

Cold Hands

A one act play for children

By Douglas Evans



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jimmy Prune, a young boy

Girl 2, older girl

Boy 1, older boy

Girl 2, older girl

Playground Teacher, female or male teacher

SETTINGS

A snowy elementary school playground during recess time.
Monkey bars stand stage right.

PRODUCTION NOTES:

CHARACTERS: 5 character 2 male 3 female Playground Teacher can be either male or female

PLAYING TIME: 15 minutes

PROPS:

Silver whistle for Playground Teacher

SETTING:

A snowy elementary school playground during recess.
Monkey bars stand stage right.

COSTUMES:

All students wear warm coats, hats, and mittens.
Jimmy Prune has bare hands.
Playground Teacher wears down coat, stocking cap and boots.
Silver whistle hangs around her neck

LIGHTING: No special lighting

SOUND: School bell

MUSIC: No special music

SCENE 1

*Time: Wintertime. Present day.
Recess time.*

*Setting: On a snowy elementary
school playground. Monkey bars
stand stage right.*

*At Rise: JIMMY PRUNE stands stage
center on the school playground.
He's wearing warm coat and wool
hat against the cold. His hands
are bare.*

*Nearby GIRL 1, BOY 1, GIRL 2 play
in imaginary snow. They roll snow
boulders, throw snow balls, and
make snow angels.*

*PLAYGROUND TEACHER stands stage
left with silver whistle around
her neck and hands in her
pockets.*

JIMMY PRUNE
(shaking hands in air)
My hands are so cold. My hands are so cold.

(GIRL 1 walks up to JIMMY PRUNE)

GIRL 1
What's the problem, Jimmy Prune. You're not having a fun
recess.

JIMMY PRUNE
My hands are so cold! My hands are so cold!

GIRL 1
Well, why don't you rub your hands together. Your hands will
warm up if you rub them palm-to-palm real face.

(Jimmy Prune holds hands together
and rubs them together.)

JIMMY PRUNE

That didn't do any good. My hands got warmer, but I got tired of all that rubbing!

GIRL 1

(shrugging)

Well, I tried. Your hands won't get warmer just by complaining.

(Girl 1 starts building an
imaginary snowman nearby.)

JIMMY PRUNE

My hands are so cold! My hands are so cold!

(BOY 1 walks up to Jimmy Prune.)

BOY 1

Try blowing on your hands, Jimmy Prune. Cup your hands over your mouth and blow on them hard. That will warm them up.

(Jimmy Prune cups hands over mouth
and blow and blows)

JIMMY PRUNE

That didn't do any good. My hands got warmer, but I ran out of breath and steam shot through my fingers.

BOY 1

(shrugging)

Well, that's all I had. Good luck, Jimmy Prune.

(Boy 1 joins Girl 1 in building
snowman.)

JIMMY PRUNE

My hands are so cold! My hands are so cold!

(GIRL 2 runs up to Jimmy Prune.)

GIRL 2

Here's what you should do, Jimmy Prune. Shake you hands in the air. That will get your blood flowing and warm them up. Go ahead. Try it. Shake you hands like a penguin.

(Jimmy Prune shakes them. He soon
tires and lowers arms, breathing
hard)

JIMMY PRUNE

Yes, my hands got warmer, but now I'm all worn out.

GIRL 2

(shrugging)

Well, it works for me. Sorry I couldn't help, Jimmy Prune.

(Girl 2 joins others in building
snowman.)

JIMMY PRUNE

My hands are so cold! My hands are so cold!

(PLAYGROUND TEACHER walks up to
Jimmy Prune.)

PLAYGROUND TEACHER

(bending over)

Why, what seems to be the matter, Jimmy Prune? Why aren't you
playing in the snow like everyone else?

JIMMY PRUNE

My hands are so cold! My hands are so cold!

PLAYGROUND TEACHER

How sad. But if your hands are cold, why don't you stick them
in your pockets. Your pockets are warm and snug.

JIMMY PRUNE

But I can't. I just can't.

PLAYGROUND TEACHER

(looking surprised)

Why ever not, Jimmy Prune?

JIMMY PRUNE

(wipes away a tear))

I can't stick my hands in my pocket, because my pockets are
full.

PLAYGROUND TEACHER

(looking perplexed)

Full? What do you mean full?

JIMMY PRUNE

I can't stick my hands in my pockets, because my mittens are in there.

(Girl 1, Boy 1, Girl 2, and
Playground Teacher look at Jimmy
Prune and shake their heads.

The school bell rings and students
run off stage right.)

End of Play