

June 26, 2012

LITTLE HANDS CAN HEAL

Staging:

- Small stage
- 2 Side curtains (with dowel rods)
- 2 wing panels
- 2 masking panels
- 1 rear panel (green)
- 1 front panel (brown)
- 3 tension rods
- Backdrop - Cloud and grass fabric
- Multiple clamps of various sizes
- Box of push pins

Lighting:

- 2 black (with extra flood lamps)
- 1 short/light extension cord
- 2-plug dimmer (with strap)
- 1 long/heavy-duty extension cord (with strap)

Tools:

- 7/16 wrench
- Hammer
- Wood block
- Nail set

Props:

- Bed (and C-clamp)
- Blanket fabric
- Purple Teddy Bear

Cast (Puppets):

- Meridith (hostess)
- Joe (host)
- Cinnamon Bear
- Snow Bear

LITTLE HANDS CAN HEAL

MERIDITH

Good morning, everyone! (Improvise until kids respond.)

Welcome once again to Little Hands Vacation Bible School! My name is Meridith.

JOE

And I'm Joe!

MERIDITH

We're your hosts for this portion of our program, and today, we want to show you how "Little Hands Can *Heal!*" We're very excited to...

JOE

Wait a minute! Wait a minute!

(In staged whisper to Meridith.) What do you mean, how "Little Hands Can *Heal?*" What can *little* hands possibly do to heal? It's not like we're doctors or anything.

MERIDITH

Well, of course we can't practice medicine, but we can certainly do our best to do things that will help others feel better when they're sick. I mean we can visit them, and take them a present, or tell them a funny story...

JOE

Oh, yeah! I did hear somewhere that laughter is the best medicine.

MERIDITH

Not just laughter by itself, Joe, but also our time and attention. Sometimes just being there for someone can help them to feel better.

For example, once there was a little Cinnamon Bear, who had been sick at home for days and days...

[HOUSE LIGHTS DOWN. STAGE LIGHTS UP]

[CINNAMON appears in bed.]

Even though her mother had finally said she could have visitors, she was still too sick to go outside, and she had become so lonely, stuck in her room all by herself. Her father was gone all day, her mother had lots of work to do, and she had no brothers or sisters. And it was so beautiful *outside*, she just couldn't imagine anyone would want to give up playing in the sunshine to come inside just to be with her.

Hours passed, and Cinnamon just felt worse and worse.

[KNOCK ON THE DOOR. SNOW ENTERS CARRYING TEDDY BEAR.]

JOE (as SNOW)

Anybody home?

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

Snow! What are you doing here?

JOE (as SNOW)

Your Mom sent word to school today that you could finally have visitors.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

She told me she would, but I never dreamed...

JOE (as SNOW)

I thought you could use some company, and besides, I wanted to bring you a present.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

Oh, Snow! It's so cute!

[SNOW PASSES TEDDY TO CINNAMON. CINNAMON HUGS IT CLOSE.]

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON, cont.)

Thank you so much!

JOE (as SNOW)

You're welcome. I saw it and thought you'd like it.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

I *love* it! Thank you!

Now, please tell me everything that's been happening since I've been gone. It feels like it's been forever...

JOE (as SNOW)

It's mostly just the "same old, same old." Well, until today, that is.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

What happened today?

JOE (as SNOW)

[Laugh.] You won't believe what Mrs. Grizzly did today during lunch hour!

MERIDITH (as NARRATOR.)

And Snow went on to tell Cinnamon all about what happened at school. And the longer he talked, the harder Cinnamon laughed, the story was *that* funny!

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

[LAUGHING.] Oh, Snow...I can't *believe* she did that! And in front of the whole school?

JOE (as SNOW, still laughing.)

Yep. Even Principal Panda and Mrs. Kodiak were there. They were trying really hard to keep a straight face, but Mrs. Grizzly was just *too* funny, even for the grown-ups.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

I really like Mrs. Grizzly, don't you?

JOE (as SNOW.)

Yeah. My dad had her when he was in school, and although I never really believed the stories he used to tell about her, I now know they're all true and she hasn't changed much—she's still the best teacher in the school.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

And the nicest. She sent me that bouquet of flowers.

MERIDITH (as NARRATOR.)

They spoke awhile longer then Snow sighed.

JOE (as SNOW.)

Well, I guess I'd better get home. My mom will be looking for me.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

I'm so glad you came, Snow. I feel so much better than I did before you came!

JOE (as SNOW.)

I'm glad, too, Cinnamon. I'll stop back again tomorrow after school, if I don't see you before.

MERIDITH (as CINNAMON.)

That would be great! And thank you again for the Teddy Bear!

JOE (as SNOW.)

You're welcome, again!

[SNOW EXITS. CINNAMON HUGS TEDDY BEAR AGAIN.]

[STAGE LIGHTS DOWN. HOUSE LIGHTS UP TO CUE APPLAUSE.] [A grownup will need to start this.]

[CINNAMON DUCKS DOWN AND BOTH COME UP STAGE RIGHT TO TAKE A BOW THEN EXIT.]

MERIDITH

So, you see, Joe, even little hands can heal, if they're willing to try.

JOE

You're right, Meridith. And the next time I hear about someone who's sick and needs some cheering up, I'm going to make the effort!

MERIDITH

Good for you!

[MORE APPLAUSE.]

[THE END.]