something important to people you love?

NARRATOR enters

NARRATOR

Keeping her deep dark, inventor-y secret left her feeling rather lonely. Plus, her strong academic focus, hard work in school, and eagerness to answer questions in math and science classes didn't really make her very popular at the Royal Academy of Adequate Etiquette and Appropriate Snobbery where she went to school.

PRINCESS raises her hand and is 'called on' by imaginary teacher

PRINCESS

The answer is Sir Isaac Newton.

NARRATOR

And even though her teachers loved her drive and passion for the sciences, the other students would call her mean students called her names like:

NARRATOR briefly becomes various kids at school to surround and insult the PRINCESS.

SILLY SCIENCE SALLY! And BRAINY BINOMIAL BETTY! And LITTLE LESLIE LOGARYTHM!

PRINCESS

(to bullies) Sticks and stones may break my bones, but bullies spouting mean words can't inflict injury upon my physical person! *(to audience)* Even though none of those are my name and they're seriously confusing their mathematical and scientific terms, being picked on by bullies still hurts.

NARRATOR

And though it hurt her feelings when her classmates insulted her serious scientific source of self safekeeping, she did her best to let it roll.

PRINCESS

Like water off a duck's back, troll!

NARRATOR

And even though her rhyming skills were rather droll... she persevered through each day, knowing her laboratory was waiting for her and that someday, she may save the world with her inventions.

PRINCESS

Just like my hero, Sir Invents-A-Lot!

NARRATOR:

You see, Sir Invents-A-Lot was the top-secret, anonymous inventor from the land of Floralee. No one knew his identity, but everyone used his inventions.

PRINCESS

Like the Personal Force Field, Scuba Snacking Coolers, and this super awesome Animal Translator!

PRINCESS speaks into translator, plays it back and hears unintelligible barking

Pretty cool right?

NARRATOR

All was business as usual until one day, one dark, dreary day, a dangerous, distasteful, deceitful and downright dreadful WITCH descended upon the kingdom and did the drastic deed of kidnapping the king! Everyone say, 'Not the king!'

Audience cries, 'Not the king!'

PRINCESS

Father no!

NARRATOR

Without the king, no one in the kingdom knew what to do! All business stopped. Workers stopped working, teachers stopped teaching, and kids stopped kidding. Everyone was scared stiff to be without their beloved ruler. With agony and anguish over the loss of their great king, the townspeople *groaned* in sadness

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

PRINCESS

The kingdom is too afraid to do anything without the king and no one knows where he could be. Well, someone has to do something...

NARRATOR

And that's when the princess had a bubbling, bright, blast of brilliance bound into her brain...

PRINCESS

I'm going to find and rescue the king from that mean old witch myself! But I can't get too carried away by this crazy situation. Remember my motto, "Think like a scientist and keep a level head." I need to think this through; make a plan! And what's the best way to make a plan?

(Sings)

*The Scientific Method
Has taught me how to find
The answers to the questions
That I have in my mind.*

*Step One is ask a question!
'Where did my father go?'
Judging by the scorched grass,
They're on a dragon. Uh-oh!*

*Step Two is do the research!
So where do dragons dwell?
Well, according to my textbook,
The land of Scalenfell*

*Step Three: form a hypothesis,
The witch took the poor king
To the land of Scalenfell
On her fearsome dragon's wing!*

*Step Four is my hypothesis,
Must be put to the test
So to Scalenfell I go
To begin my quest!*

*Later I will analyze,
Conclude and Communicate
The results of my theory
But now, I can't be late!*

*The Scientific Method
Will set my father free
And the kingdom once again
Will live in harmony!*

NARRATOR

And so, the princess filled her trusty back pack with a few essentials. A blanket, some food, and... a teddy bear?

PRINCESS

Her name is Marie Curie and she likes radium, Nobel Prizes, and big BEAR hugs.

NARRATOR

Our brave and boisterous belle of Bell Curves, bound by bond left on the adventure of a lifetime to test her hypothesis and search for the king-

PRINCESS

And bring him home! I'll find where that witch took him or my favorite beaker isn't a graduated cylinder!

NARRATOR

The journey to Scalenfell was 100 miles! On the first day, she walked $\frac{1}{4}$ of the entire journey. On the second day, she walked another $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way.

