

Script  
+ costumes  
+ stage settings  
for La Grande, Oregon  
Production  
for WPA Art Center -  
1940  
Photos of  
production  
musings

# Pinocchio

A musical mélange for minors

(In two parts — A Pologue and an Interlude)

A new variation on an  
old theme by Collodi

Adaptation and production  
by **Edward Chamberlain**

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Three Coquettes

Geppetto

Blue Fairy

Master Cherry (Antonio)

Pinocchio

Hen

Chick

Boobyland Man

Four Sob Sisters

Fox

Cat

Children

(Original music for songs available upon request.)

## THE SCENE

A cottage in the wood....  
..... that is all....



Prologue

(BOOBYLAND THEME by voices.....

softly in distance...

after Theme is established, chorus of children enter and swarm stage.....

three COQUETTES come to dias....)



Three: This is the time,  
The only time  
To have an  
“object all sublime”..  
Today...  
Let’s do a play !

Cast: Hooray !



Three: Here is a stage  
on which to gauge  
The mammoth spectacle  
of the age....  
I say.....  
Let’s do a play !

Cast: Hooray !

Three: Here is the cast....

Cast: We’re not surpassed

Three: A worthy crew....



Cast: How do you do?  
How...do... You...do !

Three: An audience, too...  
So what’ll we do?  
I guess we’ll leave  
It up to you  
To say....

Cast: Let’s do a play !



(The CAST, carried away by its enthusiasm, joins hands and does a dance.)

Three:           Wait !  
                      We've got to find  
                      A play to play,  
                      A playless play  
                      Is not so gay  
                      They say....

Cast:            Let's think



1st C            Let's do a play  
                      of a handsome young  
                      prince..

Cast:            NO ! NO ! NO !       -

2nd C.           who kissed a girl  
                      with a face like a Quince:..



Cast:            NO ! NO ! NO !

3rd C:           Then jumped on his horse  
                      And was never seen since.

Boy:             We want to play Pinocchio !

Cast:            We want Pinocchio !  
                      We want Pinocchio !

Three:           Then we'll do Pinocchio !



Cast:            Hooray !

Three:           On with the play !

(COQUETTES and CAST exit in carnival spirit and the stage cleared for.....)

# Part One

(GEPETTO appears at the window of his house...he is weeping copiously and mopping his eyes with a huge, red kerchief..... there is a bucket, presumably full of tears directly beneath the window on the stage...if you haven't enough tears...water will do.)



Gep:           Woe is me!  
                  And double woe...  
                  And triple woe...  
                  Tomorrow !  
                  Three times eight  
                  Is not as great  
                  As twenty times  
                  my Sorrow !

(GEPETTO wrings his tearfull kerchief into the bucket. .a small boy appears with an empty bucket and goes to GEPETTO..)

Boy:           Full Up?  
Gep:           Full up.



(Boy deposits empty bucket... takes full one and exits.)

Gep:           Alas, alack,  
                  Ah, fate defiled.  
                  That I should live  
                  Without a child.  
                  Alone,  
                  Without a child !

(He weeps...the BLUE. FAIRY appears on roller skates..with rubber tires, if you please.)

Fairy:           Geppetto ! Geppetto !

Gep :           Who are you?

Fairy:           I am the Good Fairy  
                  dressed in blue.....  
                  but you're as blue as I !  
                  I cannot see you cry...



I'll bring you some good,  
 Make you a puppet  
 Out of wood....  
 A fine one  
 Then I'll give  
 The magic power  
 To make him live,  
 and you will be  
 Alone no more –



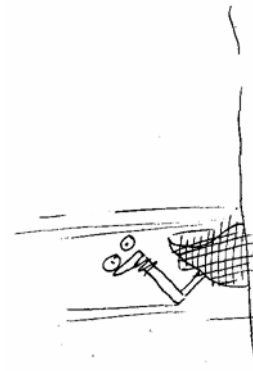
(She approaches audience... arms outstretched and MUCH beatific expression.

