



Readers Theater:

Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer



Characters

- Narrator: Guides the story and provides background.
- Rudolph: A young reindeer with a glowing red nose, kind but insecure.
- Mr. Donner: Rudolph's father, proud but worried about his son fitting in.
- Mrs. Donner: Rudolph's caring and supportive mother.
- Dasher Jr.: A young reindeer, playful but sometimes unkind.
- Comet: The reindeer coach who trains the young reindeer.
- Santa Claus: Warm and wise, sees potential in Rudolph.
- Hermey: An elf who befriends Rudolph and shares his struggles of feeling different.

Optional Props:

- Santa's sleigh (cardboard cutout or decorated chair)
- Antlers or headbands for the reindeer
- A glowing red nose for Rudolph (light-up toy or red foam ball)
- Cotton balls or paper snowflakes for the snowstorm
- Christmas Gift Boxes: Small wrapped presents for Santa's sleigh.
- Workshop Tools: Toy hammers, wrenches, or paintbrushes to represent the elf's workshop.
- Snowstorm Elements: White sheets or streamers to simulate snow blowing in the storm.
- Santa's Bag: A large sack filled with mock presents.
- Reindeer Bells: Jingle bells to attach to the reindeer costumes or use as sound effects.
- North Pole Sign: A signpost labeled "North Pole" for the background.
- Rudolph's Nose Spotlight: A flashlight or small red light to shine when Rudolph is leading the sleigh.

(The stage is set with a snowy backdrop. Rudolph's family stands together in a cozy reindeer den. The Narrator steps forward.)

Narrator:

Long ago, in the magical North Pole, a baby reindeer named Rudolph was born. His parents, Donner and Mrs. Donner, were thrilled... but also surprised.

Mrs. Donner:

(Holding baby Rudolph) Oh, Donner, he's perfect. Look at his sweet little nose!

Mr. Donner:

(Hesitantly) Sweet, yes. But... it's glowing! What if the other reindeer don't understand?

Narrator:

They loved their son dearly, but his shiny red nose made him different. As Rudolph grew, he quickly noticed he wasn't like the others.

(Rudolph approaches Dasher Jr. and other young reindeer playing in the snow.)

Rudolph:

Hi, can I play too?

Dasher Jr.:

(Pointing) Whoa! Your nose is glowing!

Rudolph:

(Shyly) Uh, yeah. It does that sometimes.

Dasher Jr.:

(Laughing) Sometimes? It's like a big red flashlight! Do you think like a Christmas tree too?

(The reindeer laugh. Rudolph lowers his head, hurt. Mrs. Donner watches from nearby.)

Mrs. Donner:

(Encouraging) Don't let them get to you, Rudolph. Your nose is special. Someday, they'll see that.

Narrator:

But Rudolph wasn't so sure. He often played alone, feeling like he didn't belong.

(The scene shifts to Santa's workshop. Santa speaks with Comet, who trains the reindeer.)

Santa:

Comet, how are the young reindeer shaping up for the sleigh team?

Comet:

(Confidently) Donner Jr. is quick, and the others are learning. But there's one—Rudolph. He's fast, but... well, his glowing nose is distracting.

Santa:

(Thoughtfully) Hmm. Sometimes our greatest challenges can become our greatest strengths.

(Rudolph is sitting alone. Hermey the elf walks by, carrying tools.)

Hermey:

(Cheerfully) Hi there! Why so glum?

Rudolph:

(Sighing) The other reindeer laugh at my nose. It's always glowing, and I can't make it stop.

Hermey:

(Sitting next to him) I get it. The other elves tease me because I don't like making toys. I want to be a dentist.

Rudolph:

(Surprised) A dentist? But you're an elf!

Hermey:

(Smiling) Exactly. We're both different. But maybe being different isn't so bad.

Narrator:

With Hermey's encouragement, Rudolph started to feel a little braver.

(The reindeer games are in full swing. Comet is coaching as young reindeer practice flying and pulling sleighs. Rudolph cautiously joins.)

Comet:

(Calling out) All right, team! Let's show some speed and coordination. Rudolph, you're up!

(Rudolph takes off and impresses everyone with his speed. But as he lands, his glowing nose catches everyone's attention.)

Dasher Jr.:

(Snickering) Nice flying, Rudolph, but your nose could guide the sleigh itself!

(The others laugh. Rudolph runs off, embarrassed.)

Narrator:

Rudolph felt like he would never fit in. But someone was watching who saw more than just a glowing nose.

(Santa approaches Rudolph, who is sitting alone.)

Santa:

Rudolph, I've heard about your flying skills. You've got something special—your nose could light the way through the darkest storm.

Rudolph:

(Doubtfully) You really think so?

Santa:

(Smiling) I know so. The world needs a reindeer like you—bright, brave, and one of a kind.

(A blizzard is brewing, and Santa and the reindeer gather around, worried.)

Santa:

(Looking at the storm) This is the worst blizzard I've ever seen. We won't be able to see where we're going!

Mrs. Donner:

(Nervously) What will happen to Christmas?

Santa:

Rudolph, with your nose so bright, will you guide my sleigh tonight?

