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Family Plays

The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit



Interactive musical
Book, music and lyrics by

Patty Carver

Musical arrangements by

John Bowen

The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit

Interactive musical. Book, music and lyrics by Patty Carver. Musical arrangements by John Bowen. Based on the story by Beatrix Potter. Cast: 2m., 3w. (3 either gender optional, chorus of bunnies as desired). Presented in an interactive style including sing-alongs, audience participation and a strong educational message, this new take on Beatrix Potter's well-loved children's story comes to life in an original musical for prekindergarten through third grade. Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter are so excited because it's spring. The weather is beautiful, and the bunnies are free to explore the spring-time meadows and countryside. They know they must obey Mama Bunny's number one rule: stay out of Farmer McGregor's garden! But Peter, driven by curiosity and a craving for veggies, decides to test his limits, and into the garden he goes. When Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail realize where Peter has gone, they venture into the garden to bring that bunny home. But Farmer McGregor discovers the bunnies in his garden, and the chase is on! Will the bunnies escape? You'll be surprised at a new twist in the happy ending. *The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit* is a fast-paced, energy-packed musical treat. *Small-cast option suitable for touring. Area staging. Optional accompaniment CD available. Study guide available. Approximate running time: 60 minutes. Code: AK2.*

Cover: (l-r) Liz Mastrocola, Chris Rivera and John DiBari.
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Family Plays

311 Washington St., Woodstock, IL 60098-3308
Phone: (800) 448-7469 / (815) 338-7170
Fax: (800) 334-5302 / (815) 338-8981

www.FamilyPlays.com

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PATTY CARVER

Musical arrangements by
JOHN BOWEN

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“Produced by special arrangement with
FAMILY PLAYS of Woodstock, Illinois.”

The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit was produced by Connecticut Children's Theatre as a tour in May of 2000, 2004, 2006 and 2009. The premier production was directed by Jerry Goehring at the Shea Center, William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J.

CAST

Blue Fairy.....	Denise Johnson
Flopsy.....	Liz Mastercola
Mopsy	Amanda Ferrari
Cottontail.....	John DiBari
Peter Rabbit.....	Corey West
Farmer McGregor	David Dotterer

PRODUCTION STAFF

Directors.....Jerry Goehring, Patty Carver

The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit

CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance.)

BUNNIES

COTTONTAIL

FLOPSY

MOPSY

PETER RABBIT

MOM (offstage voice)

BUNNY CHORUS (optional)

FARMER MCGREGOR

RADIO ANNOUNCER (recorded voice)

CHARACTER NOTE

The cast is expandable in that the Bunny Chorus may be added to group musical numbers and sing-alongs throughout.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Details are provided at the end of the script: a floor plan, costume & accessory suggestions and properties.

