

THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER

By Greg Cummings

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THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER

By Greg Cummings

Adapted from A. A. Milne's "The House at Pooh Corner"

SYNOPSIS: "The House at Pooh Corner" follows the adventures of Pooh, Christopher Robin, Rabbit, Piglet, Owl, Eeyore, Kanga, and Roo (and Tigger!) as they lose each other in the misty forest, battle blustery winds, cope with Tigger's non-stop bouncing, play a game of Poohsticks, and build houses for each other.

DURATION: 30 minutes.

TIME: Various times and days in the not-too-distant past.

SETTING: A bare stage representing the Hundred Acre Wood and surroundings.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(9 either)

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN (m/f).....	(51 lines)
WINNIE THE POOH (m/f).....	(136 lines)
PIGLET (m/f).....	(121 lines)
OWL (m/f).....	(38 lines)
EEYORE (m/f).....	(56 lines)
RABBIT (m/f).....	(67 lines)
KANGA (m/f).....	(28 lines)
ROO (m/f).....	(48 lines)
TIGGER (m/f).....	(53 lines)

SET

A bare stage. All set pieces are mimed.

COSTUMES

All costumes should be simple and colorful.

PROPS

- two cereal bowls
- spoon
- sheet of white paper with five Post-it Notes
- 10 pencils (Poohsticks)

Most props are mimed.

DEDICATION

To the Giving Tree Theater Family in Marion, Iowa.

DO NOT COPY

SCENE 1

AT START: *ALL enter quickly, stand in a line across the stage, face the audience, and one at a time...*

CHRIS: Hi! I'm Christopher Robin!

PIGLET: I'm Piglet!

OWL: Owl!

EEYORE: Eeyore!

RABBIT: Rabbit!

KANGA: I'm Kanga! And this, this is my baby Roo!

ROO: Rooooooooo!

TIGGER: And me! I'm Tigger! I bounce!

PIGLET: And bounce, and bounce, and bounce...

POOH: And I'm Winnie the Pooh! And right now, we'd like to welcome you all to the Hundred Acre Wood and our production of...

ALL: "The House at Pooh Corner"!

POOH: We'd *like* to welcome you all to our production of "The House at Pooh Corner", so we *will* invite you all to our production of "The House at Pooh Corner"! Right now! Ready? One, two, three:

ALL: Welcome to our production of: "The House at Pooh Corner"!

ALL exit quickly. ALL enter quickly and face the audience.

ALL: Chapter One: In Which a House Is Built at Pooh Corner for Eeyore!

ALL exit quickly. Enter EEYORE, stage left, always melancholy, carrying mime tree branches. He stops center stage and addresses the audience.

EEYORE: I'm Eeyore. I'm going to use these tree branches to build myself a house right here in the Hundred Acre Wood. *(He tosses the mime tree branches to the ground, center stage, and spends very little time arranging them into a lean-to of sorts.)* Done. Time for a housewarming party. *(EEYORE, melancholy, of course, exits left.)*

POOH and PIGLET enter stage right and stop.

POOH: And this is the place where we shall build it, Piglet!

PIGLET: This is the perfect place to build it, Pooh! The perfect place to build a house for our good friend, Eeyore! He will be so surprised!

POOH: Right! First, we'll need some tree branches!

PIGLET: How about those tree branches, Pooh?

PIGLET points to the mime tree branches center stage which currently form the mime house that Eeyore just built for himself.

POOH: Those tree branches look just perfect, Piglet. And they're already in a pile, of sorts! I know! Let's sing as we build!

POOH and PIGLET dismantle the mime tree branches from Eeyore's house at center stage and use them to build another mime tree branch house stage right. As they do, they sing...

POOH: We're carrying tree branches!

PIGLET: Tiddely pom!

POOH: To build a house!

PIGLET: Tiddely pom!

POOH: A beautiful house!

PIGLET: Tiddely pom!

POOH: For our good friend, Eeyore!

PIGLET: Tiddely pom!

POOH: He'll be so surprised!

PIGLET: Tiddely pom!

POOH and PIGLET: Tiddely pom! Tiddely pom! Tiddely pom! And there it is! Ta da! A tree branch house for Eeyore! He'll be so surprised!

EYORE: *(Offstage left.)* Thanks for coming to my housewarming party, Christopher Robin!

POOH: Sh! Here he comes!

PIGLET: Our good friend Eeyore will be so surprised!

POOH: Quick: Hide!

