

# **Smokey & His Friends**



**A one-act play, complete with  
masks, stage directions  
and script.**

Here's a play that's lots of fun, and that teaches everyone a lesson about being careful with fire in the forest.

Before you start, you will need:

- A stool or chair for Smokey to sit on
- A plastic bucket filled with shredded blue paper ("water")
- Some sticks and branches for "firewood"
- About 10 "rocks" (You can make these out of paper maché and paint them so they look real. They should each be a little bigger than a large grapefruit.)
- 5 roasting sticks for marshmallows and hot dogs (You can make these out of old coat hangers, or use long, thin tree branches that have fallen off.)
- Marshmallows and hot dogs
- A large stick for stirring the fire

You will also need a large clear area to stage your play. The front of a classroom is fine. Or, if it's a nice day, you can have it outside.

You should make copies of the play for everyone. Each of the characters should be played by a different person. Be sure to memorize your lines very well.

After you've practiced your play several times, you may want to invite other classes at school or your parents to see it. For the final play, try to dress as shown in the cast of characters. Good luck and have fun!

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

- Smokey Bear:** Smokey should wear blue jeans with a belt, and a brown shirt or T-shirt, tucked in, and the mask provided. Whoever plays Smokey should try to talk in a deep voice.
- Deer:** Brown shirt and brown pants, or blue jeans and the mask provided.
- Raccoon:** Black or white shirt with blue jeans and the mask provided.
- Rabbit:** Striped or bright colored shirt and blue jeans and the mask provided.
- Skunk:** Black or white shirt with black pants, or blue jeans and the mask provided.
- Owl:** Brown shirt and brown pants, or blue jeans and the mask provided.
- Trees:** You will need three people to play the trees. They should wear brown shirts and brown pants and the mask provided.
- Fire:** Red shirt and red pants and the mask provided.
- Children:** You will need at least four children, or as many more as you like. They should wear normal play clothes—like you would wear to the forest.
- Teacher or Adult:** The adult or teacher should wear what they would wear to the forest.

WHEN THE PLAY OPENS SMOKEY IS SEATED AT THE FRONT RIGHT CORNER OF THE "STAGE" AREA ON THE CHAIR OR STOOL. ALL OTHER CHARACTERS ARE OFF TO THE SIDE WHERE THEY CAN'T BE SEEN.

**SMOKEY:** Once upon a time, there was a forest. And in that forest lived a lot of trees.

TREES ENTER AND STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF STAGE. THEY SWAY BACK AND FORTH A LITTLE LIKE THE WIND IS BLOWING THEM.

**SMOKEY:** There was also a deer.

DEER ENTERS AND PRANCES AROUND TREES, THEN SITS DOWN.

**SMOKEY:** A raccoon.

RACCOON ENTERS AND WAVES TO EVERYONE, THEN SITS DOWN BESIDE DEER.

**SMOKEY:** An owl.

OWL COMES IN FLAPPING ARMS AND SITS DOWN.

**SMOKEY:** A skunk.

OTHER CHARACTERS PRETEND TO HOLD THEIR NOSES AS SKUNK ENTERS AND SITS DOWN.

**SMOKEY:** And a rabbit.

RABBIT DOES NOT ENTER.

**SMOKEY:** (LOUDER) And a rabbit.

RABBIT STILL DOES NOT ENTER.

**SMOKEY:** (EVEN LOUDER) And a rabbit!

RABBIT COMES HOPPING IN LIKE HE'S LATE AND RUNS RIGHT INTO OTHER CHARACTERS. THEN HE SITS DOWN BUT HE FIDGETS A LOT.

**SMOKEY:** They liked to have picnics in the forest, just like you do. I remember one day...

SMOKEY TURNS AND WATCHES PLAY. HE STAYS IN HIS CHAIR.

**DEER:** Well, what do you want to do?

**RACCOON:** I don't know. What do you want to do?

**RABBIT:** (JUMPING UP AND DANCING AROUND) I know! I know! Let's build a campfire and roast marshmallows.

THE ANIMALS ALL THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA SO THEY CHEER AND JUMP UP AND DOWN. THEN THEY EACH RUN OFF STAGE AND RETURN WITH SOMETHING AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAN. TREES REMAIN ON STAGE.

SKUNK AND RABBIT RETURN CARRYING FIREWOOD, HOT DOGS, MARSHMALLOWS, AND ROASTING STICKS.

**SKUNK:** We've got plenty of wood!

OWL, DEER AND RACCOON RETURN CARRYING ROCKS AND BUCKET OF "WATER" AND STICK FOR STIRRING FIRE:

**OWL:** And we've got the rocks!

**RABBIT:** Rocks? Who needs rocks? They don't burn.

**OWL:** That's right, Rabbit. Before we build the fire we'll put a ring of rocks around it so the fire won't get away.

ANIMALS MAKE RING OF ROCKS AND THEN PUT FIREWOOD IN THE MIDDLE.

**OWL:** Furthermore, you should always have a grown-up light the fire. Because Smokey's friends don't play with matches. And we're all friends of Smokey's. Right?

SMOKEY TURNS AND LOOKS AT AUDIENCE. THEN BACK AT ANIMALS.

