

Suggested activities for directing the play

1. Identify and practise key movements

Key movements in 'Let's Go to the Salad Bar'

- a. Pulling objects from a backpack
- b. Unwrapping something sticky, putting it in the mouth and eating it
- c. Being scared - screaming
- d. Throwing and catching the tongs
- e. Wiggling a piece of cooked spaghetti
- f. Laughing loudly
- g. Grinning and giving '5'

Here is the story that incorporates all the key movements in the play.

'Joking is Fun'

John is very fond of playing jokes on his friends. One day he walked into his classroom and put his backpack on his desk. He started pulling objects from his backpack (*key movement a*). 'What are you doing?' asked his friend, Bob. John said nothing and continued pulling things out of his backpack. He pulled out a red sticky object, unwrapped it and put it in his mouth (*key movement b*). 'That's a red worm. Want one?' As he said this, he threw the 'red worm' at Bob. Bob was scared and screamed (*key movement c*). John then pulled out a pair of tongs, threw it in the air and caught it with one hand (*key movement d*). He stuck the tongs into his backpack and drew out a piece of cooked spaghetti which he wiggled at Bob (*key movement e*). Everybody in the class laughed loudly (*key movement f*). Bob grinned and gave a '5' (*key movement g*).

2. Identify and practise key dialogues

- a. Dialogues which convey the meaning of the play to the audience
e.g. **Shirley:** I like lettuce too. I'll have two helpings. (*Using the tongs to get some lettuce*) Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

(Shirley throws the tongs and the lettuce in the air. Anne catches the tongs. Everyone looks startled.)

Shirley: It moved! I saw something move! There, in the lettuce! It was long and wet. It tried to bite me. It was a worm, I think!

Anne: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!



This dialogue reveals an April Fool's joke, the highlight of the play. A piece of cold spaghetti was put in the lettuce and the girls thought it was a worm.

- b. Dialogues which convey the nature of the characters
e.g. **Peter:** Come on, look at it. What is it really? It's only a piece of spaghetti!

Shirley: Oh gosh. Yes, it is. Spaghetti is NOT usually in the lettuce bowl though.

Anne: Yes, it scared me too. How did the spaghetti get in there?

This dialogue reveals that the two boys love playing jokes and that the two girls are easily scared.

- c. Dialogues which include the language focus
e.g. **Shirley:** Tom, didn't you say you had to go shopping for your mum after lunch? Have you got the shopping list?

Tom: Yes, it's in my backpack ... ummmmmm.

(Tom starts looking for it and pulls out a bunch of grapes, a carton of milk, a packet of biscuits, a bar of chocolate, a piece of cheese, a bottle of apple juice and a can of cola from the backpack.)

The Other Three: *(Staring at Tom and saying each item with increasing pitch as it is pulled out)* A bunch of grapes, a carton of milk, a packet of biscuits, a bar of chocolate, a piece of cheese, a bottle of apple juice, a can of cola!

This dialogue helps pupils to practise using noun phrases to refer to quantities and units.



3. Prepare the sets, props and sound effects

Scene 1 of this play is set in a shopping mall. There is no need to try and show a shopping mall if the play is performed in a classroom or school hall. Scene 2 is set near the salad bar in Pizza Place. If there is time, the teacher and pupils might like to move some desks together and lay a tablecloth over them so that it looks like a table in a restaurant. Either real food or paper cut-outs of food items can be used. Suggestions on how to make paper bowls and spaghetti can be found in the 'Resources' Section in the CD-ROM.

Props are very important in this play. In Scene 1, Tom has to have in his backpack a bunch of grapes, a carton of milk, a packet of biscuits, a bar of chocolate, a piece of cheese, a bottle of apple juice, a can of cola, a packet of potato chips, a carton of orange juice, a can of soup and a piece of paper stuck to a sweet. Teachers can delete some of the items or replace them with other food items except the last one, because the most important prop in this scene is the sweet that has melted and stuck to a piece of paper. It is the comic part in this scene and establishes Tom as a joker.

In Scene 2, the most important props are the bowl of lettuce and the piece of cold spaghetti that the boys drop into the bowl of lettuce. Teachers can use either a real bowl of lettuce and a piece of real cooked spaghetti (cut to the size of a large worm e.g. about one inch or so), or some paper lettuce and spaghetti. Suggestions on how to make paper containers and paper spaghetti (paper lettuce could be made the same way) can be found in the 'Resources' Section in the CD-ROM.

Sound effects are not necessary in this play.