Tears and sighs  
 He'll soon ignore.  
 (She starts to exit.)

Gep : Ah, good fairy, Thanks a lot.

Fairy: You're welcome

(She does exit.)



Gep: Your bright idea  
 Hits the spot.  
 Good bye..  
 Ah, she's so good !

(His happiness turns suddenly to agony....just like that )

Alas ! I have no wood.

(GEPETTO melts into tears.



MASTER CHERRY, with a large piece of wood under  
 his arm, enters hurriedly and stealthily with much looking over his shoulder. . .  
 .he is evidently being pursued. . .at CENTER STAGE he trips...falls flat...not  
 on his face....he remains seated....GEPETTO wails.)

Ant: A strange proceeding  
 This, thinks I...  
 I skin my shin  
 And yet...you cry

(He points to GEPETTO.)



Ah, no! You're laughing.. . I suppose.  
 O Laugh till you're weeping  
 At my nose....  
 My large, red nose...,,  
 Like all the children down the street -  
 who get a strange,  
 Malicious treat  
 In laughing at  
 MY large, red nose

(A group of children enter.)

Good gosh! Here they come

(He runs left...another group enters  
 there...he returns center and pouts)



Boy;            Ha ha ha ha !  
                  Ho ho ho ho !  
                  What do you suppose?

Children:        What?

Boy:            Ha ha ha !  
                  Ho ho ho ho !  
                  Master Cherry  
                  Has a big, red nose !

(Kids peer into ANTONIO'S visage...an exceedingly gloomy one.)



Children: Well, I do declare.

Boy: A great, big,  
Large, red nose

*Song*

Children: Master Cherry  
Has a red, red, nose,  
A red, red nose,  
A red, red nose.  
Oh, 'tis very like  
A red, red rose  
A red, red,  
Red, red rose.  
Like a rose is red  
So his nose is....  
Oh !  
Put it's not as pretty  
As a rose is...  
NO ! No !  
How he got it there  
Nobody knows,  
Nobody knows,  
Nobody knows,  
yet 'tis very like  
A red, red rose,  
A great, big, beautiful...  
Great, big, beautiful  
Great, big, beautiful Rose !



(The CHILDREN sing an dance around ANTONIO... .  
He escapes and exits...  
CHILDREN, singing and laughing, follow...

GEPPETTO runs from house and grabs wood that ANTONIO has left.)

GEP:

Ah Here's some wood.  
Tis very good.....  
A puppet I'll create  
with hammer and chisel.  
If it's not a fizzle,  
I'm sure it will be great !

(He re-enters the house...sits in the window and starts to work...

CHILDREN wander back in and inquire what he is doing.)

*Song*

GEP: With this little piece of wood  
I will make for me a doll.  
And when I have it done  
It will be the best of all.  
I will teach my little doll  
To spin and sew,  
I will take my little doll  
Where ere I go.  
I will call my little doll....



(He pauses and scratches his head,)

Voice: PINOCCHIO

Gep:

Yes, indeedy  
I shall call him Pinocchio

Children:

He will call his little doll  
Pinocchio.  
Pinocchio.  
Pinocchio  
He will call his little doll Pinocchio—chio

(GEPPETTO has been working...we hope...on his puppet.)

Gep: See, children,  
The head is finished.



(The top of PINOCCHIO'S head appears above the sill.)

And now the eyes are finished !

(PINOCCHIO'S eyes appear in a great stare.)

And now the nose is finished !

(The nose appears.)

Bless me !  
and now the mouth !

(PINOCCHIO'S whole head appears...he laughs very loudly.)

What are you laughing at, strange puppet?

Pin: YOU

Gep: ME....?

Pin: Yes, you're a funny ol'  
man...a funny ol' man...  
a funny ol' man

(He laughs again.)

Gep: Be quiet !

Pin: Be quiet !

Gep: Stop talking back !

Pin: Stop talking back !

Gep: I believe I shall have to  
punish you.

Pin: I believe I shall have to...what did you say?