POOH and PIGLET cover their eyes. EEYORE and CHRISTOPHER ROBIN enter stage left and cross to center. They don't yet notice POOH, PIGLET, or the house of mime tree branches stage right.

EEYORE: It's gone.

CHRIS: What's gone?

EEYORE: My house. I built it from tree branches.

POOH and PIGLET: (*Uncovering their eyes.*) You built a house from tree branches?

EEYORE: I did. And it was right here.

POOH and PIGLET: It was right there? Uh oh.

CHRIS: Wait. Eeyore? Is that your house?

CHRIS points to the mime tree branch house stage right which PIGLET and POOH just built. ALL step stage right to the new house.

EEYORE: It is. But how did my house get from there to here?

POOH and PIGLET: Oh, well, I, that is, we, that is, we wanted to surprise...

CHRIS: I know! The wind!

EEYORE: The wind?

POOH: The wind?

PIGLET: The wind?

CHRIS: The wind!

EEYORE: The wind! Of course!

POOH: The wind! Of course!

PIGLET: The wind! Of course!

EEYORE: The blustr'y wind must have blown my house from there to here!

POOH: It must have!

PIGLET: Oh that blustr'y, blustr'y wind!

EEYORE: And just in time for my housewarming party.

POOH: Just in time!

PIGLET: Just in time!

EEYORE: So, welcome, everyone, to my housewarming party! At my new house! Which I built all by myself! And the wind blew from there to here!

EEYORE opens a mime tree branch door, walks through the mime doorway and exits stage right, followed by CHRIS.

PIGLET: Well, he certainly was surprised, Pooh.

POOH: So were we, Piglet. So were we.

PIGLET and POOH exit stage right, closing the mime tree branch door behind them. Blackout.

SCENE 2

AT START: *ALL enter.*

ALL: Chapter Two: In Which Tigger Comes to the Forest, and, Eventually, Has Breakfast!

ALL exit quickly. Enter TIGGER, stage left, bouncing. Always bouncing. Enter POOH, stage right, eating honey from a jar. TIGGER and POOH cross to center.

POOH: Hello.

TIGGER: Hello.

POOH: Hello.

TIGGER: Hello.

POOH: Good morning.

TIGGER: Good morning.

POOH: I'm Pooh.

TIGGER: I'm Tigger. I'm new here.

POOH: Hi, Tigger.

TIGGER: Hi, Pooh.

POOH: I'm eating honey for breakfast. (*Offering the jar.*) Do Tiggers like honey?

TIGGER: Do Tiggers like honey? Tiggers like everything. (*TIGGER crosses to POOH, sticks a paw in the honey, eats it, and immediately spits it out.*) Everything except honey.

POOH: Oh.

Enter PIGLET, stage left, eating haycorns from a bowl.

POOH: Good morning, Piglet.

PIGLET: Good morning, Pooh.

POOH: This is my new friend, Tigger. Tigger, Piglet. Piglet, Tigger.

PIGLET: Tigger.

TIGGER: Piglet.

POOH: Tigger hasn't had any breakfast yet.

PIGLET: Oh! Well! I'm eating haycorns for breakfast. (*Offering the bowl.*) Do Tiggers like haycorns?

TIGGER: Do Tiggers like haycorns? Tiggers like everything. (*TIGGER bounces to PIGLET, sticks a paw in the haycorn bowl, eats it, and immediately spits it out.*) Everything except haycorns.

POOH and PIGLET: Oh.

Enter EEYORE, stage right, eating thistles from a bowl.

POOH and PIGLET: Good morning, Eeyore.

EEYORE: Good morning, Pooh. Good morning, Piglet.

POOH: This is our new friend, Tigger.

PIGLET: Eeyore, Tigger. Tigger, Eeyore.

EEYORE: Tigger.

TIGGER: Eeyore.

POOH: Tigger hasn't had any breakfast yet.

EEYORE: Oh! Well! I'm eating thistles for breakfast. (*Offering the bowl.*) Do Tiggers like thistles?

TIGGER: Do Tiggers like thistles? Tiggers like everything. (*TIGGER bounces to EEYORE, sticks a paw in the thistle bowl, eats it, and immediately spits it out.*) Everything except thistles.

POOH, PIGLET, and EEYORE: Oh.

Enter KANGA and ROO, stage left. KANGA is trying, unsuccessfully, to get an upset ROO to swallow a spoonful of Extract of Malt.

POOH: Good morning, Kanga! Good morning, Baby Roo!