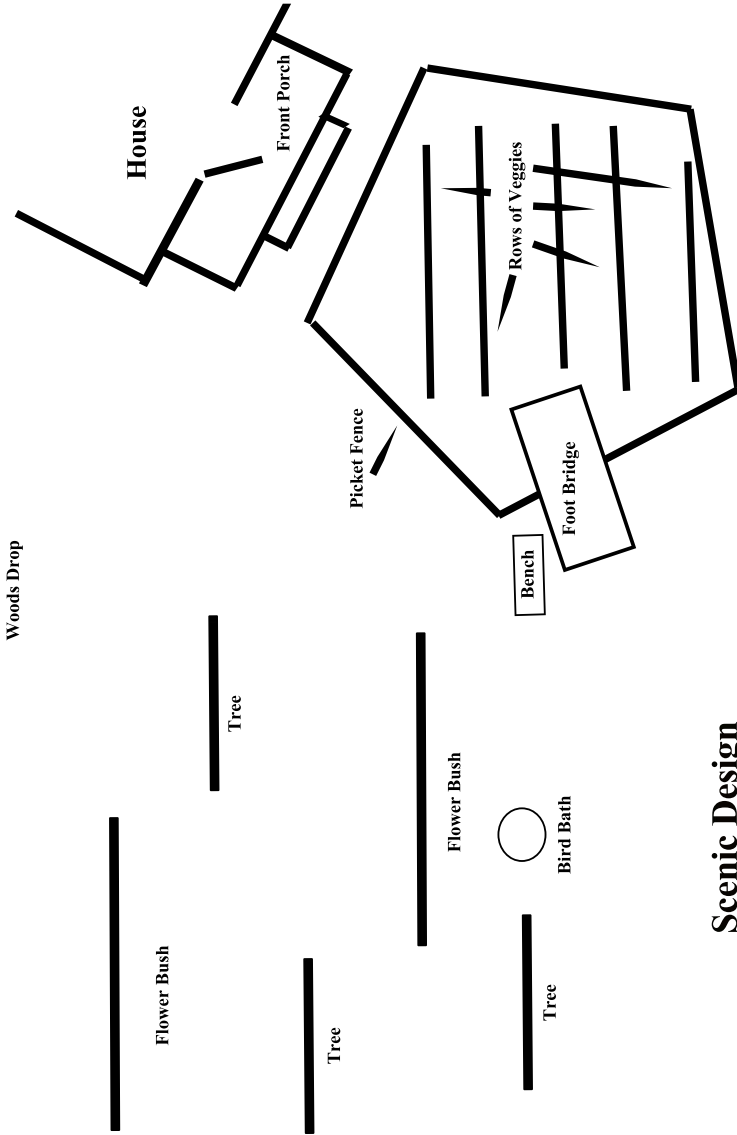
SETTINGS

Two exterior settings of the meadow and Farmer McGregor's Garden.

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Scenic Design

Floor plan: Jerry Goehring, Connecticut Children's Theatre, Essex, Conn.

COSTUME & ACCESSORY SUGGESTIONS

COTTONTAIL: A boy bunny costume consisting of a speckled or black hood with ears, paws, a white puff tail, brown khakis, a pastel oxford button-down and black sneakers.

FLOPSY: A girl bunny costume consisting of a brown hood with ears, paws, a white puff tail, yellow slacks or capri pants, a colorful button-down blouse and flats or sneakers.

MOPSY: A girl bunny costume consisting of a spotted hood with ears, paws, a white puff tail, a pink skort with colorful leggings, a brightly colored pullover top and sneakers.

PETER RABBIT: A boy bunny costume consisting of a white hood with ears, paws, a puff tail, khakis, a long-sleeved white polo, a red vest and white sneakers.

BUNNY CHORUS: Bunnies should wear white, brown, black, tan or gray (any rabbit color), sweatshirts and sweatpants, hoods with ears, mitten paws and powder puff tails. Patterns for the hoods, ears and paws can be obtained in any costume pattern catalog. Material for the rabbit hoods and paws should be an assortment of earth tones and rabbit-like colors.

PROPERTIES

trees and bushes

short, white fence

sign: “Farmer McGregor’s Garden”

Farmer McGregor’s Garden accessories:

artificial vegetables of all varieties

hoe

rake

shovel

wheelbarrow

little radio (or iPod / audio device)

cellphone

big net (or rope)

tray of veggies

The Amazing Adventures of Peter Rabbit

(#1: “Peter Rabbit Overture”)

AT RISE: *The setting is the same throughout. The right area of the stage is the meadow where the BUNNIES live; an open area with a few trees, bushes, etc. The L area of the stage is FARMER MCGREGOR’s Garden, which is overflowing with vegetables of all varieties. The garden has a short, white fence surrounding it. Far L a sign reads, “Farmer McGregor’s Garden.” Area lighting and specials indicate scene changes. COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY and MOPSY enter from UR and speak to the audience.*

NOTE: If included, the BUNNY CHORUS remains onstage UC for group musical numbers and sing-alongs throughout.

(#2: “Birds”)

COTTONTAIL. Hello there, everyone!

FLOPSY. How are you today?

MOPSY. Well, we’re doing great! Do you know why?

COTTONTAIL. It’s spring!

FLOPSY. That’s right! The sky is blue!

MOPSY. The sun is bright!

COTTONTAIL. And we are so hoppy! I mean happy!

FLOPSY. Oh! I’m Flopsy.

MOPSY. I’m Mopsy.

COTTONTAIL. And I’m Cottontail. Do you know why they call me Cottontail? (*Wiggles cottontail at the audience.*) That’s why! This sure is one beautiful springtime day.

FLOPSY. I love this time of year.

MOPSY. I do too. The birds are singing ...

COTTONTAIL. The flowers are blooming

FLOPSY. And Farmer McGregor is planting his garden.

MOPSY. Every spring Farmer McGregor plants a huge garden with every vegetable you can imagine!

COTTONTAIL. Yeah. From beans to broccoli ...

FLOPSY. Corn to carrots...

MOPSY. Brussel sprouts to asparagus ...

COTTONTAIL. Radishes to rutabaga ...