PRINCESS

I'm making better time than a sundial in the Sahara!

NARRATOR

If she traveled $\frac{1}{4}$ of the journey the first day, and another $\frac{1}{4}$ of the journey the second day, what fraction of her journey has she travelled? $\frac{1}{2}$! If the WHOLE journey is 100 miles, and she's already travelled $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 100 mile journey, how many more miles does she have to travel? 50! Good job!

PRINCESS

Fifty more miles, I can do this. Do you think I can do this? It's day three of my journey, and now that I've travelled another 25 miles, I'm $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through my journey! I'll make it to Scalenfell in no time!

KING

It was on that day she came to a halt when she arrived at a river that she could not cross. I need two volunteers to help me bring this river to life!

NARRATOR brings up two volunteers to hold river up

PRINCESS

Oh Copernicus and crackers... I can't reach the land of Scalenfell without risking ruin by crossing this raging river! No need to panic, "Think like a scientist and keep a level head." I just need to devise a well-thought out, plan. Well, if I can't go over it, or under it, it looks like I'll have to go across it. If only I could engineer some sort of vessel, boat, or even a raft. Help me out friends, let's look around here and see if there is anything I can use that would float in water. Do you see anything that I could use to float across the river?

Audience (hopefully!) points out wooden platform

A wooden boat? Perfect! Now, to find something proper to propel, paddle, or push the raft across the river. Do you see anything?

Audience (hopefully!) points out paddle

PRINCESS

This paddle should work! Now to launch this baby in the water!

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Shiver me timbers and hold it right there me lady!

PRINCESS

AGH!!!! A pirate!?!

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Not just any pirate. I be Captain Catamaran and I've been trying trying to cross this blasted river to reach those rascals out yonder.

PRINCESS

What rascals be ye referring to?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Were ye blinded by barnacles? Those meanie weanie, jolly wolly, smelly welly courageous crewmen of the sea! Me merry maritime crew! They be out there. Now, show me your best pirate attitude and say, "Arrrr!"

MATEYS

Arrrr!

PRINCESS

AGH!!!! A whole audience of pirates?! Be there any way I can talk ye scurvy dogs out of stealing my doubloons, making me walk the plank, and making fish food of me mateys?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Oh no, me lady, you have us peg-legged all wrong! We're not those mean, tyrannical type pirates. Arrrrre we crew?

PIRATE CAPTAIN shakes his head 'no' to help the MATEYS out

MATEYS

NO!

PRINCESS

Then, what kind of pirates arrrrrrre ye then?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

We are Platypus Protecting Pirates, me lady! Aren't we mateys? Say arrrr!

MATEYS

Arrrrrr!

PRINCESS

Platypus Protecting Pirates? Is that even a thing?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Shiver me timbers, aye, of course it's a thing! The Platypus is the most bullied and belittled animal this side of Davy Jones' Locker.

PRINCESS

Really? Is that true?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

The platypus is a duck-billed, beaver-tailed, otter-footed, egg-laying mammal, what do you think?

PRINCESS

That probably would make you the misfit on the playground of the animal kingdom.

PIRATE CAPTAIN

The only problem is, my maritime crew be over there, and I be stuck over here! I must reach them so we can save our Platypus friends from the paws of petulant provokers of Platypus problems.

PRINCESS

Actually, I have-

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Those malicious makers of malevolent mammal misfortune!

PRINCESS

No seriously I've got a-

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Those tempestuous trying troublesome tushie heads!

PRINCESS

I'VE GOT A BOAT!

PIRATE CAPTAIN

You've got a boat you say?

PRINCESS

Right there.

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Well blow me down!

PRINCESS

I don't think I could, but I can definitely fit both of us on this boat.

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Well let's cast off! We've got Platypodes to save!

PRINCESS

And I a father!

PRINCESS and PIRATE CAPTAIN get on boat. PRINCESS tries to paddle, but the boat won't budge

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Why arrrrren't we moving?

PRINCESS

We're too heavy for me to navigate with this paddle.

PIRATE CAPTAIN

We need a force greater than manpower.

PRINCESS

Do you feel that?

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Feel what?

PRINCESS

The wind...

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Well blow me down!

PRINCESS

Exactly! Now, if we have a boat, a mast, (*PRINCESS places paddle in middle of boat to stand up as a mast*) and wind, what else do we need to make this boat move? A sail! And I have just the thing.

