

**Arthur's Halloween**  
(based on the book by Marc Brown)

**Music by**  
**Michael Malthaner**

**Book & Lyrics by**  
**Charles Corritore**

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MC2 Entertainment  
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# Arthur's Halloween Cast of Characters

## **Speaking Roles**

Arthur Read  
Arthur's mom  
Arthur's dad  
DW  
Francine  
Binky Barnes  
Buster Baxter  
Muffy  
The Brain  
Mrs. Sweetwater  
Ms. Yolanda  
Mr. Ratburn  
Mrs. Tibble  
Neighbor Woman

## **Chorus**

Students/neighborhood children  
Other teachers

## **Non-speaking roles**

Baby Kate  
Puppy Pal\*  
Miss Bryan

\*NOTE: In original production, Puppy Pal was present whenever Arthur was onstage, reacting and being a loyal friend, with the exception of the scenes in school and in Mrs. Tibble's house.

## Scene and Musical Number Breakdown

### ACT ONE

#### **Scene 1 - The Kitchen of Arthur's home and various locations/ the night before Halloween**

THE BEST HALLOWEEN EVER - Arthur, Mom, Dad, DW and All  
WHY ME? - Arthur

#### **Scene 2 - Lakewood Elementary School Gymnasium - Halloween Day**

T.L.E.H.P.A.A.C.P. (The Lakewood Elementary Halloween Party and Annual Costume Parade) - Students, Teachers  
IT'S OK TO BE SCARED SOMETIMES - Buster & Arthur

#### **Scene 3 - The Kitchen of Arthur's Home - early evening**

THE RULES OF THE ROAD - Mom, Arthur & DW

#### **Scene 4 - A Street in the Neighborhood - two hours later**

HALLOWEEN IS LIKE CANDY HEAVEN! - Arthur, Francine, Buster, Binky, Muffy, Brain, DW and Trick or Treaters

### ACT TWO

#### **Scene 1 - A Street in the Neighborhood - immediately following**

THERE'S NO TELLING - Francine, Buster, Binky, Muffy, Brain, Arthur

#### **Scene 2 - A hallway in the "witch's" house - immediately following**

#### **Scene 3 - Kitchen of the "witch's" house - immediately following**

FRIENDS - Mrs. Tibble, Arthur & DW

#### **Scene 4 - A Street in the Neighborhood - a few minutes later**

ARTHUR, THE BRAVE! - Francine, Buster, Binky, Muffy, Brain, DW and Trick or Treaters  
WHY ME? (Reprise) - Arthur & DW

#### **Bows**

HALLOWEEN IS LIKE CANDY HEAVEN (Reprise) - Company

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

*(WHEN AUDIENCE ENTERS, MAIN CURTAIN IS DRAWN. DOWN STAGE RIGHT IS THE FRONT OF A PLEASANT-LOOKING NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE. DOWN STAGE LEFT IS THE FRONT OF A SCARY, SPOOKY-LOOKING HOME. BOTH WILL NEED TO HAVE WORKING FRONT DOORS.)*

### ***Scene One - The Kitchen in Arthur's home, and various homes around town - the day before Halloween***

*(MUSIC IN. CURTAIN OPENS REVEALING A KITCHEN TABLE ON WHICH ARE SEVERAL HALLOWEEN DECORATION PROJECTS IN VARIOUS STAGES OF COMPLETION. ARTHUR HAPPILY SKIPS IN CARRYING ONE THAT HE'S BEEN WORKING ON. PUPPY PAL IS WITH HIM AS WELL. ARTHUR CROSSES TO THE TABLE AND SETS HIS PROJECT DOWN. IT'S THEN THAT HE NOTICES THE AUDIENCE.)*