KANGA: Good morning, Pooh! Good morning, everyone!

PIGLET: This is our new friend Tigger.

EEYORE: Kanga and Baby Roo, Tigger. Tigger, Kanga and Baby Roo.

KANGA and ROO: Tigger.

TIGGER: Kanga. And Baby Roo.

ROO: Roooo!

POOH: Tigger hasn't had any breakfast yet.

KANGA: Oh! Well! I was trying to feed Roo some Extract of Malt for breakfast. It's good for her, but she doesn't like the taste. Tell me: Do Tiggers like Extract of Malt?

TIGGER: Do Tiggers like Extract of Malt? Tiggers like everything! (*TIGGER bounces to KANGA and accepts the Extract of Malt spoon from KANGA.*)

ROO: Even Extract of Malt?

TIGGER: Especially Extract of Malt!

ROO: Especially Extract of Malt?

TIGGER: Yep! Watch! (*Eats Extract of Malt from the spoon.*) Yum!

ROO: (*Mimics TIGGER.*) Yep! Watch! (*Mimics TIGGER, eats Extract of Malt from the spoon.*) Yum!

TIGGER and ROO: Yep! Watch! (*BOTH eat some Extract of Malt.*) Yum!

KANGA: Good job, Roo! Thank you, Tigger! Tigger, until you find your own house in the Hundred Acre Wood, please stay with me and Baby Roo? You're such a good influence on her!

TIGGER: Sure! Thanks, Kanga! Lead the way to your house!

KANGA, ROO, and TIGGER (bouncing) exit.

PIGLET: Pooh?

POOH: Yes, Piglet?

PIGLET: Tiggers sure do bounce about a lot.

POOH: Yes, they do, Piglet. Yes, they do.

POOH, PIGLET, and EYYORE exit. Fade to black.

SCENE 3

AT START: *ALL enter.*

ALL: Chapter Three: In which a Search is Organized, and Piglet Nearly Meets the Heffalump-Again!

ALL exit quickly. RABBIT runs onstage.

RABBIT: Piglet! Pooh! Christopher Robin!

Enter POOH, PIGLET, and CHRIS.

POOH: What is it, Rabbit?

RABBIT: I lost Small!

POOH: You lost Small?

PIGLET: You lost Small?

CHRIS: You lost Small?

POOH, PIGLET, and CHRIS: Wait. Who's Small?

RABBIT: Oh, Small is just his nickname. His full name is Very Small Beetle! I call him Small, for short! It's his nickname. And he's lost! And I can't find him anywhere!

POOH: I know! Let's form a search party!

PIGLET: A search party!

CHRIS: Good idea, Pooh!

RABBIT: Everybody search for Very Small Beetle! Nickname: Small!

ALL call, as they exit variously...

ALL: Very Small Beetle? Nickname: Small? Very Small Beetle? Nickname: Small?

ALL exit. POOH and PIGLET enter, calling.

POOH and PIGLET: Very Small Beetle? Nickname: Small? Very Small Beetle? Nickname: Small?

Suddenly, both fall into a mime pit, downstage center. They sit at the bottom of the pit.

PIGLET: Pooh! We're at the bottom of a pit!

POOH: Piglet! Look! It looks like the pit you dug to trap a Heffalump!

PIGLET: But I didn't dig *this* pit, Pooh!

POOH: Then who did?

POOH and PIGLET: Oh no! The Heffalump must have dug this pit!

PIGLET: To trap a Piglet!

POOH: And a Pooh!

POOH and PIGLET: And now Piglet and Pooh are trapped in the Heffalump's Piglet and Pooh Pit!

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN enters and calls.

CHRIS: Piglet? Pooh?

POOH and PIGLET: Oh no! The Heffalump! Hide! (*THEY cover their eyes.*)

CHRIS crosses to downstage center and looks down into the pit.

CHRIS: Piglet? Pooh?

POOH and PIGLET: (*Uncovering their eyes and looking straight up.*)
Christopher Robin?

CHRIS: Are you in this pit?

POOH: We are.

PIGLET: Would you mind terribly helping us out?

CHRIS: Not at all. Come on up.

CHRIS helps them both out of the mime pit.

RABBIT: (*Offstage.*) There you are! Very Small Beetle! Nickname: Small!

POOH: Very Small Beetle?

PIGLET: Nickname: Small?

CHRIS: Wait. Where?

RABBIT enters.

RABBIT: You found him!