PRINCESS pulls blanket out of backpack

NARRATOR

And so, the princess affixed the blanket to the mast to make a sail for the little raft. The wind *blew, big and blustery*, (*NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence*) It blew so big and blustery, that the river had waves blowing and crashing on its shores. The storm kept raging until it blew the boat all the way across the river.

NARRATOR encourages audience to be the wind storm and blow the boat across the river.

PRINCESS

It worked!

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Thanks for reuniting me with me maritime crew me lady, you are indeed an opulent mer-creature of cleverness.

PRINCESS

Aw shucks. Good luck saving your Platypodes!

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Quite right. Matey's give me one more, "Arrrr!"

PRINCESS

Let's give our river rascals a big pirate-y round of applause as they go back to their seats.

NARRATOR

The Princess thought upon her raft riding richness with relish-

PRINCESS

Relish? The green stuff you put on a hot dog?

NARRATOR

No, I mean, yes, you put relish on a hot dog, but it's also the word for that feeling you get about something you like.

PRINCESS

Oh, that relish. Got it.

NARRATOR

And with a hop, skip, and a jump across the last 25 miles, the princess found herself standing on the ground of-

PRINCESS

(smelling) Scalenfell...

NARRATOR

She knew she was on the right track and that her father had to be right under her nose.

PRINCESS sneezes

Or.. maybe it was ragweed. Either way, she was close! And as she ran from the shore and into the heart of Scalenfell, she came to a gate, one which she could not pass over or around. That's when she saw the gate was no ordinary gate. This gate had a face!

NARRATOR transforms into GATE

GATE

Whoooo gooos there?

PRINCESS

Oh! Hello, I'm the Princess of Floralee and I've come to test my hypothesis that a witch took my father, escaped on the back of a dragon, and fled here to Scalenfell. So... if you don't mind, I'd like to pass into the gates to see if-

GATE

Hooold it right there... No one passes into Scalenfell without solving a rrrriiddle of my choooooosing.

PRINCESS

A riddle? And if I get it right, I can pass through the gates into the land of Scalenfell?

GATE

Coorrect.

PRINCESS

And if I get it wrong?

GATE

Deeeeeath by caaaaaake!

PRINCESS

Death by cake? That doesn't sound so bad...

GATE

It's caaaaarrot cake.

PRINCESS

OH NO! It's a dessert, why put vegetables in it? WHY?

GATE

I understand. It's an atrocity; gives cake a bad name.

PRINCESS

Well, I guess if the riddle is the only way through the gate, I would like to hear the riddle.

GATE

Are you suuuure?

PRINCESS

Yes!

GATE

Pooooositive?

PRINCESS

Positive.

GATE

Because-

PRINCESS

May I please just hear the riddle?

Music starts

GATE

Alright... Get ready. Heeere it is:

*In order to pass through this gate,
You'll need some friends by your side.
Be careful: tis a magic number you need,
Use caution when you decide.*

*The number is greater than 4,
You say it when you count by 2's.
It is smaller than the number 8,
Think carefully on these clues.*

*So find some friends to help you through
And perform the challenge that I give.
Be careful how many you choose;
With friends and luck, you'll live!*

PRINCESS

So.... I need a specific number of people to join me through the gate, correct?

GATE

Cooooorect.

PRINCESS

And if I have too many or too few, I die by carrot cake?

GATE

Sorry to say...

PRINCESS

I'm going to need your help! There is a magic number between 4 and 8, and you say it when you count by 2's. Let's count together by 2's and see what number is between 4 and 8. Ready? 2, 4, 6, 8. What number, when counting by 2's lies between 4 and 8? 6! Alright! I need six people to go through the gate. Oh, but wait.... If I need 6 people to go through the gate, and I'm one! How many more people do I need to make up six? Five! So, how many volunteers do I need? 5!

PRINCESS brings up five volunteers

Alright! I've assembled a group of five volunteers to go with me to make up six to go through. Did we solve the riddle correctly?

GATE

You have six people to go through the Gate of Scalenfell. And the correct number is... May I get a drumroll please?

PRINCESS leads the audience in a drumroll

Six! You are correct!

PRINCESS celebrates with her friends

PRINCESS

Whew! Thanks for your help everyone. It looks like we escaped the carrot cake this time. Now Gate, we're ready to go through!

