

# It's A Magical Time of the Year



A nasty magician, The Grunch, has made Santa Claus disappear. The classes in your school try their best magic tricks to make Santa reappear. They even appeal to the famous magicians Sigmund and Freud for help, but all that appears is a stuffed tiger and Santa's boxer shorts! Every class has a magic trick and a song in a style varying from country and western line dance music to Elvis style rock and roll. Complete directions for the magic tricks are included.

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# It's A Magical Time of the Year

By Denise Gagné

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# It's A Magical Time of the Year

## An All School Magical Holiday Musical

Setting: "It's A Magical Time of the Year" is set in a theater. Place your choir or classes on risers on either side of the stage, leaving room in the middle for staging the magic tricks.

### All Cast Sings: 1. It's a Magical Time of the Year

It's a magical time of the year, the whole world must be feeling good cheer  
Everywhere that you go there are folks that you know it's a magical time of the year

Find the biggest Christmas tree and decorate each bough  
Hang the tinsel on each branch, I'll gladly show you how!  
Put the lights on and you'll see a magical display  
It won't be long until you can enjoy your Christmas Day

*(3-4 kids bring out a tree, decorate and turn on the lights)*

It's a magical time of the year, the whole world must be feeling good cheer  
Everywhere that you go there are folks that you know it's a magical time of the year

Make a big pinata and fill it to the top  
Hang it up and break it, the fun will never stop.  
Find a special gift for a person that you love, then  
Look to see the Christmas star, shining from above.

*(3-4 kids bring out a pinata, and hit it)  
(walk through with a shopping bag)*

It's a magical time of the year, the whole world must be feeling good cheer  
Everywhere that you go there are folks that you know it's a magical time of the year

*(Kindergarten children enter)*

**Janelle:** *(to the Kindergarten teacher)* We want to hear a story!

**Shelcie:** Tell us a Story!

**Jenna:** A long one.

**Daralynn:** About Santa Claus

**Morgan:** Please tell us a story!

**All:** Please.....

### Kindergarten Class Sings: 2. Tell Us a Story

Tell us a story, tell us a story  
Tell us a story about Santa Claus  
You know you should you said you would  
You gotta give in 'cause we've been good  
Tell us a story about Santa Claus

*left hand out, right hand out  
fold arms on chest  
wag right finger,  
beg - clasp hands together  
fold arms on chest*

Tell us a story, tell us a story  
Tell us a story about Christmas Time

You know you should you said you would  
You gotta give in 'cause we've been good  
Tell us a story about Christmas Time

**Kindergarten Teacher:** You have been good! I'll tell you a story about how the Grunch made Santa Claus disappear.

**All the kindergarten children:** Don't you mean the Grinch?

**Teacher:** No, this was the Grunch. The Grunch was a very tricky magician.  
*(Santa is seated in the front row of the audience.)*

**MC:** And now ladies and gentlemen, direct from Las Vegas, the trickiest magician you've ever seen, "The Grunch!"

*(Grunch enters, carrying a microphone)*

**Grunch:** Usually when I come out on stage in Vegas there is a lot of noise and clapping and cheering. Let's try that again!

**MC:** And now ladies and gentlemen, direct from Las Vegas, the trickiest magician you've ever seen, "The Grunch!"

*(Grunch enters, carrying a microphone)*

**Grunch:** For my first trick, I would like to show you how to turn a \$5 bill into ten \$5 bills. I need someone from the front row to sign their name on a \$5 bill and loan it to me.

*(Grunch hands out a felt pen for the person to sign the bill. He takes the bill on stage with him, folds it up, puts it in his pocket and continues.)*

**Grunch:** I'll give you your ten \$5 bills after I've done this trick 9 more times.  
Moving right along, I'd like to meet some of the very special people in our audience tonight.

*(Picks out a Mom)* And you Ma'am - What is your name and where are you from?

**Parent replies**

*(Picks out a Dad)* And you Sir - What is your name and where are you from?

**Parent replies**

*(Picks out Santa who is seated in the front row)* And you Sir - What is your name and where are you from?

**Santa:** Ho Ho Ho! I'm Santa Claus and I come from the North Pole!

**All:** “Ho Ho Ho Merry Christmas!”

*(Float the boxer shorts above the box. Have Santa reach up and snatch them. Assistants drop the sheet and Santa Claus reappears.)*

**Santa:** Ho Ho Ho Merry Christmas - you do say it very well indeed! I better hurry if I’m going to get to the North Pole in time to load the sleigh. *(All Say:)* “Ho Ho Ho Merry Christmas!”