*ARTHUR (AS HE CROSSES DOWN STAGE TO SPEAK TO THEM, PUPPY PAL FOLLOWING)*

Oh hi, everyone! I didn't know you were here. I'm Arthur! I'm eight. And this is my puppy, Pal *(PAL BARKS HELLO AND WAVES TO AUDIENCE)* How's everyone doing today? It's so great to see all of you. And, boy, did you ever come at the right time. Do you know what tomorrow is? It's Halloween, one of my most favorite days of the whole year. *(ENCOURAGING THE AUDIENCE TO SPEAK UP)* How about you.....do you like Halloween? You do? What do you like best about it? *(HE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE THE THINGS THE CHILDREN WILL SHOUT OUT, AGREEING WITH EACH ONE.)* Well, I agree with all of you 100% It's one awesome holiday. And I have a feeling that this year it's going to be even better than ever. What do you think, Pal? *(PAL BARKS AGAIN NODDING HIS HEAD)*

### **THE BEST HALLOWEEN EVER!**

**This will be the best Halloween ever!  
Halloween's the best time of the year.  
'Cuz there's nothing that beats  
a bag full of treats,  
one overflowing with mountains of sweets!**

**This will be the best Halloween ever!  
Trick or treat time is finally near.  
I've been counting the days, then counting the hours.  
Can't wait 'til tomorrow is here.**

**Been planning for weeks now and busy preparing.  
Wait 'til my friends see the costume I'm wearing.  
Betcha they'll all end up pointing and staring.  
They'll never guess that it's me!**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

*(ARTHUR'S MOM AND DAD ENTER. DAD CARRIES A CARVED PUMPKIN TO THE TABLE; MOM IS CARRYING BABY KATE WHO SHE PLACES IN A HIGH CHAIR NEXT TO THE TABLE. DW IS WITH THEM, POSSIBLY IN SOME STAGE OF PLAYING DRESS-UP, SHE HERSELF GETTING INTO THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT. AS THEY ENTER, ARTHUR INTRODUCES THEM TO AUDIENCE.)*

Oh, that's my mom and dad.....

MOM & DAD  
Hi everyone!

ARTHUR  
.....and those are my little sisters, DW and BABY KATE.

DW  
Howdy!

ARTHUR  
They're all pretty neat. As you can see, we've all been working on our decorations, getting things ready for all the trick or treaters.

**MOM**

**This Halloween seems the happiest ever--  
each one gets better than the one before!**

**DAD**

**It's a day we can all have a good time together,  
when each grown-up is a kid once more!**

**MOM**

**Soon ev'ry doorbell in town will be ringing;**

**DAD**

**each jack-o'-lantern will light up the night;**

**MOM**

**Little witches and goblins will take to the street;**

**BOTH**

**How delightfully frightful a sight.**

*(THE KIDS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD FILL THE STAGE AS IF IN THEIR OWN HOMES.)*

ARTHUR  
And these are my friends. *(AS HE INTRODUCES THEM, THEY WAVE OR ACKNOWLEDGE THE AUDIENCE IN SOME PHYSICAL OR VERBAL WAY).* That's Binky Barnes, Muffy, The Brain, Francine, and my very best friend Buster. We're all excited about Halloween!

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

**KIDS**

**This'll be the best Halloween ever!  
Better than all the others before!  
This'll be the best Halloween ever!  
Get ready for the candy galore!**

**This'll be the best Halloween ever!  
Trick or treating at ev-e-ry door.  
This'll be the best Halloween ever!  
Full of surprises and crazy disguises.**

**GIRLS**

**I wonder, who'll be the funniest?  
Wonder, who'll be the prettiest?  
Wonder, who'll be the silliest?  
Who do you think it'll be?**

**BOYS**

**Wonder, who'll be the creepiest?  
Wonder, who'll be the scariest!  
Wonder, who'll be the eekiest!  
Maybe it's gonna be me!**

**ALL**

**Wait and see.**

*(THE REST OF THE SONG WILL BUILD WITH EACH GROUP JOINING IN AT DIFFERENT TIMES UNTIL ALL THREE ARE SINGING THEIR VERSES AGAINST ONE ANOTHER)*

**ARTHUR**

**This will be the best Halloween ever!  
Halloween's the best time of the year.  
'Cuz there's nothing that beats a bag full of treats,  
one overflowing with mountains of sweets!**

**KIDS**

**Wonder, who'll be the funniest?  
Wonder, who'll be the creepiest?  
Wonder, who'll be the prettiest?  
Who do you think it'll be?**