GATE

Not so fast, there is one more challenge for you to complete before you enter the land of Scalenfell.

PRINCESS

Another challenge? Can my friends help me?

GATE

Of course.

PRINCESS

Alright, will you please tell us your challenge?

GATE

Are you sure?

PRINCESS

Sure!

GATE

Positive?

PRINCESS

Positive.

GATE

Are you absol-

PRINCESS

Come on! We're ready!

GATE

Sorry. I've always had a flair for the dramatic. Here is your challenge: You and your friends, must be fools, dancing fools! In order to pass through the gate, you must show off your best dance moves, then you shall pass.

Gate leaves. Macarena plays and PRINCESS leads a dance party

PRINCESS

(If students need a bit of encouragement) We can do that, let's dance it out gang!

They dance

Alexander Graham blow me down! I couldn't have done it without my friends. Everyone give my lovely dancing partners a huge round of applause! Well, here I go!

NARRATOR

As the princess entered the kingdom of Scalenfell,

Thunderclap

she realized this was not a land of love and joy like the kingdom from which she had come. Scalenfell was dark, dreary, and very, very dangerous. She could hear trolls *scrambling, stumbling, skulking, simpering* and *scratching* underneath bridges.

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

She could hear the dragons *roaring* and *fire-breathing*.

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

She could even hear the creepy *cackle* of witches cavorting above her.

NARRATOR raises right hand and points left hand at audience, lets it establish, then silence

The princess wanted to find her father, but she hadn't prepared for this...

PRINCESS

Marie...

The PRINCESS grabs her teddy and holds her close

NARRATOR

And even though everything around the princess frightened her to the core, making her want to run for the comfort and familiarity of her home...

PRINCESS

Father needs me. And if I don't save him, who will?

NARRATOR

She mustered up her courage-

PRINCESS

Mustard? The yellow stuff you put on a hot dog?

NARRATOR

Mustered, as in the past tense of “muster.” It means to gather or summon.

PRINCESS

Oh, that makes more sense.

PRINCESS musters her courage

NARRATOR

She mustered her courage, girded her loins, held her Teddy-

PRINCESS

Marie!

NARRATOR

Sorry, Marie tight, and did what she did best. She thought through the situation.

PRINCESS

“Think like a scientist and keep a level head.” If my father was taken by a witch on a dragon, I must find where the witches live, and I should be able to find my father, right? And all those witches seem to be flying in the direction of that castle in the distance. So, to that castle I will go!

NARRATOR

And toward that castle she did indeed set her sights and with steadiness and strength, she stepped with absolute abandon and boundless bravery toward the crumbling castle, trying to catch up to the witches-

PRINCESS

Ketchup? The red stuff on a hot dog?

NARRATOR

What is with you and hot dogs today?

PRINCESS

Don’t yuck my yum...

NARRATOR

You do you girl. You do you. She ran to catch up with the witches going into the castle.

PRINCESS

I’ve made it this far, there’s no way I’m turning back now!

NARRATOR

But, before the princess could reach the stronghold, a long looming shadow lowered above her.

PRINCESS

It's a bird! No, it's a plane! Oh no, it's a dragon! AHHHH!!!!

PRINCESS runs offstage trying to outrun the DRAGON

NARRATOR

It was indeed a dragon. A ginormous, gnarly, ghastly gargoyle of great grossness, and he carried her away to the dungeon in the dank depths of the damp, direful castle, where she stood, cold and alone.

PRINCESS comes back on, a prisoner

PRINCESS

Not completely alone...

DRAGAON comes to be with his captive

It's bad enough you captured me, do you have to stay here with me? You smell like... dragon.

DRAGON

I sure do! It's part of my job. The boss says, "Make sure they don't go anywhere 'til I get there." That's what she says.

PRINCESS

Isn't being in a dungeon enough?

DRAGON

Nope, nope, nope! I gotta stay here to make sure you stay put. Boss lady says so!

PRINCESS

Fine. *(beat)* You know; this isn't very exciting.

DRAGON

What isn't?

PRINCESS

Us standing here, not talking.

DRAGON

Are you bored?

PRINCESS

Not bored.

DRAGON

Are you scared?