Gep: I said I believe I shall have to punish you

Pin: I said I believe I shall have to punish you.  
punish you...punish you !

(PINOCCHIO makes a horrible noise with his tongue.)

Gep: Put in that tongue or I shall cut it off !

Pin: Oh, no you won't...

Oh, no you won't...oh, no you won't

Gep: I most assuredly will !

Pin: If I am good, you won't, huh?

Gep: No—o.



Pin: Then I'll be good...very,  
very good.

Children:  
(sing)

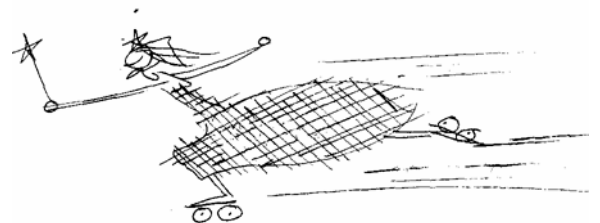
Sisters, brothers, Fathers, mothers,  
Come and see pinocchio,  
Leave your studies,  
Bring your buddies,  
Come and see pinocchio.  
There's no sighing,  
There's no crying,  
When you see Pinocchio  
Bring a penny, If you've any,  
Come and see Pinochio



(PINOCCHIO and GEPETTO join the CHILDREN in the song and dance,. halfway through the dance Pinocchio gestures to the audience that he is disgusted with this fol-de-rol....He hides on the stage...at the end of the dance the CHILDREN discover PINOCCHIO missing...with many cries of "Where's Pinocchio?" He's run away " "Let' s go and find him" the CHILDREN exit.)

Gep: What has beguiled  
The lad to stray?  
My only child  
Has run away.....  
Pinocchio  
Pinocchio!

(He exits weeping, Pinocchio comes from his hiding...he laughs at the joke he has played on all...the BLUE FAIRY appears.)





Fairy: Pinocchio, Even tho you're  
made of wood  
won't you please try being good  
For just a little while  
And make your father smile?  
He thinks you've run away.

(PINOCCHIO lowers his head in shame.)

Pin: I know why I've been so mean..  
because I'm hungry.. .and when I 'm hungry, I get in an awful  
temper...gee, I'm starved... I havn't had a bite to eat....EVER

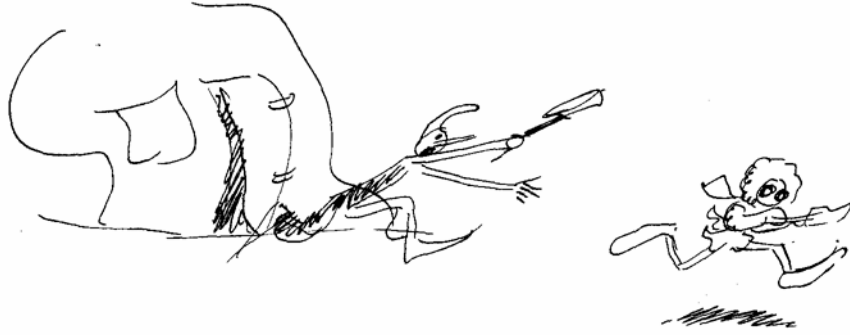
Fairy Go in the house And on a keg you'll find a large And handsome egg.  
Break the shell And eat it well. Then, be good boy, Please, I beg of you.

(She disappears.. .PINOCCHIO claps his hands with joy.. runs into the  
house...he appears at the window.)

Pin: Ah...I've found the  
egg. Let's  
see...what'll I  
have? an  
omelette?...No,  
that would take too  
long,..an egg nog?  
no, that would be  
too healthy. I'm  
too hungry to fool  
around. I'll cook it  
plain.



(He disappears from the window.. there is the sound of an egg shell cracking...  
a frantic "PEEP ,," and a CHICK runs out of the house followed by PINOCCHIO who  
carries a frying pan.)



Pin: your running out  
Disturbs my plan...  
I beg of you  
Climb in this pan !