**ARTHUR**

**This will be the best Halloween ever!  
Trick or treating is finally near.  
I've been counting the days, then counting the hours.  
I can't wait 'til tomorrow is here.**

**Wonder, who'll be the scariest!  
Wonder, who'll be the loveliest?  
Wonder, who'll be the eekiest!  
Betcha it's gonna be me!**

**MOM & DAD & OTHER ADULTS, IF ANY (OR SOME  
KIDS)**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

**This Halloween is the happiest ever.  
one holiday that we've all waited for.  
It's when ev'ry grown-up and kid come together,  
full of surprises and more!**

**ALL  
Halloween is here!**

*(AT THE END OF THE NUMBER, ALL EXCEPT ARTHUR AND HIS FAMILY DISPERSE DURING A MUSICAL PLAYOFF. ARTHUR BUSIES HIMSELF AT ONE SIDE OF THE TABLE PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON A DRAWING OF A SMILEY-FACED, PUMPKIN. MOM AND DAD BUSY THEMSELVES, DAD APPLYING THE LAST MINUTE TOUCHES TO THE JACK-O'-LANTERN HE BROUGHT, MOM POSSIBLY PACKING LITTLE TREAT BAGS. DW LURKS NEARBY ENJOYING THE DRESS-UP CLOTHES SHE'S WEARING.)*

MOM

*(AS THEY WORK)* I certainly hope that we don't run out of treats. Do you think we've made enough, Dave?

DAD

I think we've made enough for *this* Halloween and the next two after that.

MOM

I'd hate to run out and disappoint any of the children.

DAD

That's not going to happen. Stop worrying.

DW

Do you need a treat tester?

MOM

You'll have to wait until tomorrow just like everyone else, DW.

DW

But....

MOM

Tomorrow.

DW

Rats!

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

DAD

How's the picture coming, Arthur?

ARTHUR

*(STILL DRAWING)* Almost done.

MOM

I really think we've outdone ourselves this year with the decorations we've made.

DAD

It's certainly been fun working on them together.

DW

*(WHO HAS PUT ON A SCARY MASK AND SNUCK UP BEHIND ARTHUR, CALLING OUT SARCASTICALLY SWEET TO HIM)* Oh, Arthur.....

ARTHUR

*(NOT LOOKING UP)* What do you want DW?

DW

*(REPEATING SWEETLY)* Arthur.....

ARTHUR

*(STILL NOT LOOKING UP)* DW, what do you want?

DW

Arthur.....

ARTHUR

*(FINALLY LOOKING UP)* DW, I said.....

DW

*(LOUDLY AND LUNGING FORWARD AT HIM)* Boo!!!

ARTHUR

*(REALLY FRIGHTENED)* AAaahhhhhhhhh!!!!

*(DW COLLAPSES ON FLOOR, LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY.)*

ARTHUR

*(RECOVERS AND IS UPSET)* Mom! Dad!

MOM

*(SOMEWHAT AMUSED ALTHOUGH CAREFUL NOT TO LET ARTHUR SEE)*

Now, was that a nice thing to do to your brother, DW?



# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

DW

*(STOPS LAUGHING FOR A MOMENT AS IF FELLING A BIT GUILTY)* No, it wasn't nice.  
*(THEN WITH A BIG SMILE)* IT WAS GREAT!! *(BEGINS TO LAUGH ONCE MORE)*

ARTHUR

Now look at what she made me do! *(HOLDS UP THE PICTURE OF THE HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN HE WAS DRAWING, NOW RUINED, THANKS A LARGE SCRAGGLY LINE WHICH IS SMEARED ACROSS IT.)* It's ruined.

DAD

DW, I think you should apologize to your brother.

DW

I can't help it if he's a scaredy-cat!

DAD

It's not nice to frighten people like that.

MOM

Dear, you know Arthur doesn't particularly like the scary things about Halloween.

DW

Arthur's afraid of everything.

ARTHUR

I am not!

DW

Are to!

ARTHUR

Not!

DW

To!