*(All Cast Stand and Sing Reprise.)*

### **It’s a Magical Time of the Year**

It’s a magical time of the year, the whole world must be feeling good cheer  
Everywhere that you go there are folks that you know it’s a magical time of the year

Find the biggest Christmas tree and decorate each bough  
Hang the tinsel on each branch, I’ll gladly show you how!  
Put the lights on and you’ll see a magical display  
It won’t be long until you can enjoy your Christmas Day

*(3-4 kids bring out a tree, decorate and turn on the lights)*

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Make a big pinata and fill it to the top  
Hang it up and break it, the fun will never stop.  
Find a special gift for a person that you love, then  
Look to see the Christmas star, shining from above.

*(3-4 kids bring out a pinata, and hit it)  
(walk through with a shopping bag)*

It’s a magical time of the year, the whole world must be feeling good cheer  
Everywhere that you go there are folks that you know it’s a magical time of the year

*(Repeat the accompaniment from “It’s a Magical Time of the Year” for bows.)*

# How To Perform the Magic Tricks

## 1. Disappearing Santa trick

Santa steps in the box and the assistants pull up the sheet in the front. Santa crawls through the trap door and stands behind the box until it is moved off stage. To complete the illusion that Santa is still in the box, Santa steps OUT of oversized boots and leaves them in place, with the toes peeking out from beneath the sheet.



1. Santa enters the chimney.



2. The assistants pull the sheet sheet in front of the box.



3. Santa slips out of his boots and crawls through the trap door.



4. Santa waits behind the box, moving with the box when the assistants take it off the stage.

**Supplies Needed:** One 3 sided large science fair display board (or a large box with one side cut out), black spray paint and an exactor knife.

**Directions:** Paint the box black, like the inside of a chimney. With an exactor knife, cut 2 slits approximately 18” long on either side of the center panel. Then fold up the center panel, like a cat door and you have your trap door. This fold will be the least visible if you score it first with your exactor knife. If the opening shows, you can hang a large piece of black material over the front of the box. The black material will hide the cracks in the trap door from the audience.

## 2. Floating Body trick

Two stage assistants bring out a gym bench with a blanket hiding 2 meter sticks with socks attached. The assistants lift up the blanket on the audience side of the bench so that the audience cannot see the sticks. A third assistant (the subject) steps behind the blanket, lays down on the bench putting her own feet on the floor, and picks up the meter sticks. The assistants then lay the blanket over the subject. The sticks protrude from the end of the blanket so that they look like his feet. When the magician says the magic words, the child sits up, holding the sticks so that her head and feet are elevated. All of this is done under the blanket, so that the audience cannot see the sticks.



The subject steps behind the blanket, lays down on the bench putting her own feet on the floor, and picks up the meter sticks.



The assistants then lay the blanket over the subject. The sticks protrude from the end of the blanket so that they look like her feet.



When the magician says the magic words, the child sits up, holding the sticks so that her head and feet are elevated.



### 3. Magnetic Hand trick

Hold the ruler in your right hand. Swing your left hand in front of your body with the palm of your hand facing your shoulder. As you place the ruler in the palm of your right hand, extend your right pointer finger and hold the ruler in place. Grab your left wrist with the rest of your right hand fingers. Spread the fingers of your left hand wide apart. When performed quickly, this trick gives the illusion that ruler is held by an invisible force.