(With much brandishing of the pan PINOCCHIO chases the CHICK about the stage till both are breathless.)

*Song*

Chick: Oh, hark to my story  
Kind sir, I do beg..  
of when I was but  
A diminutive egg.  
There ne'er was an egg  
quite as quiet as I,  
when Mother would sing  
Me this sweet lullaby:



(A MOTHER HEN appears.)

Hen: Go to sleep,  
Chicky, chicky, chick,  
Chicky, chicky, chick...

Chick: Peep ! Peep !



Hen: Very soon  
You will be  
Fast asleep...

Chick: Peep ! Peep !

Hen: Always o'er you  
A watch  
I shall keep...

Chick: Peep Peep

Hen: Go to sleep,  
Chicky, chicky,  
Chicky, chick...

Chick: Peep Peep  
My mother, brave soul,  
Was a Rhode Island Red...  
with TOO many radical  
rules in her head.  
Alas poor dear thing,  
She was made into soup  
For trying to picket  
her own.. chicken coop



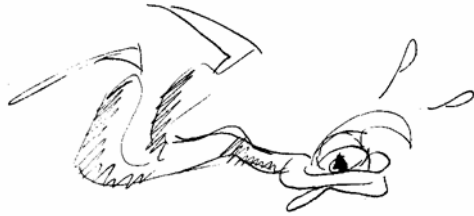
(The last chorus is repeated... the two CHICKENS waltz around the stage, then exit..)

PINOCCHIO remains transfixed CENTER with limpid eyes and a watering mouth

Pin: There goes my chance at  
a good meal... Whatever  
shall I do?

(He throws himself upon the floor, which is a feat in itself.. .and sobs.)

What EVER shall I do? I will surely die of hunger... and my poor  
father...I have treated him so badly that he will disown me !



(He sobs more.. GEPPETTO appears with a huge, red apple and a schoolbook.)

Gep: Pinocchio

Pin: Oh, father..., father !

Gep: Poor Pinocchio.

Pin: I'm so sorry I treated you so badly....  
I'll never be naughty again.

Gep: My poor Pinocchio !

Pin: And what's more...I'm DYING of hunger !

Gep: Oh dear....

Pin: I am famished oh me.... I'm ravenous...I could eat a horse !

Gep: Heavenly days !

Pin: My kingdom for a horse !



Gep: I haven't a horse, Pinocchio,  
but I have an apple that was  
to be MY evening meal....for I  
had given you up for lost...  
but, since you have repaired  
your ways and are willing to  
be a well behaved lad, I shall  
give it to you....

(PINOCCHIO grabs the apple and starts to eat.)

Also, I shall give you this book...  
so that you may go to school and be  
intelligent like the other children.

Pin: What is. . . .being intelligent,  
father?

Gep: Intelligence is something that  
is hard to acquire and easy to  
forget....it's very wonderful.

Pin: I'm sure it is..I should love  
to be intelligent !

Gep: I shall leave you now to eat  
your apple and read your book..  
but when the school bell rings  
run to school and be a good little  
boy.



Pin: Oh, I will, father.

(GEPPETTO kisses PINOCCHIO on the forehead...and enters the house., PINOCCHIO  
sits, munches the apple and examines the book.

BOOBYLAND MAN Enters...a gaudily dressed, jovial  
man with an evil expression...he laughs a great  
deal...and not up his sleeve.. he prances about  
PINOCCHIO awhile before stopping CENTER.)