PRINCESS

I'm not NOT scared. I mean, you're a huge dragon, with huge dragon wings, dragon claws, and dragon teeth. You breathe fire! You could incinerate me into a pile of ashes any second.

DRAGON

Well sure. Would it make you feel better to know I'm a pacifist dragon?

PRINCESS

Maybe a little.

DRAGON

You could sing a song. That helps me when I'm scared.

PRINCESS

I only sing when I'm happy and I don't feel like singing right now. Well, it doesn't help to stand here being scared. "Think like a scientist and keep a level head." I've got to find a way to occupy my mind. I know; I'll classify rocks and minerals!

DRAGON

You'll do what?

PRINCESS

Diamond? Mineral. Granite? Igneous rock.

DRAGON

What are you saying?

PRINCESS

Gold? Mineral. Marble? Metamorphic rock.

DRAGON

Meta-morpha-whata?

PRINCESS

Ruby? Mineral. Limestone? Sedimentary Rock.

DRAGON

What did you just call me?

PRINCESS

No, limestone is classified as a sedimentary rock. That means it's formed by layers of sediment, which is just dirt or other stuff that settles to the bottom of a liquid, being pressed down until it creates rock.

DRAGON

And... the other things you said?

PRINCESS

Well, Metamorphic rocks are rocks that are changed or “morphed” by underground pressure or heat.

DRAGON

Morphing rocks? That’s pretty neat.

PRINCESS

It is! And Igneous rocks are formed from hot melted rock, like magma from a volcano.

DRAGON

That sounds cool.

PRINCESS

More like ‘hot’ than ‘cool.’

DRAGON

Ha! I see what you did there.

PRINCESS

Yeah, just a little science joke.

DRAGON

I’m impressed. Your science smarts are quite stellar for a little princess like you.

PRINCESS

Hey now, just because I’m a princess doesn’t mean I’m any less intelligent. Also, no one is “just” any one thing. Can you keep a secret?

DRAGON

Better than any dragon *you* know!

PRINCESS

Well, to be honest with you, all I’ve ever wanted to be was an inventor and a scientist. And I guess a mathematician by default. Goes with the territory.

DRAGON

A princess/inventor/scientist/mathematician?

PRINCESS

You sound so shocked...

DRAGON

Oh no disrespect intended, and honestly, I’m kind of jealous.

PRINCESS

Jealous? Jealous of what? Of being prisoner in a dungeon?

DRAGON

Jealous of you following your dreams! Can you keep a secret?

PRINCESS

Do volcanos form Igneous rock upon eruption and a cooling period?

DRAGON looks blankly

They do.

DRAGON

Oh great! Well, I know I'm just a mumbling clumsy 'ole dragon, but I've always dreamed of becoming.... Oh, I can't say it...

PRINCESS

You can tell me; I won't make fun of you.

DRAGON

Well, I've always dreamed of being a figure skater.

PRINCESS

Really?

DRAGON

Really. Figure skaters have the grace of ballerinas, the speed of cheetahs, and they do it all to a MUSIC on ICE!

PRINCESS

When you put it that way-

DRAGON

I dream of the cool wind blowing through my scales, the crowd chanting my name, and the sequins glistening under the lights. Oh my, THE SEQUINS!

PRINCESS

It seems like you've thought a lot about it.

DRAGON

Every single day.

PRINCESS

Why don't you try?

DRAGON

It's not that easy.

PRINCESS

Why not?

DRAGON

I work for this witch here in Scalenfell and she never lets me practice. She keeps me busy protecting her castle, kidnapping prisoners, making her morning tea, etc., etc....

PRINCESS

Do you *like* working for her?

DRAGON

To be honest with you, I don't at all. Her castle is dark and scary, it smells like (*sniffs armpit*) dragon!

PRINCESS

Told you.

DRAGON

Prisoners don't like being imprisoned, and I burn my scales on her tea.

PRINCESS

Then what's stopping you?

DRAGON

I guess, I'm a little scared. What if my feet don't fit in ice skates? What if I melt the ice with my breath? And worst of all, what if I'm not good enough to be a figure skater?

PRINCESS

But what if you are? There are always a million reasons *not* to be brave and try something new. You can't let fear and doubt keep you from following your dreams. What do you think friends, can he do it?

Audience cheers in support

DRAGON

Wow! Where did they come from?