DAD

*(GENTLY)* That's enough, now. DW, apologize to your brother.  
*(SHE STUBBORNLY CROSSES HER ARMS)* DW? Come on.

DW

*(FINALLY, RESIGNED TO IT ALL)* I'm sorry, Arthur.

DAD

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

That's better.

MOM

Better finish up for the night, kids. It's almost time for bed, and you've got a big day ahead of you tomorrow!

ARTHUR

Okay.

DAD

DW, please help Arthur clean up while mom and I put Baby Kate to bed.

DW

All right.

*(MOM AND DAD LEAVE WITH KATE. ARTHUR BEGINS TO PUT HIS DRAWING TOOLS AWAY. DW LOOKS TO MAKE SURE MOM AND DAD ARE GONE BEFORE SHE SPEAKS)*

You're just jealous because you know I'm a whole lot braver than you are.

ARTHUR

I'm just as brave as you are. More brave, in fact.

DW

Would you be brave enough to walk home by yourself when it's really, really, dark outside?

ARTHUR

*(SLIGHTLY HESITANT BUT NOT GIVING IN TO HER)* Piece of cake.

DW

Would you be brave enough to walk home by yourself when it's really, really dark outside and take a short cut through the cemetery?

ARTHUR

*(A BIT MORE UNSURE BUT TRYING TO KEEP HIS NERVE)* Not a problem.

DW

Would you be brave enough to walk home by yourself when it's really, really, dark outside and take a short cut through the cemetery AND walk by the witch's house at the end of the street?  
*(AT THE MENTION OF THE "WITCH'S" HOUSE, EERIE MUSICAL CHORDS PLAY, LIGHTS CHANGE, THUNDER IS HEARD AND THE DOWN STAGE LEFT HOUSE IS ILLUMINATED IN A FLASHING/LIGHTENING EFFECT. NOTE THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN EACH TIME THE WITCH'S HOUSE IS REFERRED TO THROUGHOUT THE FIRST PART OF THE SHOW. THIS ALL HAPPENS VERY QUICKLY AND THEN LIGHTS CHANGE BACK TO NORMAL)*

ARTHUR

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

Ummm.....

DW  
Well?

ARTHUR  
*(TRYING VERY HARD TO BE BRAVE, BUT OBVIOUSLY FRIGHTENED AT THE THOUGHT)*  
Ummmmm....

DW  
*(LAUGHING)* I knew it! I'm braver than you! Arthur is a scaredy-cat!

ARTHUR  
I am not!!

DW  
Arthur is a scaredy-cat. *(SHE SKIPS OFFSTAGE)* Arthur is a scaredy-cat!

ARTHUR  
*Am Not!! (TO AUDIENCE, DOWNHEARTED)* She's right. I am a scaredy-cat. I just don't like scary things, that's all. *(MUSIC IN)* I like the "happy" part of Happy Halloween, not things like ghost stories or monster movies. But that doesn't give her the right to tease me like that. Sometimes I wish I never had a little sister.

### WHY ME?

**When you're a kid who's practic'ly nine  
and with a life as busy as mine,  
having a little sister around can be the pits!**

**She's bossy and nosy, gets in the way,  
always has something annoying to say.  
Having a little sister can really give you fits.**

**I should have known disaster loomed  
right from the day she was born.  
She showed up and I was doomed.  
Why didn't somebody warn.....me!?**

**My little sister should be illegal.  
Why couldn't mom just bring home a beagle.  
Beagles behave and listen and never act like twits!**

**If I only had magical pow'r,  
or a genie, just for half an hour.**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

**I would never again have to fear.  
I'd make a wish then, abracadabra, she would disappear.**

*(LOOKING UP TO HEAVEN)*

**Oh, if that dream could only come true:  
minus just one little sister would do.  
Somebody must have a "getting-rid-of-a-sister" kit.**

DW  
*(RUNNING IN)* Arthur!

ARTHUR  
What?

DW  
Mom & dad said you have to take me trick or treating with you tomorrow.

ARTHUR  
No way.

DW  
Uh-huh! Mom and dad said.

ARTHUR  
Mom! Dad!!!

MOM  
*(ENTERING WITH DAD)* Yes, Arthur!