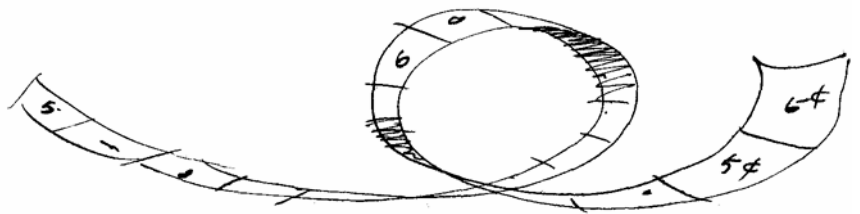


*Song*

Man: Now, is it right for me to understand  
That you would like to  
go to Boobyland? Of  
course, there are no  
teachers there,  
Or things like that, you know...  
So, are you really very sure  
That you w ld like to go.....,  
HMMMMMMMM?  
In Boobyland it's really very  
gay..  
There's nothing there to do but  
run and play.  
There's nothing there to eat,  
you know,  
But candy, pie and cake,  
So, are you really very sure  
This is the trip to take....  
HMMMMMMMM?  
But if you'd rather be a little  
fool  
Just stay right here and run along to school.  
And while you do your lessons  
We will think of you and sigh...  
Of how you missed the only chance  
That you would have to buy....

(Chorus)

Tickets to Boobyland !  
Tickets to Boobyland !  
Easy to try...  
Easy to buy...  
Easy as pie...  
To get there.  
Tickets to Boobyland !  
Come on and join band !  
I know you'll try it!  
So come on and buy !  
Tickets to Boobyland !



(Chorus is repeated by children who enter ...MAN and CHILDREN get PINOCCHIO to join them in a dance...as they start to exit the school bell rings..PINOCCHIO turns and looks toward school...CHILDREN grab him and exit in Boobyland direction.. .thereby clearing the stage for....

# Interlude

(Stage is completely empty for a few seconds...the Boobyland theme recommences very slowly... four SOB SISTERS enter. . .they are dressed in black,,with large, horn-rimmed spectacles...in one hand they carry a long handkerchief and they daub their eyes and tear-fully take CENTER.)

1st: Too bad !,

2nd: How sad !

3rd: How very...

4th: Too bad !,

All: How verily, very too bad !,

1st: Pinoc—

2nd: Chio.

3rd: will sure\_

4th: Ly grow

All: Into a very bad lad !

1st: It's a shame !

2nd: Yes, it is...

3rd: Yes, indeedy...

4th: By gosh.....

3rd: Yes, indeedy..

2nd: It is.....

1st: It's a SHAME !

He's gone

2nd: Away...



3rd: To Boo

4th: By Land !

All: Boo-Hoo

Boo-Hoo

Boo-Hoo

By Land !

1st: He's run away from school

4th: He'll turn into a mule

All: Hee Haw !

Hee Haw !

Hee Haw !

Hee Haw !

He'll turn into a mule j

1st: We really....

2nd: Don't want...

3rd: To say anything...

4th: BUT !

1st: Far be it...

2nd: From us...

3rd: To keep our mouths...

4th: SHUT !

1—4: Bzz ! Bzz !

2—3: Tut ! Tut

Bzz ! Bzz !

1-4: Tut ! Tut !

All: We really don't want to say anything.... BUT !



(Boobyland theme up...gaily..PINOCCHIO walks across stage....  
whistling nonchalantly and perfectly normal...SOB SISTERS say “Hey “  
...PINOCCHIO stops.)

All: Where is your tail?

Pin: What tail?

All: Where are your ears?

Pin: What ears?

All: Listen, you scalawag,  
Don't you irk us

1<sup>st</sup>: It says in the book  
you're sold to a circus !

4<sup>th</sup>: It says in the book.  
That you're a mule !

2—3: It says in the book  
That you're a FOOL !

All: you've broken the law !  
you've beaten your pa !

1—2: It says in the book...

3—4; Blah ! Blah !  
Blah ! Blah !  
It says in the book...

1-2: Blah ! Blah !  
Blah ! Blah !

1<sup>st</sup>: It says...

2<sup>nd</sup>: Blah ! Blah !

3<sup>rd</sup>: In the book...

4<sup>th</sup>: Blah ! Blah !

All: Blah ! Blah !  
Blah ! Blah !



Blah ! Blah !  
Blah ! Blah !

Pin: Listen You ol' busy crows

All: Oh !

Pin: You snippy, snoopy so-n-sos

All: Oh !

Pin: Get out !

All: Oh !

Pin: SCRAM !