PRINCESS

Oh, they've been here the whole time.

DRAGON

Nice.

PRINCESS

Yeah, they're pretty cool. And great dancers too.

DRAGON

You're right! I'll never know unless I try. Look out world, here I come with my skates, Taylor Swift power ballads, and sequins. ALL THE SEQUINS!

PRINCESS

Oh, one thing before you go, could you do me a favor?

DRAGON

Anything for you my friend!

PRINCESS

I'm looking for my father, and I've hypothesized that the witch you serve kidnapped him and all of you flew back here. Now I'm testing that hypothesis by looking for him here in Scalenfell.

DRAGON

Huh?

PRINCESS

Can you help me find my dad?

DRAGON

Oh sure! Tall guy, noble, kinda kingly?

PRINCESS

That's him!

DRAGON

You bet! He's with the witch as we speak. Brace yourself

DRAGON knocks over tower

Hop on, I'll take you there.

PRINCESS jumps on his back and they 'fly' offstage

NARRATOR

The princess flew on the back of the ice-capade dreaming dragon and together, they stormed the witch's chamber. The dragon dropped the princess off outside of the witch's private chamber-

PRINCESS

Thanks Mr. Dragon!

NARRATOR

And walked inside with all the confidence and poise of the righteous.

PRINCESS

Alright witchy, witchy, witchy witch. I am the Princess of Floralee, daughter of the King or Floralee, and I've hypothesized that you've taken my father on the back of a dragon here to Scalenfell. I've fought my way here to test that hypothesis and I stand before you now.... Uh oh, hey Narrator, I think we forgot something kind of important...

NARRATOR:

No, we're good! We brought everything! Costumes, props, extra socks because my feet get kind of stinky when we-

PRINCESS:

No, no, no, none of that, a witch! We forgot a witch!

NARRATOR:

... I'll be right back. Hey everyone, I need your help; I forgot to bring our witch! May I borrow one of your teachers to act out the part of the witch?

NARRATOR goes and gets the pre-arranged teacher

Oh wonderful! Thanks for helping me out. Let's try this again. The princess found the witch standing, hunchbacked, cackling, and downright scary looking... (Good job!).

PRINCESS

I've fought my way here to test that hypothesis and I stand before you now. Was my hypothesis correct; is my father here?

WITCH

My, my, my, aren't you a wee little thing? I guess I can confirm your hypothesis. Yes, your widdle daddy-waddy is here. Come out Sir Invents-A-Lot.

KING comes out with lab table

PRINCESS

Great Gregor Mendel, what is she talking about?

KING

(Seeing the PRINCESS for the first time) Honey! Run! Save yourself!

PRINCESS

No Father, I've fought my way here and I'm not leaving without you.

PRINCESS and KING

"Think like a scientist and keep a level head." *(Surprised that the other has the same motto)*

PRINCESS

Well of course, and we want to be good prisoners. In fact, I think we should show her your latest invention.

KING

Honey, what are you talking ab-

PRINCESS

Don't be modest Dad, I'm talking about your latest and greatest invention, the teleporter...

Winks at KING

KING

Oh yes.. the teleporter!

PRINCESS

That will take you to any location or time in the history of the world!

KING

How about meeting Cleopatra in Ancient Egypt?

PRINCESS

Or walk with the dinosaurs?

KING

Or visit the Salem Witch Trials?

PRINCESS elbows KING

Or something else?

PRINCESS

Well, I've always wanted to go to Harry Potter World...

PRINCESS and KING

PERFECT!

KING

(KING walks WITCH behind curtain) Just go around the curtain, walk through the door, close your eyes, and hold on tight. Say hi to Dumbledore for me!

KING runs back around to the stage

PRINCESS

You REALLY have a TELEPORTER?!?

KING

Nope. Shoved her in the broom closet. We'd better hurry!

PRINCESS

Of course father, but before we go, what was she talking about? You're not an inventor; you're my father and the King of Floralee.

KING

Actually, she was right. I am the king, but I am also Sir Invents-A-Lot. Wow. I've never told that to anyone before...

PRINCESS

But why did you keep it a secret?

KING

Oh darling, I almost told you a million times, but to honest with you, I was afraid.

PRINCESS

You? You're not afraid of anything!

