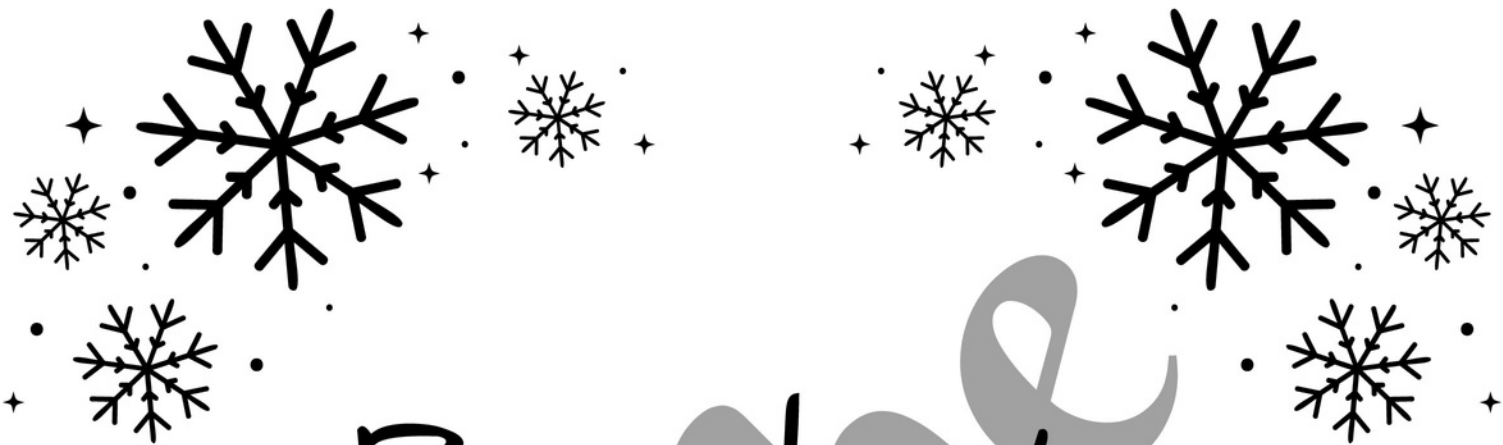
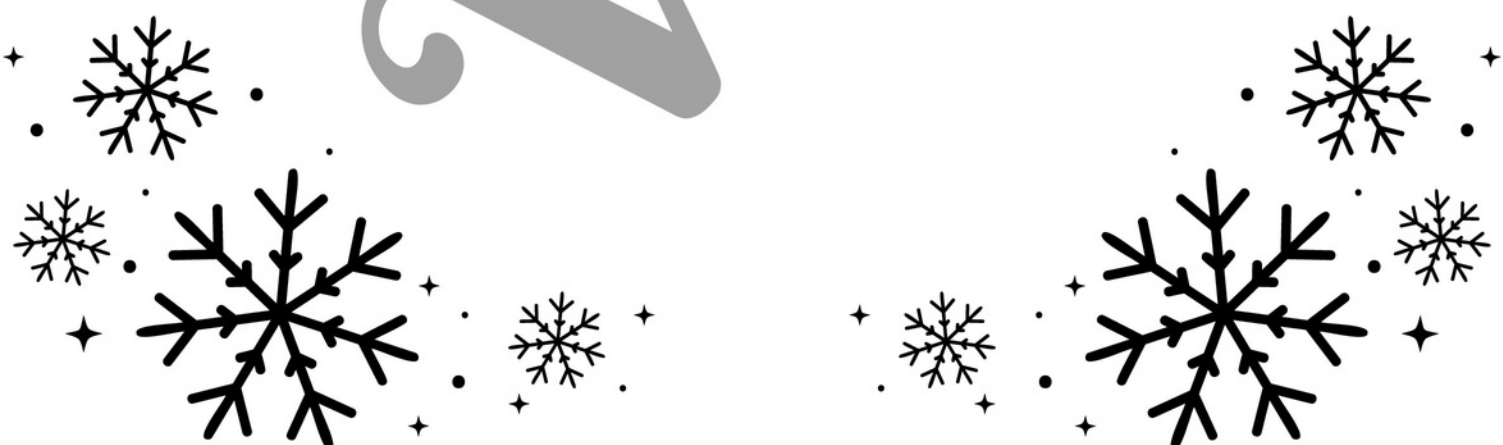