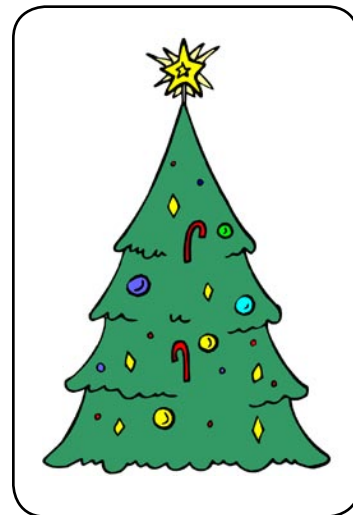
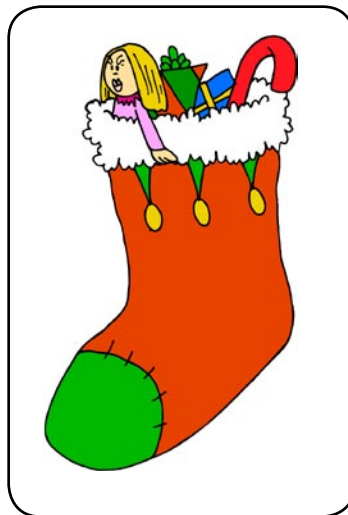
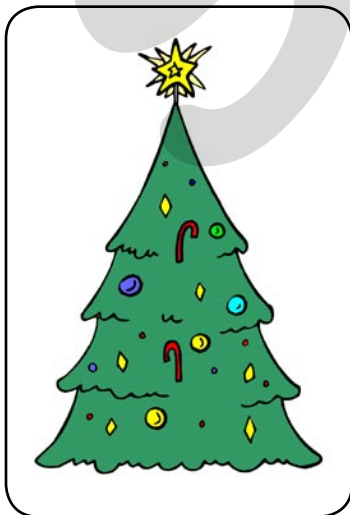


### 4. Tiger appearing trick

Bring out the box that Santa disappeared in. Lift up the sheet. Rolled up in the sheet is a stuffed tiger or lion. When the sheet lifts, the stuffed toy rolls into the box. When the assistants take away the sheet, a toy tiger is laying in the box.

### 5. Mind Reading trick

To perform this trick you need 3 large Christmas cards - 2 identical and one different.





**Directions:** Put several strips of invisible tape across the back of the different card, so that you can feel which one is different. You need to practice feeling for the tape without the audience noticing.

Have the volunteer blindfold you so you cannot see the cards. Hold the 3 cards out in front of you so that the audience can see them. Ask the volunteer to take one card. You will then read his mind and tell him which card he has.

When the volunteer takes one of your cards you will know which one it is by the following process:

- If you have 2 backs without tape, the volunteer has the different card.
- If you have the taped back in your hand, the volunteer has one of the identical cards.

### **Floating Boxers:**

Make or buy a pair of extra large Christmas boxer shorts. Sew fishing line to either side of the waistband. The boxers can be raised or lowered by raising and lowering the fishing line.

### **Party Magic Tricks:**

For the Party magic, you can use the tricks given here, or use any tricks that your students can perform.

**See Through the Dice:** Use any 3 ordinary dice, or make oversized ones. Say to the audience, "I can see through these dice. I'll roll them, and without looking, will tell you what the bottom 3 numbers add up to."

How to accomplish this: Add up the top numbers and subtract the total from 21. If the top 3 numbers are all 6's, they add up to 18.  $21-18=3$  The bottom numbers will add up to 3.

**I Hate Green Beans:** *Carefully remove the label from a can of green beans, by running an exactor knife along the seam. Put the beans label around a can of peaches and fasten with a small piece of invisible tape, leaving a loop of tape sticking out like a tab. You will also need a paper grocery bag.*

Begin by telling the audience "The other day my mother bought green beans. I hate green beans." *Shake the bag to show that it is empty. Hold up the can with the phony label. Place the can inside the bag and continue.* "When she told me we were having green beans for supper, I cringed." I decided that only a little magic could help me. I closed my eyes. (*close eyes*) I put my hands on top of my head (*put hands on head*) and I said "Beans, beans just make me toot, change this can into some fruit!"

*Reach into the bag and quickly pull off the beans label. Leave the label in the bag. Take out the can of peaches!* To close, say "Now if I could just figure out how to turn tomato juice into chocolate milk!"

# Backdrop and Costumes:

## Set:

It's A Magical Time of the Year is set in a theater. Place your choir or classes on risers on either side of the stage, leaving room in the middle for staging the magic tricks.

## Backdrop:

For our backdrop, we enlarged the words "It's A Magical Time of the Year". We taped and pinned large stars and snowflakes to our black curtains. The effect was much like the cover of this musical.

## Costume Ideas:

Santa: buy or borrow a commercially made Santa suit

The Grunch: Wear a magicians top hat, black cape and white shirt.

Assistants: The assistants can dress like elves, or could wear all black like stage hands.

Children: All the children wear ordinary clothing.