KING

Oh trust me, just because you're a grown up doesn't mean you don't get scared from time to time. See, when I was a young prince in school, my classmates teased me endlessly about my eagerness in school and my knack for the sciences. They would even call me names like Chemistry Chris, Beaker Billy-

PRINCESS

Mathy Matthew...

KING

Right. So, I eventually stopped answering questions in class and started keeping to myself. When it was time for me to be crowned, I was afraid the people of Floralee wouldn't accept a king who would rather be in a laboratory all day than on a throne.

PRINCESS

I had no idea. Father! And... I have something to tell you too. You're not the only secret inventor in the family! I never told you or anyone because I was worried you would think it would make me a bad princess or that my classmates would bully me even more. It seems so silly now that we were both too afraid to show who we are, doesn't it?

KING

It really does. Oh dear, I've never been prouder of you.

PRINCESS

Nor I of you.

PRINCESS and KING hug

PRINCESS

But seriously, she's going to realize those brooms aren't Nimbus 2000's...

KING

Right! I'm right behind you.

PRINCESS and KING run off stage, hand in hand

PRINCESS

And so, the Princess led her father, the king, all the way home to the land of Floralee. When they arrived, all the citizens gathered for a press conference and *cheered* for the homecoming of their beloved ruler. Everyone say, "We love the king!"

Audience cheers "We love the king!"

KING

Hello citizens of Floralee. Thank you for the kind welcome; however, I owe all of you an apology. You see, I've been keeping a secret from you. I am the anonymous, elusive, and mysterious Sir Invents-A-Lot. I kept my alter-ego secret because I was worried about how you would react. But I've realized, if you can't be yourself and love who you are on the inside, you can't be the person your friends and family need you to be. What do you say citizens of Floralee, do you forgive me?

Audience (hopefully) cheers in support

PRINCESS

And so, the land of Floralee embraced their king/resident inventor with open arms. Soon, everything returned, not quite to normal, but better than before! As for the rest of our friends, the Pirate Captain Catamaran started a foundation to help young platypodes escape the bombardment of bullying and menacing misconduct and eventually became a Senator lobbying for Platypus rights.

PIRATE CAPTAIN storms across stage

PIRATE CAPTAIN

Ahoy me mateys! Next stop, Washington!

PRINCESS

As for the Gate of Scalenfell, well he was finally taken off his hinges so he could dance with the rest of the travelers.

GATE dances across stage, doing dance with hands only

GATE

Hey Macarena, who-so-fina, loco-mida. Hey loose-a-fida, co-sa-blena, acquafina, Hey mosa-rida, hold-the-beat-a, need-a-seat-a, HEY MACARENA! (*hocks loogey*)

PRINCESS

The dragon found skates that fit his feet, learned to control his fire breathing, and actually met Taylor Swift in person. He will fulfill his dream and will go for gold in the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang in figure skating.

DRAGON skates by, singing

DRAGON

Let it go, let it gooooo! I am one with the wind and sky...

PRINCESS

The witch escaped the broom closet, eventually... and thought better of her devious ways. She took a trip to Disney World the old fashioned way, not on a teleporter, but on a broom.

NARRATOR

Sponsored by Delta!

PRINCESS

As for me? I opened up my top secret laboratory to my classmates so they could come work on experiments of their own. It was so popular, we started a Young Inventors Club that met after school a few times a week. And people realized how fun science and math could be. Now, people don't call me names like Binomial Betty or Leslie Logarithm-

KID FROM SCHOOL

Hey Blair, are we still on for Young Inventors Club after school today?

PRINCESS

Is 6 a factor of 12?

KID FROM SCHOOL

It sure is! See you at 3:00!

PRINCESS

See ya there! Instead, they call me, Blair, which is much nicer.

NARRATOR

As for the princess-

PRINCESS

Uh-hm...

NARRATOR

Sorry, Blair, became president of the Young Inventors Club and grew up to be an even more famous inventor than her father.

PRINCESS rolls out her work table for song

PRINCESS

(singing)
In this perfect world,
I've finally found where I can be
An inventor,
Inventing things for you and me.

This is perfection,
Making things for the good,
Of all people.

Like I dreamed of in my childhood.

PRINCESS and KING

(singing)

Because this is perfection

Where we can admit,

We're perfectly imperfect,

And we're perfectly fine with it.

END OF PLAY