

**Opera Stories | *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (The Child and the Spells)
Teacher Notes and Script**

Suggested activities

Freeze Frames and acting out

Have the whole class adopt a freeze frame or actions for different sections and characters of the story. This could be the boy being really angry, the toys coming to life, or the Mum trying to reason with the boy

Read the story

To practice their reading out loud, children could read (perform) the script with or instead of the narrator.

Quiz

Children could be asked the below questions and improve comprehension by going back over the script to answer them.

1. What did the boy do to his books and animals?
A. Ripped pages from the books and pulled the ears and tails of the animals
2. How does the boy describe himself in the first song?
A: Wicked!
3. What happens after the boy collapses in the chair?
A: The toys come to life
4. What does the boy offer to do to the toys and books in the second song?
A: He offers to dress their wounds (fix them) and asks if they can be friends.
5. What two things to the toys offer to teach the boy?
A: Kindness and friendship

Sections	Script
1. The boy and the house 1:13 – 1:59	<p>Once, there was a young boy who lived in a lovely big house with a beautiful garden. He had lots of books and toys, but he did not care for them. He ripped pages out of fairytales, and even pulled the ears and tails of the animals living in his garden. He was not very kind.</p> <p>His mother told him off and warned him that if he continued to be a bully, no one would want to play with him. But the child did not care, he grew angrier and angrier, and in his fury, he stomped and screamed:</p>

<p>2. Music 2:00 – 2:13</p>	<p><i>I do not care, I do not care, anyway!</i></p> <p><i>I'm not hungry, anyway!</i></p> <p><i>I much prefer to remain alone!</i></p> <p><i>I love no one, I'm very wicked!</i></p> <p><i>Wicked, wicked, wicked!</i></p>
<p>3. Toys come to life 2:13 – 3:10</p>	<p>After all the stomping, screaming, and raging, the child collapsed into a chair, exhausted.</p> <p>Suddenly, he noticed something moving from the corner of his eye. He looked up and to his horror, he saw that everything around him came to life! All the toys he destroyed, the books he ripped, and all the animals he mistreated were closing in around him, looking at him angrily.</p> <p>He saw the hurt in their eyes, noticed the tear running down the face of the Princess whose picture he ripped, and he heard the cry of the small squirrel whose tail he pulled.</p> <p>He felt ashamed and lowered his head.</p>
<p>4. Aria 3:10 – 4:16</p>	<p><i>Let me help dress your wound</i></p> <p><i>I'm sorry I hurt you</i></p> <p><i>I promise to be better</i></p> <p><i>I was cruel I know that now</i></p> <p><i>Only now I see the beauty of you all</i></p> <p><i>My heart is sad because I harmed you</i></p> <p><i>I will be kind</i></p> <p><i>Please, let us all be friends.</i></p>
<p>5. Kindness and Friendship 4:16 – End</p>	<p>The Princess, the toys and the animals watched as the child gently bandaged the squirrel's tail. He really did look sorry. They looked at each other, and agreed to give the child another chance, and to teach him about kindness and friendship. The End.</p>