PIGLET, POOH, and CHRIS: We found him? (*Looking all about.*)
Where?

RABBIT: Right...

RABBIT crosses to them and removes a tiny (invisible to the audience's eyes) beetle from POOH'S back.

RABBIT: Right here! On Pooh's back. (*SHE cups it in her hands.*) Aw.

CHRIS: Well, I have to say, that is one Very Small Beetle.

POOH and PIGLET: Nickname: Small.

RABBIT: (*To her cupped hands.*) Oh, Small! You must have been on Pooh's back this whole time, but you are such a Very Small Beetle that no one noticed you! Thanks, everyone!

POOH, PIGLET, and CHRIS: You're welcome, Rabbit! Anytime!

RABBIT exits, smiling into her cupped hands. PIGLET, POOH, and CHRIS exit after her. Blackout.

SCENE 4

AT START: *ALL enter.*

ALL: Chapter Four, In Which it is Shown that Tiggers Don't Climb
Trees

ALL exit quickly. TIGGER, always bouncing, enters stage left, and calls offstage.

TIGGER: Come on, Roo! Kanga wants us to explore the Hundred Acre
Wood together this morning!

Enter ROO, stage left.

ROO: Roo!

ROO crosses to him. At center stage, as TIGGER and ROO hold hands, face forward and walk (TIGGER bounces) in place...

ROO: Tigger? Can Tiggers fly?

TIGGER: Can Tiggers fly? Oh, Roo, Tiggers can do anything!

ROO: Tigger? Can Tiggers swim?

TIGGER: Can Tiggers swim? Oh, Roo! Tiggers can do anything!

THEY stop, center. THEY see a (mime) tall tree in front of them.

ROO: Tigger? Can Tiggers climb tall, tall Pine Trees?

TIGGER: Can Tiggers climb tall, tall Pine trees? Oh, Roo! Tiggers can do anything! I'll show you! Hold on, Roo!

ROO holds TIGGER'S elbow as TIGGER "climbs" the mime tree, branch by branch.

ROO: Rooooo!

THEY reach the top of the mime tree and stand on a mime branch. TIGGER looks down, scared.

ROO: Tigger? Can Tiggers climb down from tall, tall Pine Trees? (No response.) Tigger? Can Tiggers climb down from tall, tall Pine Trees? (No response.) Tigger? Can Tiggers climb down from tall, tall Pine Trees?

POOH, PIGLET, and CHRIS enter and stop, center. CHRIS brandishes a mime cape. THEY kneel, look straight up and see TIGGER and ROO as if they are ten feet in the air.

ROO: Tigger? Can Tiggers climb down from tall, tall Pine Trees? (No response.)

POOH: I don't think they can, Roo!

PIGLET: I don't think they can, either, Roo!

CHRIS: I know! Jump!

POOH: Jump?

PIGLET: Jump?

ROO: Jump?

TIGGER: Jump?

CHRIS: Sure! Both of you! Jump from that tree branch! (*Removing his mime cape.*) And we'll catch you in my cape!

CHRIS holds two corners of his mime cape, PIGLET and POOH each hold another corner.

CHRIS: Jump!

POOH: Jump!

PIGLET: Jump!

ROO: Jump!

TIGGER: Jump?

ROO: Sure! I'll show you! Hold on, Tigger!

In slow motion: ROO, with TIGGER holding her elbow, jumps off the mime tree branch.

ROO: (*As THEY fall.*) Roooooo!

In slow motion: PIGLET, POOH, and CHRIS catch them on CHRIS'S mime cape. TIGGER and ROO "bounce" off the cape. ALL relinquish slow motion; TIGGER, recovered, bounces about.

CHRIS: Well, it looks like Tigger's back to his old bouncing self!

ROO: Yay!

TIGGER: Come on, Roo! Let's explore the Hundred Acre Wood!

ROO: Rooooo!

TIGGER takes ROO by the hand, and THEY exit; TIGGER bouncing.

PIGLET: Pooh?

POOH: Yes, Piglet?

PIGLET: Tiggers sure do bounce about a lot.

POOH: Yes, they do, Piglet. Yes, they do.

Blackout.

SCENE 5

AT START: *ALL enter.*

ALL: Chapter Five, In Which Rabbit has a Busy Day, and We Learn What Christopher Robin Does in the Morning.

ALL exit quickly. RABBIT enters stage studying a sheet of paper. It has four Post-it Notes on it. RABBIT reads each note.