All: Oh !

P in: Before I tweak that busy nose !

(SOB SISTERS exit screaming... PINOCCHIO comes CENTER and talks to audience.)

Pin: What do they take me for... a fool?

(He pulls Pinocchio book out of his pocket.)

You see, I've read the book before...  
Why should I play the sap?

(He yawns.)

I think that I will just go home And take a little nap.

(He exits as house lights fade for....)



# Part Two

(GEPETTO is discovered singing a lullaby to PINOCCHIO. Stage is dark except for a pin spot on the rocking chair in which GEPETTO sits holding PINOCCHIO. The chorus of children grouped about the stage can hardly be seen. Lights up as the scene progresses.)

*Song*

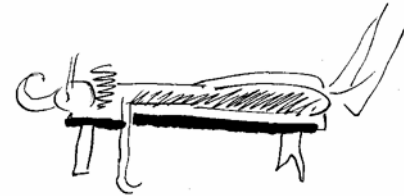
GEP: You're just a little  
Wooden headed puppet.  
You're just my Little  
Wooden headed doll...  
So close your wooden eyes  
And I wouldn't be surprised  
If very soon asleep  
You're going to fall.



(At the conclusion of the song GEPETTO places the sleeping PINOCCHIO on a bench...children tiptoe off...BLUE FAIRY appears.. she a GEPETTO talk in a loud whisper.)

Fairy: Pinocchio I understand,  
Did not run off to Booby.Land  
As I presumed he would.

Gep: Oh, no, indeed...  
He did concede  
To be extremely good.



Fairy: I'm glad.

Gep: Me, too.

Fairy: To recompense His new found sense,  
For which I'm very thankful... I bring  
this pleasant Little present... brand  
new, shiny bank full of pennies...

Gep: A penny bank  
Oh, many thanks

Fairy: That's all right... Keep the change.





(She disappears...the lullaby is repeated during the following pantomime. . . GEPPETTO awakens PINOCCHIO and gives him the bank...he is very happy with it.. he goes back to sleep holding the bank.)

(GEPPETTO, with much beaming, enters the house...lullaby out, villian music up...heads of CAT and FOX appear...they dash quietly and quickly across stage and off...they appear again and come CENTER slowly.)

Cat & Fox:

Shush ! Shush ! Shush !  
Two villians mysterious,  
One look at us and you can see  
We're just as bad as we can be.  
Shush ! Shush ! Shush !  
Two villians mysterious are we...  
So SHUSH !



Fox: I am the fox,  
of whom everyone talks...  
As foxy a fox  
As can be.  
I chisel my friends  
Out of their dividends.,  
While sipping  
Their five o'clock tea.



Cat: I am the cat...  
Though, to some, I a rat  
As catty a cat  
As can be.  
I spy on my neighbors,  
In backs I thrust sábres  
And twist them  
With kittenish glee.

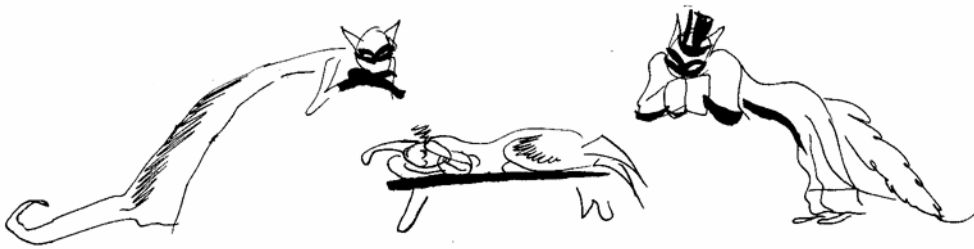


(Fox points to PINOCCHIO)

Fox: As a fox to a cat  
I am fully aware  
That a fortune in pennies  
Reclines over there...

Cat: As a cat to a fox  
It is money that talks !

Fox: Then you're worth a  
fortune, my dear !



Cat: You flattering beast !

(She points to PINOCCHIO.)