FLOPSY. Hey! Remember that springtime when Peter ...

MOPSY. Don't remind me.

COTTONTAIL. How could we forget?

FLOPSY. It was amazing!

MOPSY. Please, don't remind me!

COTTONTAIL. Oh, come on, Mopsy. It was an amazing adventure!

MOPSY. I guess it was.

FLOPSY. Let's tell the story now!

MOPSY. Oh, great.

COTTONTAIL. Come on, Mopsy. It'll be fun.

FLOPSY. It's all about our brother, Peter.

MOPSY. And it gets pretty scary.

COTTONTAIL. It does not, Mopsy.

FLOPSY. Would you like to hear the story of the amazing adventure
of Peter Rabbit?

MOPSY. Oh, great.

COTTONTAIL. Great!

FLOPSY. All right, everyone! Sit back, relax and listen!

(Music in.)

(#3: "Once Upon a Time")

FLOPSY *(cont'd)*.

ONCE UPON A TIME,
IN THE MONTH OF MAY,
BENEATH A GREAT BIG FIR TREE
ON A SPRINGTIME DAY.

THE WEATHER WAS SO BEAUTIFUL
AS WE AWOKE THAT DAY.
AND WE BUNNIES COULDN'T WAIT
TO GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY!

(Music fades into the scene.)

FLOPSY (*cont'd*). So we ate a good breakfast ...

MOPSY. Washed up ...

COTTONTAIL. Brushed our teeth ... Combed our hair ...

FLOPSY. And hopped outside as fast as we could!

MOPSY. We were having so much fun!

COTTONTAIL. We didn't even realize our brother was still inside.

FLOPSY. In fact, he was still asleep!

MOPSY. So we decided to wake him up!

(They yell into the house together.)

COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY & MOPSY. Peter! Peter! PETER!

PETER (*offstage*). What is it?

MOM (*prerecorded or offstage*). Be quiet little bunnies! You'll wake up the whole sandbank!

COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY & MOPSY. Yes, Mother Rabbit.

COTTONTAIL (*calling inside*). Get out of bed, Peter!

FLOPSY. You can't stay inside on this beautiful day!

COTTONTAIL. Yeah, come out and play with us!

PETER (*offstage*). But I don't want to!

MOM (*offstage*). Peter Rabbit, you go outside and get some fresh air!

PETER (*offstage*). But, Mom ...

MOM (*offstage*). Now!

PETER (*offstage*). All right, all right.

(PETER enters. He just woke up and he is not enthusiastic about playing outside.)

PETER (*cont'd*). Hi.

FLOPSY. Good morning, Peter!

MOPSY. Why don't you say good morning to all our new friends?

PETER. Good morning.

COTTONTAIL. Peter, what is wrong with you?

PETER. Nothing, Cottontail.

FLOPSY. Come on, Peter. How can you be in a bad mood on such a beautiful day?

PETER. I'm bored.

(Music in.)

MOPSY. How can you be bored on a day like this!

(#4: “It’s Such a Lovely Day”)

FLOPSY.

IT’S SUCH A LOVELY SPRINGTIME DAY.
WE CAN SING AND DANCE AND PLAY,
HOP AND HURDLE IN THE SUN,
BOUND, BOUNCE, SKIP, LEAP, SPRING AND RUN.

BUT THERE’S ONE RULE WE MUST OBEY,
FROM THAT GARDEN STAY AWAY.
FROM MCGREGOR’S FARM STAY CLEAR.
THAT GARDEN FILLS US WITH SUCH FEAR.

Here’s why ...

ONCE UPON A DARK SPRING DAY,
FATHER MUNCHED THE DAY AWAY.
ON CORN AND BEANS AND CARROTS HE SNACKED,
BUT POOR FATHER NEVER CAME BACK.

MOPSY. Yeah, Father Rabbit disappeared.

COTTONTAIL. Mother never found out what happened to him, but she suspected the worst.

FLOPSY. She figured Farmer McGregor caught him ...

ALL SHE COULD SAY WAS,
“ME OH MY, I THINK YOUR FATHER BECAME A RABBIT PIE.”

ALL.

OH ME, OH MY,
FATHER BECAME A RABBIT PIE.
OH ME, OH MY,
IT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY.

COTTONTAIL. Actually, he could have become any number of meals ... like a stew.

ALL.

OH ME, BOO HOO,
FATHER BECAME A RABBIT STEW.
OH ME, BOO HOO,
FATHER BECAME A STEW.