**RABBIT:** Oh goody. Here comes a grown-up now.

TEACHER OR ADULT ENTERS WITH FIRE CHARACTER AND PLACES FIRE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RING OF ROCKS. FIRE SITS DOWN.

**FIRE:** Crackle. Crackle.

**OWL:** Thank you, (ADULT'S NAME).

TEACHER OR ADULT GOES OFF STAGE.

ANIMALS PUT HOT DOGS AND MARSHMALLOWS ON STICKS AND HOLD THEM OVER FIRE.

**DEER:** Oh, isn't the fire warm?

**SKUNK:** And it smells good, too.

**RACCOON:** It cooks these marshmallows just right.

**RABBIT:** I think I'll have 6 hot dogs.

**OWL:** Don't make a pig of yourself, Rabbit.

**DEER:** (SUDDENLY STANDING UP) Listen! I hear someone coming!

**RABBIT:** We'd better hide!

**OWL:** Yes. But first, we have to put out the fire.

**RACCOON:** I'll drown it with water.

RACCOON DUMPS HALF OF BUCKET OF BLUE PAPER ON FIRE. FIRE PUTS HANDS OVER HEAD TO PROTECT HIMSELF.

**SKUNK:** I'll stir it with this stick.

SKUNK STIRS AROUND FIRE.

**RACCOON:** And then I'll drown it again.

RACCOON DUMPS REST OF BUCKET OF PAPER ON FIRE. FIRE STARTS TO STAND UP.

**RABBIT:** Is it out?

FIRE LEAVES STAGE.

**FIRE:** Yes, I'm out.

**DEER:** Quick! Let's hide behind these trees.

ALL ANIMALS RUN BEHIND TREES AND PEEK AROUND TO WATCH. CHILDREN COME IN SKIPPING AND LAUGHING. "FIRE" CHARACTER IS WITH THE CHILDREN BUT ISN'T WEARING MASK (IT'S HIDDEN). CHILDREN GET INTO VERY TIGHT HUDDLE NEAR TREES, AND FIRE PUTS ON MASK SO THE AUDIENCE CAN'T SEE.

**RACCOON:** What are they doing?

**SKUNK:** It smells like they're playing with matches.

**DEER:** Oh no! They might start a fire!

**RABBIT:** And they don't have any rocks!

**TREE #1:** Oh, a fire could be real bad news for us.

**TREE #2:** Right. We can't even run.

**TREE #3:** And it seems like it took me forever to grow this big.

**OWL:** Children should never play with matches. Because if they do...

SUDDENLY, AS OWL IS SPEAKING, FIRE BURSTS OUT OF HUDDLE OF CHILDREN, WITH MASK ON, YELLING. EVERYONE SCREAMS, INCLUDING CHILDREN.

FIRE BEGINS RUNNING AROUND CHILDREN WAVING HIS ARMS AND ROARING, THEN HE RUNS OVER TO TREES. TREES HUG EACH OTHER AND SHAKE. FIRE RUNS UP TO ANIMALS.

**FIRE:** Boo!

**RABBIT:** Yeek!

CHILDREN ARE HUDDLED TOGETHER WATCHING WHILE FIRE IS SCARING ANIMALS.

**ANIMALS:** Smokey! Smokey! Help!

SMOKEY GOES OVER AND GRABS FIRE BY THE NECK DRAGS HIM TO RING OF ROCKS AND PUTS HIM INSIDE OF IT. FIRE SITS DOWN.

**SMOKEY:** You get back in there where you belong.

THE ANIMALS ALL CHEER AND HUG SMOKEY. CHILDREN ARE  
STANDING OFF TO THE SIDE LOOKING ASHAMED.

**FIRE:** I'd like to say that all this wasn't my fault.

**SMOKEY:** You're right. Fire can be a very good thing.

SMOKEY PATS FIRE ON BACK.

**SMOKEY:** But if we aren't careful, we can turn it into a bad thing.

**CHILDREN:** We're sorry.

ANIMALS WALK OVER AND TAKE CHILDREN BY THE HAND AND  
RETURN TO FIRE. EVERYONE SITS DOWN AROUND FIRE, EXCEPT FOR  
SMOKEY, WHO STANDS OFF TO SIDE.

ANIMALS BEGIN TO SING TO TUNE OF "ON TOP OF OLD SMOKEY."  
CHILDREN LISTEN. THEN CHILDREN SING SECOND VERSE.

**ANIMALS:** A true friend of Smokey's  
Leaves matches alone;  
You won't burn your fingers,  
Or burn up your home.

**CHILDREN:** We won't play with matches,  
Of fire we'll beware;  
And we will be good friends,  
Of Smokey the Bear.

ANIMALS AND CHILDREN SING LAST VERSE TOGETHER, EXCEPT FOR  
LAST LINE, WHICH FIRE SINGS ALONE:

**ANIMALS &** Come on, everybody,  
**CHILDREN:** Won't you hear our plea?  
When you're in the forest,

**FIRE:** Be careful with me.

SMOKEY WAVES GOODBYE AND WALKS OFF STAGE.

THE END