Reader's
Theater:

The Snow Day
Mystery



Characters:

- Narrator
- Max (an inquisitive boy)
- Ella (Max's best friend)
- Mrs. Jenkins (their kind but mysterious neighbor)
- Detective Frost (a playful and clever detective)
- Snowy (a talking snowman)

Optional Props:

- A scarf for Max
- A hat and gloves for Ella
- A shawl or apron for Mrs. Jenkins
- A blue scarf for Detective Frost
- A carrot, buttons, and a small bucket (props for the snowman)
- A small sign reading “Detective Frost”

Narrator:

It was a crisp January morning, and the world was covered in a soft blanket of snow. Max and Ella, bundled up in coats and scarves, were walking through their neighborhood when they noticed something unusual.

Max:

Ella, look at Mrs. Jenkins's front yard! There's a trail of footprints leading up to her snowman, but none leaving it. Isn't that strange?

Ella:

Very strange, Max. Let's ask Mrs. Jenkins if she noticed anything.

Narrator:

The two friends knocked on Mrs. Jenkins's door. She opened it with a warm smile.

Mrs. Jenkins:

Oh, hello, Max and Ella! Out enjoying the snow?

Ella:

Yes, Mrs. Jenkins, but we noticed something odd. There are footprints leading to your snowman, but none coming back. Did you see who made them?

Mrs. Jenkins:

Hmm, I did notice the footprints this morning. It's a mystery, isn't it? Maybe you should ask Detective Frost. He's excellent at solving snow puzzles.

Max:

Detective Frost? Where can we find him?

Mrs. Jenkins:

Follow the trail of snowflakes down the road. The snowflakes seem to sparkle and swirl in the air as if they're leading the way. You'll know when you see him.

Narrator:

Max and Ella followed the faint trail of snowflakes until they came upon a small wooden shack with a sign that read, "Detective Frost: Mysteries Solved in a Flash." Inside, a tall, cheerful man wearing a bright blue scarf greeted them.

Detective Frost:

Welcome! What snowy mystery brings you here today?

Max:

We saw footprints leading to Mrs. Jenkins's snowman but none leaving. Can you help us figure out what happened?

Detective Frost:

A classic case of the Snowman Muddle! That's what we call it when mysterious footprints appear around snowmen. Let's take a closer look.

Narrator:

Detective Frost followed Max and Ella back to Mrs. Jenkins's yard. He examined the footprints, the snowman, and the surrounding snow. Then he knelt beside the snowman and tapped its frosty surface lightly.

Detective Frost:

Aha! Look closely at the snowman. Do you see anything unusual?

Ella:

Wait... one of the snowman's buttons is missing!

Max:

And there's a canister on the ground that doesn't look like it's from the snowman's nose. What could this mean?

Narrator:

Just then, a small gust of wind blew, carrying the crisp scent of pine and the faint sound of jingling. The snowman suddenly twitched, his twig arms shivering as if waking up. Max and Ella froze, their eyes wide with disbelief. With a creak and a soft puff of air, the snowman opened his eyes, which sparkled like tiny frost-covered stars, and spoke in a gentle, raspy voice.

Snowy (Snowman):

(sniffling) I can explain! I didn't mean to scare anyone...

Max:

A talking snowman? That's amazing! But what happened to the footprints?

Snowy:

Last night, I got hungry and decided to borrow a carrot from Mrs. Jenkins's kitchen. They looked so delicious sitting in a basket on the counter.

Ella:

Wait, Snowy! You said you took those carrots? Oh no! Mrs. Jenkins needed those for her grandson's birthday cake! How could you not know?

Snowy:

I didn't realize how important they were! If I'd known, I never would have taken them. I feel awful about it now. I'll do whatever I can to make it right.

Detective Frost:

Let's replace the carrots so Mrs. Jenkins can still make her cake, and we'll fix your missing button. But first, let's make sure you're warm enough — even snowmen can catch a chill.

Narrator:

With everyone pitching in, the mystery was solved, and Snowy promised to be more thoughtful about his actions and to consider how they might affect others.

Detective Frost even gave him a special blue scarf as a reminder of the importance of taking responsibility for his actions and making things right.