RABBIT: Hm. So, I went looking for Christopher Robin this morning, but all I found were these little notes he left on his door. *(Reads each note.)* “B”, “C”, “K”, and the word, “Soon.” What does it mean?

OWL: *(Offstage.)* Whoooooooo!

RABBIT: Owl! Owl is wise. Owl will know what it means. Owl! Owl! Over here!

OWL enters and crosses to RABBIT.

OWL: What is it, Rabbit?

RABBIT: So, I went looking for Christopher Robin this morning, but all I found were these little notes he left on his door. *(Reads each note.)* “B”, “C”, “K”, and the word, “Soon.” What does it mean?

OWL: Ah, yes!

RABBIT: “Ah, yes”?

OWL: Oh, undoubtedly.

RABBIT: “Oh, undoubtedly”?

OWL: Pre-cisely!

RABBIT: “Pre-cisely”?

OWL: Ah, yes! Undoubtedly! Pre-cisely!

OWL exits.

RABBIT: Oh, Owl is too wise for me!

POOH: *(Offstage, singing.)* Tiddely pom!

RABBIT: “Tiddely pom?” That’s Pooh! Pooh’s been around the whole world several times by now. Pooh will know what it means! Pooh! Pooh! Over here!

POOH, eating from his honey jar, enters and crosses to RABBIT.

POOH: What is it, Rabbit?

RABBIT: So, I went looking for Christopher Robin this morning, but all I found were these little notes he left on his door. *(Reads each note.)* “B”, “C”, “K”, and the word, “Soon.” What does it mean?

POOH turns to exit.

RABBIT: Pooh? Where are you going?

POOH: I’m not sure, but it might mean I need more honey for my honey jar.

POOH, eating from his honey jar, exits.

RABBIT: Hm. I suppose it might mean that...

PIGLET: *(Offstage.)* There’s Rabbit!

EEYORE: *(Offstage.)* We found him!

PIGLET and EEYORE: *(Offstage.)* Rabbit! Rabbit!

RABBIT: Piglet? Eeyore?

Enter PIGLET and EEYORE. EEYORE carries a Post-it Note with the letter “A.” on it.

RABBIT: So, I went looking for Christopher Robin this morning, but all I found were these little notes he left on his door. *(Reads each note.)* “B”, “C”, “K”, and the word, “Soon.” What does it mean?

EEYORE: It means you dropped one of the little notes.

EEYORE hands the letter “A” Post-it to RABBIT.

RABBIT: I dropped the letter “A”?

PIGLET: Yep. Now place that “A” in-between the letters “B” and “C”...

RABBIT places the letter “A” in-between the letters “B” and “C”.

RABBIT: *(Reading.)* “B”, “A”, “C”, “K”.

EEYORE: Which spells the word...

RABBIT: (*Reading.*) "Back"!

EEYORE: Correct!

PIGLET: Which is followed by the word...

RABBIT: (*Reading.*) "Soon"!

EEYORE: Correct!

PIGLET: Now read the note!

RABBIT: (*Reading.*) "Back soon"? Back soon! Christopher Robin left a note on his door that spells, "Back Soon"! But why?

EEYORE: "But why?" Because Christopher Robin will be back soon!

RABBIT: Back soon from where?

PIGLET: School!

RABBIT: School?

EEYORE: Christopher Robin started school today.

RABBIT: Christopher Robin started school today?

PIGLET: Yep. And he left this note on his door to let us know that he'd be....

ALL: Back soon!

RABBIT: Aha!

RABBIT turns to exit.

PIGLET: Rabbit, where are you going?

RABBIT: To meet Christopher Robin! He's been at school all day! He must be "back soon" by now, and I want to see him!

EEYORE and PIGLET: So do we! Wait for us!

EEYORE and PIGLET exit after RABBIT. Fade to black.

SCENE 6

AT START: *ALL enter.*

ALL: Chapter Six, In Which Pooh Invents a New Game and Eeyore...
um... joins in!

ALL exit quickly.

POOH: (*Off stage left.*) Rabbit? Roo? Piglet? This way! Follow me!

POOH enters stage left, holding aloft a stick.

POOH: Time to play Poohsticks! (*Pointing offstage right.*) To the bridge!

POOH crosses to stage right, followed by RABBIT, ROO, and PIGLET, each holding aloft a stick. They march and stop stage right.

ROO: Roooooo!

ALL stop.

POOH: Yes, Roo?

ROO: I forgot how to play Poohsticks.

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