Rudolph:

(Surprised, then proud) Me? Of course, I will!

(Rudolph steps forward, his glowing nose lighting up the stage. The reindeer cheer.)

Dasher Jr.:

(Sheepishly) Sorry for teasing you, Rudolph. Your nose is amazing.

Rudolph:

(Smiling) Thanks, Dasher Jr. Let's save Christmas together!

Narrator:

And that's exactly what they did. Rudolph's nose lit the way, guiding Santa's sleigh through the storm and bringing joy to children everywhere.

(Santa and the reindeer take off into the night sky.)

Santa:

(Calling out) Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Name: _____

Date: _____

How did Hermey help Rudolph feel better about being different?

What did Santa see in Rudolph that others didn't?

What lesson can we learn from Rudolph's story?

Rudolph



Santa Claus



Mrs. Donner



Mr. Donner



Dasher Jr.



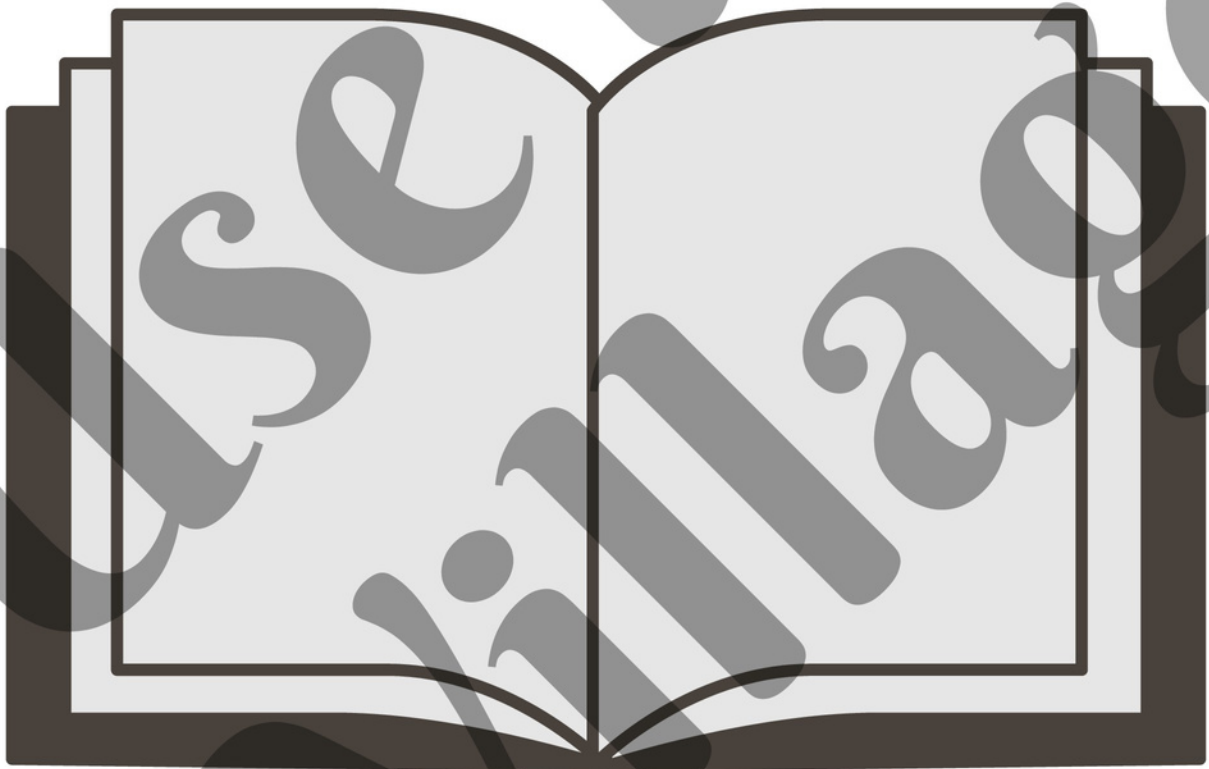
Comet



Hermey the Elf



Narrator



Teacher Suggestions:

Assigning Roles: Consider your students' reading levels and confidence when assigning roles. Encourage students to practice their parts at home or during independent reading time.

Practicing Fluency: Have students practice their parts multiple times to build fluency and expression.

Props & Costumes: Use the optional props list to create simple, engaging props.

Character Labels: Students can also use the provided character names to either cut out to hang around their neck to help identify characters to the audience or alternatively draw and illustrate what they imagine their character to look like.

Performance: Arrange a space in the classroom where students can perform. Invite other students to watch the final performance to boost students' confidence and make it more special.

Reader Response Questions: Use the provided questions to facilitate a post-performance discussion. This will help assess comprehension and encourage students to think critically about the play.

Extension Activities:

- **Creative Writing:** Students write their own version of Rudolph's story, imagining a different challenge Rudolph might face.

- **Character Traits:** Discuss the qualities that make Rudolph a hero and create a character profile.

Art Project: Design a new sleigh or reindeer toy for Santa.

Drama Activity: Reenact the story with different interpretations of Rudolph's emotions.

- **STEM Challenge:** Build a "sleigh" that can hold weight and move down a ramp.