FLOPSY. All right, bunnies, let's try not to get too upset. We're talking about a long time ago ...

PLEASE, LITTLE BUNNIES,
DON'T BE SAD.
WE'RE DOING FINE,
IT'S NOT SO BAD.
JUST REMEMBER,
MCGREGOR'S BEWARE.
AND DON'T EVEN THINK
OF GOING OVER THERE.

SO CHEER UP, LITTLE BUNNIES,
THE SUN IS SHINING BRIGHT.
THIS WARM AND WONDROUS SPRINGTIME DAY
IS SUCH A LOVELY SIGHT.

SO LET'S ALL SING A SPRINGTIME SONG
AND IF YOU KNOW THIS TUNE,
PLEASE SING ALONG!

COTTONTAIL .That's a great idea, Flopsy!

MOPSY. Let's sing our all time favorite springtime song!

FLOPSY. Come on, everybody! Sing with us!

(#5: "Oh Mister Sun Sing-Along")

ALL.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON ME.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
HIDING BEHIND A TREE.

THESE LITTLE BUNNIES ARE ASKING YOU
PLEASE COME OUT SO WE CAN PLAY WITH YOU.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON ME!

MOPSY. One more time!

ALL.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON ME.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
HIDING BEHIND A TREE.
THESE LITTLE BUNNIES ARE ASKING YOU
PLEASE COME OUT SO WE CAN PLAY WITH YOU.

OH MISTER SUN SUN,
MISTER GOLDEN SUN,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON,
PLEASE SHINE DOWN ON ME!

MOM (*offstage*). Now, my dear little bunnies, I'm off to buy a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns for dinner!

COTTONTAIL. And we'll go pick some blackberries down the lane!

MOM (*offstage*). All right, but remember! Stay away from Farmer McGregor's Garden!

BUNNIES. Yes, Mother Rabbit!

MOM (*offstage*). Bye, bye, little bunnies!

BUNNIES. Bye, Mother Rabbit!

FLOPSY. Let's go pick those blackberries!

MOPSY. And then we can make some blackberry jelly!

COTTONTAIL. That sounds delicious!

(*PETER heaves a heavy sigh. He is in a very bad mood.*)

COTTONTAIL (*cont'd*). What's the matter, Peter?

PETER. Nothing.

FLOPSY. Something's wrong with you.

PETER. I said, nothing's wrong!

MOPSY. You're so moody lately.

PETER. I'm not moody. I'm just bored. All we ever do is go down the lane and pick blackberries. Or we hop around ... gather blackberries and hop around. Can't we do something else for a change?

COTTONTAIL. We could play bunny sharks and minnows! I'm the bunny shark!

MOPSY. And we'll be the bunny minnows!

PETER. That's nothing new.

FLOPSY. Oh, Peter, lighten up. It's a beautiful springtime day! Let's have some fun!

MOPSY. Hey! How about some music?

(MOPSY takes her little radio out of her pocket, or an iPod or whatever audio device bunnies carry.)

COTTONTAIL & FLOPSY. That's a great idea! *(Etc.)*

MOPSY *(turns on the radio)*. Here's our favorite station!

(#6: "WBNY Radio Theme")

ALL.

WBNY RADIO!

COTTONTAIL. Hey Peter!

PETER. What?

COTTONTAIL. Have you heard this new hit song?

PETER. No.

FLOPSY. Sure you have.

PETER. I said, I don't know it.

MOPSY. Oh, Peter. Don't be such a miserable, moody, bump on the log bunny!

COTTONTAIL. Come on, bunnies, let's sing. You'll love this one, Peter!

(#7: "Hop Shoo Bop")

COTTONTAIL *(cont'd)*.

ON THIS SPRINGTIME DAY,
IN THIS MERRY MONTH OF MAY,
FLOWERS BLOOM AND BIRDS SING ON THE HILL.

AS I LOOK AROUND
AND LISTEN TO THOSE SPRINGTIME SOUNDS,
I CAN'T HELP IT,
I JUST CAN'T KEEP STILL.

AND I GOTTA

HOP SHOO BOP TO THE FRONT.
 HOP SHOO BOP TO THE SIDE.
 HOP SHOO BOP ON BACK, BACK, BACK,
 HOP SHOO BOP AND GLIDE.

HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S GO.
 HOP SHOO BOP ALONG.
 HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S SING, SING, SING
 THE HOP SHOO BOP BOP SONG.