## Songs:

## Class:

## Costume:

1. It's A Magical Time of the Year	Cast	Concert dress
2. Tell Us A Story	Kindergarten	Concert dress
3. Don't Take Santa Claus	Grade 1	Concert dress or Elvis style attire
4. Santa is Magic	Grade 2	Concert dress
5. Santa Claus Rap	Grade 3	Rappers - backwards ball caps and long t-shirts or concert dress
6. It's Time to Get Together	Grade 4	Line dancers - blue jeans, jeans shirts, bandannas around the neck
7. Merry Merry Christmas	Grade 5	Macarena dance - concert dress or jeans & black t-shirts
8. Santa's Coming Back	Grade 6	Concert Dress
9. It's A Magical Time of the Year	Cast	Concert Dress

'Concert dress' is the clothing that your students would normally wear to a concert.

# 1. It's a Magical Time of the Year

Unison with Piano

♩. = 60

D. Gagné

It's a mag - ic - al time of the year, — The whole

*Red.*

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 12/8 time signature. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, and then a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. It features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass clef and chords in the treble clef. A 'Red.' marking is placed below the piano part.

world must be feel - ing good cheer — Ev - ery - where that you go there are folks that you know it's a

This system contains the next two staves of music. The vocal line continues with eighth notes: C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2. The piano accompaniment continues with the same accompaniment pattern as the first system.

mag - ic - al time of the year.

This system contains the final two staves of music. The vocal line concludes with eighth notes: C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2. The piano accompaniment concludes with the same accompaniment pattern as the previous systems.

# 2. Tell Us a Story

Unison with Piano

Traditional, arr. D. Gagné

left hand out right hand out

Tell us a stor - y, tell us a stor - y,  
Tell us a stor - y, tell us a stor - y,

fold arms on chest

tell us a stor - y a - bout San - ta Claus! You  
tell us a stor - y a - bout Christ - mas Time! You

wag pointer finger beg - clasp hands together

know you should you said you would You got - ta give in 'cause we've been good,  
know you should you said you would You got - ta give in 'cause we've been good,

fold hands on chest

tell us a stor - y a - bout San - ta Claus!  
tell us a stor - y a - bout Christ - mas Time!

# 3. Don't Take Santa Claus


Unison with Piano

Rock & Roll ♩ = 116

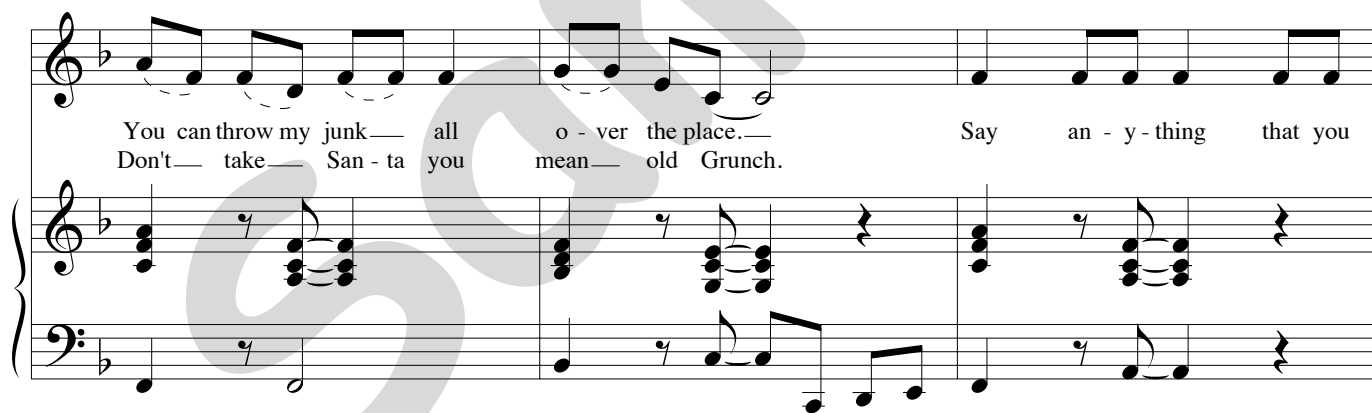
D. Gagné



You can butt in line you can take my place.  
You can steal my juice you can eat my lunch.



You can throw my junk all o - ver the place. Say an - y - thing that you  
Don't take San - ta you mean old Grunch.



want to say, but please don't take San - ta Claus a - way! No no no