Here's a friend to be fleeced.

Fox: You're foxy by proxy I fear !

Cat: We must work out a plan  
To convince this young man  
That a stroll down a dark street  
with us....

Fox: Would not be outrageous,  
But QUITE advantageous,  
of course, not to him...but To us !

(They approach PINOCCHIO. He awakens with a start.)

Fox: Don't be afraid,  
This is not a parade...

Cat: We are buying up Second-hand mops.

Fox: We thought we'd inquire  
If you had some to hire...

Cat: And whether you like  
Lollipops?

Pin: I'm sorry that I have no mops,  
But I sure do like loilipops !

Fox: How wonderful !  
How marvelous !

Cat: How simply too, too, TOO !

Fox: We know where you can get them...

Cat: A penny for twenty two.

Pin: Where?

Fox: Down the street  
and to the left...

Cat: Then two blocks  
To the right !

Pin: It's very dark...

Fox: Don't be afraid,  
'Cause we'll be there...

Cat: And it will be all right.

Fox: Just shake the pennies  
From your bank...

Cat: Take everyone that's in it.

Fox: Such lollipops !  
It s us you'll thank !

Cat: We'll see you in a minute !



(The CAT and FOX hop and skip around PINOCCHIO singing... “Fresh lime lollipops... yum ! yum ! “...they exit... PINOCCHIO watches them. .he sees GEPPETTO is asleep...he throws aside his book and starts to shake the pennies from the bank.)

(Three COQUETTES appear and admonish PINOCCHIO.)

1-2-3:

*Song*

Don't shake the pennies  
From your penny bank  
To go to the candy shop !  
Don't shake the pennies  
From your penny bank  
To buy a lollipop !  
Times are bad  
And you'll wish you had  
your penny, shiny and bright.  
Don't be mad,  
'cause You'll soon be glad  
And the world will be all right!



Don't shake the pennies  
From your penny bank  
To go to the candy shop.  
Don't take the pennies  
From your penny bank  
To buy a lolli- Tra-la-la-lolli-  
Buy a lollipop-pop-POP  
Buy a lolli-  
Tra-la-la-lolli-  
Buy a lollipop !  
(PINOCCHIO makes the GREAT DECISION ! )

Pin: I WON'T shake the pennies From my little penny bank !



1st C: Hurray !

2nd C: Hurray !

3rd C: Hurray !



(GEPETTO who has heard all the racket...who wouldn't?... comes out of the house.)

Gep: What's going on out here?

1-2-3: He didn't shake the pennies from his little penny bank !

Gep: You didn't shake the pennies?

Pin: No, I didn't shake the pennies.

1-2-3: Oh, he didn't shake the pennies  
From his little penny bank

Gep: Well, I guess it is the Fairy  
Whom you'll really have to thank.

1-2-3: Yes, I guess it is the Fairy  
Whom you really have to thank.

Pin: I know it is the Fairy  
Who has made us all so merry....

1-2-3: Cause he didn't shake the pennies  
From his little penny bank !



(MASTER CHERRY enters.)



Ant: I guess I'll join the party..  
But I thought he as a smarty  
who was always into mischief,  
Always playing little pranks.

Gep: You can come and join the party...

1-2-3: But he's NOT a little smarty...

(Enter BLUE FAIRY)

Fairy: 'Cause he didn't shake the pennies...

Pin: No ! I didn't shake the pennies....

1-2-3: OH, HE DIDN'T SHAKE THE PENNIES  
FROM HIS LITTLE PENNYBANK !



(At this point the penny Bank song is repeated with as much gusto as possible...and all characters in the play..and any others that can be found... enter, singing and dancing with ecstatic abandon.....

and now,

unable to withstand such quantities of joy....

the . . .

*Curtain Closes!*





## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Three Coquettes  
 Geppetto  
 Blue Fairy  
 Master Cherry (Antonio)  
 Pinocchio  
 Hen  
 Chick  
 Boobyland Man  
 Four Sob Sisters  
 Fox  
 Cat  
 Children