HOP SHOO BOP BOP,
 HOP SHOO BOP BOP,
 THE HOP SHOO BOP BOP SONG.

MOPSY.

SUNBEAMS TWINKLE BRIGHT.
 SPRINGTIME BLUE IS SUCH A SIGHT.
 COTTON CANDY CLOUDS ARE FLOATING AWAY.

BLOSSOMS ON THE TREES.
 BUTTERFLIES FLOAT ON THE BREEZE.
 AND I JUST HEARD THAT
 RED, RED ROBIN SAY,

“OH, I GOTTA”

ALL (*except PETER*).

HOP SHOO BOP TO THE FRONT.
 HOP SHOO BOP TO THE SIDE.
 HOP SHOO BOP ON BACK, BACK, BACK,
 HOP SHOO BOP AND GLIDE.

HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S GO.
 HOP SHOO BOP ALONG.
 HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S SING, SING, SING
 THE HOP SHOO BOP BOP SONG.

FLOPSY.

HOPPIN'S SO MUCH FUN
 HERE BENEATH THE SPRINGTIME SUN.

MOPSY.

WHO KNOWS WHAT THIS WARM, WARM WEATHER CAN BRING?

COTTONTAIL.

HOP SHOO BOP ALL DAY.
 HOP SHOO BOP THE NIGHT AWAY.

ALL (*except PETER*).

SPRINGTIME MAKES US SHOUT AND DANCE AND SING.

AND I GOTTA

HOP SHOO BOP TO THE FRONT.

HOP SHOO BOP TO THE SIDE.

HOP SHOO BOP ON BACK, BACK, BACK,

HOP SHOO BOP AND GLIDE.

HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S GO.

HOP SHOO BOP ALONG.

HOP SHOO BOP, LET'S SING, SING, SING

THE HOP SHOO BOP BOP SONG.

HOP SHOO BOP BOP,

HOP SHOO BOP BOP,

THE HOP SHOO BOP BOP SONG!

FLOPSY. How are you feeling now, Peter?

PETER. I'm ... OK.

MOPSY. Come on! Let's go get those blackberries!

PETER. I'm still sick of blackberries.

COTTONTAIL. Peter, there's nothing else to pick around here except blackberries.

PETER. Around here there are only blackberries. But over there ...

(*COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY and MOPSY gasp!*)

COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY & MOPSY. Farmer McGregor's Garden?

PETER. Yes!

FLOPSY. No, Peter!

MOPSY. You're not going to ...

COTTONTAIL. Peter, don't even think about it!

PETER. Just beyond that fence is a feast of all our favorite foods!

FLOPSY. Peter, remember what Mother said!

COTTONTAIL. It's dangerous!

MOPSY. Very dangerous!

PETER. Whatever.

FLOPSY. Peter!

PETER. What?

COTTONTAIL, FLOPSY & MOPSY. You can't go into Farmer McGregor's Garden!

PETER. Yes, I can.

FLOPSY. No, you can't!

MOPSY. Go in there and you're doomed.

COTTONTAIL. Remember what happened to Father?

PETER. Of course I remember what happened to Father.

MOPSY. Do you want to be a pie?

PETER. Don't be ridiculous.

MOPSY. Sounds to me like you do.

PETER. I don't.

COTTONTAIL. Well you're acting like you do. Peter Rabbit wants to be a pie!

(Music in.)

PETER. I said I don't. Listen. Farmer McGregor just won't catch me.

(#8: "I Don't Want to Be a Pie")

PETER *(cont'd)*.

I DON'T WANT TO BE A PIE.

HE CERTAINLY CAN TRY,

BUT THAT FARMER WILL NOT CAPTURE ME.

I'LL BE QUIET AS A MOUSE.

HE WON'T HEAR ME IN HIS HOUSE.

I'LL SNACK AND I'LL BE BACK, I GUARANTEE.

FLOPSY. All right, if you won't be a pie ... you'll be a rabbit stew!

PETER. No way ...

I DON'T WANT TO BE A STEW.

I GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO

THAN BE MCGREGOR'S GUEST AT DINNER TIME.

I'LL HAVE SOME LIMA BEANS,

TOMATOES, SPINACH, GREENS

UNTIL I'VE HAD MY FILL AND I'LL BE FINE.

MOPSY. Peter, you're crazy!

PETER. I am not.

COTTONTAIL. Peter, listen to me! You may not be a pie or a stew,
but the fact remains, he's going to capture you!

FLOPSY. And you're going to be some sort of entrée.