The scarf, with its deep blue hue and delicate silver embroidery, embodied warmth, kindness, and the importance of making thoughtful choices. It became a treasured keepsake for Snowy, reminding him to always act with care and consideration.

Name: _____

Date: _____

What clues led Detective Frost to suspect that the snowman was involved?

What was Snowy's excuse for his actions, and how could he have handled it differently?

What lesson did Snowy learn by the end of the story?

Max



Ella



Mrs. Jenkins



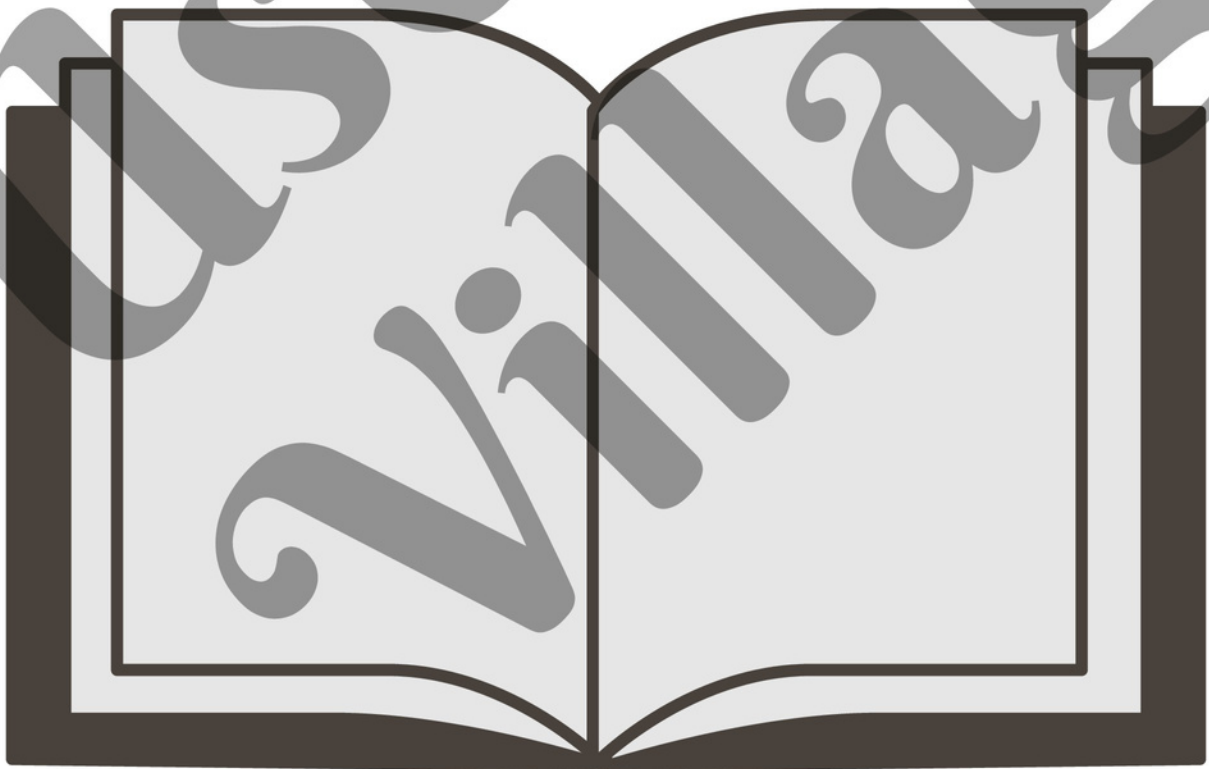
Detective Frost



Snowy



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- Snowman's Diary

Have students write a short diary entry from Snowy's perspective. They can describe his feelings about borrowing the carrots, the moment he realized they were for a birthday cake, and his gratitude for the new blue scarf.

Snowflake Science Experiment

Introduce students to the science of snowflakes. Provide paper and scissors to create their own paper snowflakes, then discuss how real snowflakes form and why each one is unique.

Design a Detective Badge

Let students create their own detective badge or logo inspired by Detective Frost. Provide craft supplies like paper, markers, and glitter. Encourage them to include a unique slogan for their detective work.

Role-Play Conflict Resolution

Set up scenarios where students can practice solving conflicts thoughtfully as Snowy did. For example, a situation where someone "borrows" a classroom item without asking. Discuss how to make amends and improve communication.