The story of The Enormous Turnip

A man has a seed. He goes in the garden. He puts the seed in the ground. The seed grows. It’s a turnip. The turnip’s big. It’s very, very big. It’s enormous.

The man is hungry. He wants to eat the turnip. He pulls the turnip but it doesn’t move.

The man sees a woman. ‘Come and help!’ he says. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip. The turnip doesn’t move.

They see a boy. ‘Come and help!’ they say. The boy pulls the woman. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip. The turnip doesn’t move.

They see a girl. ‘Come and help!’ they say. The girl pulls the boy. The boy pulls the woman. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip. The turnip doesn’t move.

They see a dog. ‘Come and help!’ they say. The dog pulls the girl. The girl pulls the boy. The boy pulls the woman. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip.

They see a cat. ‘Come and help!’ they say. The cat pulls the dog. The dog pulls the girl. The girl pulls the boy. The boy pulls the woman. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip.

They see a mouse. ‘Come and help!’ they say. The mouse pulls the cat. The cat pulls the dog. The dog pulls the girl. The girl pulls the boy. The boy pulls the woman. The woman pulls the man. The man pulls the turnip.

They pull and they pull and . . . the turnip moves.

They eat the enormous turnip. It’s good. They’re happy.

Characters in the play

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed/Turnip</th>
<th>Man</th>
<th>Woman</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog</td>
<td>Cat</td>
<td>Mouse</td>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Enormous Turnip

Scene 1

Introduction

Chorus This is the story of ‘The Enormous Turnip’. Enormous means ‘very, very big’.

This is the man.

Man Hello.

This is the woman.

Woman Hello.

This is the boy.

Boy Hi!

This is the girl.

Girl Hi!

This is the dog.

Dog Woof! Woof!

This is the cat.

Cat Miao! Miao!

This is the mouse.

Mouse Squeak! Squeak!

This is the turnip.

Turnip Hello! I’m a seed. I’m small but I grow very, very big.

Scene 2

Let’s Plant a Seed

Chorus The man and the woman are in the garden.

Man I’ve got a seed. Look!

Woman It’s a big seed. What is it?

Man I don’t know.

Woman Put it in the ground.

Man All right.

He puts the seed in the ground.

Woman And give it some water.

Man Have some water!

He gives the seed some water.

Seed Oh, what’s that? Mm, water! I like water. Thank you.

The seed drinks and grows.

Man I’m hungry.

Woman Let’s go and eat.

The man and the woman go out.

Chorus The seed grows. It grows and grows.

It’s enormous.

Scene 3

Let’s Pull the Turnip

Chorus The man and the woman come into the garden.

Man Look! Look at the seed!

Woman (She laughs.) It’s not a seed. It’s a turnip!

Man Yes, it’s a turnip. It’s a very big turnip.

Woman It’s a very, very big turnip.

It’s enormous!

Man I’m hungry. I want to eat the turnip.

Turnip Oh, no!

Woman Pull the turnip. (She goes out.)

Chorus The man pulls the turnip.

The turnip doesn’t move.

Scene 4

The Woman Helps

Chorus The man pulls the turnip.

He pulls and he pulls and he pulls.

The turnip doesn’t move.

The woman comes in.

Man Come and help!

Woman All right.

She stands behind the man.

Man One, two, three. Pull!

Chorus The woman pulls the man.

The man pulls the turnip.

The turnip doesn’t move.

Scene 5

The Boy Helps

Man and Woman Hello!

Boy Hi! What’s that?

Woman It’s a turnip. Come and help!

Boy Yes, all right.

He stands behind the woman.

Woman One, two, three. Pull!

Chorus The boy pulls the woman.

The woman pulls the man.

The man pulls the turnip.

The turnip doesn’t move.
SCENE 6

THE GIRL HELPS

Man, Woman and Boy  Hello!
Girl  Hi! What’s that?
Boy  It’s a turnip. Come and help!
Girl  Yes, OK.

The girl stands behind the boy.
Boy  One, two, three. Pull!
Chorus  The girl pulls the boy.
The boy pulls the woman.
The woman pulls the man.
The man pulls the turnip.
The turnip doesn’t move.

SCENE 7

THE DOG HELPS

Man, Woman, Boy and Girl  Hello!
Dog  Woof! Woof! What’s that?
Girl  It’s a turnip. Come and help!
Dog  Yes, OK. Woof! Woof!
The dog stands behind the girl.
Girl  One, two, three. Pull!
Chorus  The dog pulls the girl.
The girl pulls the boy.
The boy pulls the woman.
The woman pulls the man.
The man pulls the turnip.
The turnip doesn’t move.

SCENE 8

THE CAT HELPS

Man, Woman, Boy and Girl  Hello!
Dog  Woof! Woof!
Cat  Miao! What’s that?
Dog  It’s a turnip. Come and help!
Cat  Yes, all right. Miao! Miao!
The cat stands behind the dog.
Dog  One, two, three. Pull!
Chorus  The cat pulls the dog.
The dog pulls the girl.
The girl pulls the boy.
The boy pulls the woman.
The woman pulls the man.
The man pulls the turnip.
The turnip doesn’t move.

SCENE 9

THE MOUSE HELPS

Man, Woman, Boy and Girl  Hello!
Dog  Woof! Woof!
Cat  Miao! Miao!
Mouse  Squeak! Squeak! What’s that?
Cat  It’s a turnip. Come and help!

Mouse  I’m only a mouse. I’m very small.
Chorus  Come on! Come and help!
Mouse  Oh, all right! Squeak! Squeak!
The mouse stands behind the cat.
Cat  One, two, three. Pull!
Chorus  The mouse pulls the cat.
The cat pulls the dog.
The dog pulls the girl.
The girl pulls the boy.
The boy pulls the woman.
The woman pulls the man.
The man pulls the turnip.
They pull and they pull
and they pull and . . .

Turnip  Here I come!
Everybody  Yes! We’ve got the turnip.
We’ve got the enormous turnip!
Well done! Well done everybody!
Everybody goes out.

SCENE 10

LET’S EAT THE TURNIP

Chorus  This is the kitchen. The boy and the girl
are eating the turnip.
Boy  Mm, it’s good.
Girl  Mm, it’s very good.
The woman calls the man.
Woman  Come and eat! It’s good.
The man comes in from the garden.
Man  All right! All right!
He sits down and the woman gives him some turnip.
The dog and the cat come in.
Cat and Dog  Please can we eat the turnip?
Woman  Yes, of course. Here you are. And thank
you for your help.
She gives the cat and the dog some turnip.
The mouse comes in.
Mouse  Can I eat the turnip too?
Woman  Yes, of course. Thank you, mouse.
Thank you very much, mouse.
The woman gives the mouse some turnip.
Man  Yes, it’s very good. Well done everyone!
Dog  Woof! Woof!
Cat  Purr! Purr! Purr!
Mouse  I’m a small mouse. But I can help.
SQUEAK! SQUEAK!
Chorus  Yes, everybody helps.
And everybody’s happy.
And that is the end.
That is the end of the story.