ARTHUR  
DW said I have to take her trick or treating with me.

MOM  
You don't mind, dear, do you?

ARTHUR: Mom!

DAD  
I'm sorry, buddy. I've got to work late and mom needs to stay here with Baby Kate and hand out the treats.

ARTHUR  
But ....I'm going to be with all my friends.

DAD

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

I'm sure they won't mind.

MOM

And DW won't be any trouble, will you, dear?

DW

*(OVERLY INNOCENT)* Oh, no.

MOM

You see, Arthur. She'll be on her best behavior.

ARTHUR

That's what I'm afraid of.

DAD:

It'll be fine.

MOM

Thank you, dear. *(GIVES HIM A HUG)* You're such a wonderful big brother.

*(MOM & DAD LEAVE)*

DW

*(A BIT SARCASTIC)* Thank you, Arthur. You're such a wonderful big brother. *(SHE LEAVES)*

ARTHUR

Whatever.

**Why me? Why does it have to be?  
Why is ev'ry day a catastrophe?  
Now, she'll spoil my Halloween!  
She'll end up getting lost and scared, and everything in between!**

**So, once again, disaster has struck!  
Soon as my friends find out that I'm stuck  
watching my sister, they'll wanna duck and run instead!  
Trouble lies ahead.**

*(SPOKEN)* *I'm dead!*

*(BLACKOUT)*

**Scene 2 - Lakewood Elementary School, the gymnasium - Halloween Day**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

*(IN DARKNESS WE HEAR BELL TONES SIGNIFYING A SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT TO FOLLOW.)*

MR. HANEY

Attention everyone! This is Mr. Haney, your principal speaking. At the sound of the next bell, all classroom activities will end for the day and our annual Halloween party will commence in the school gymnasium. All students and teachers will assemble there in costume as soon as possible.....oh, and be ready to have a great time!

*(AS LIGHTS COME UP, MS. YOLANDA, DRESSED AS LITTLE BO PEEP AND CARRYING A SHOPPING BAG, AND MRS. SWEETWATER, DRESSED AS A SPANISH FLAMENCO DANCER, ENTER FROM OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE STAGE, MEET AT CENTER, POSSIBLY IN FRONT OF THE ACT CURTAIN)*

MS. YOLANDA

Jean! Look at you.... I just love your costume.

MRS. SWEETWATER

*(TAKING A POSE)* Ole! And your's is absolutely adorable, Yolanda. The kids will love it.

MS. YOLANDA

Oh, wait. You have to get the full effect. *(SHE REACHES INTO THE SHOPPING BAG AND PULLS OUT A STUFFED SHEEP AND POSES.)*

MRS. SWEETWATER

Let me guess.....Wonder Woman!

MS. YOLANDA

What gave it away? *(THEY LAUGH)*  
So, how bad was it today?

MRS. SWEETWATER

It was impossible keeping the students focused on any class work. They kept asking over and over, "Mrs. Sweetwater, is it almost time for the party? Is it almost time for the party?" How about you?

MS. YOLANDA

The same. I actually had one student come up to me and say, "Ms. Yolanda, I think I heard that our kindergarten class was allowed to start the party earlier than the rest of the school because the older kids always get to the treats first."

MRS. SWEETWATER

Well, you can't blame them for trying.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

MS. YOLANDA

*(LOOKING AROUND TO MAKE SURE NO ONE HEARS HER)* I have to admit, I couldn't wait for the party to start either.

MRS. SWEETWATER

*(CHUCKLING)* I know what you mean. I think we get as much fun out of Halloween as the students.

MS. YOLANDA

More!

MRS. SWEETWATER

Well....

**Get ready.  
The time has come.**

MS. YOLANDA

**Prepare for  
pandemonium.**

**We can't hold back the children any longer if we tried.**

MRS. SWEETWATER

**Get ready for the wild and crazy ride!**

*(AS MUSIC CHORD ROLLS, THEY LOOK AT THEIR WATCHES AND COUNT DOWN)*

BOTH

Five, four, three, two, one.

*(THEY COVER THEIR EARS AS THE SCHOOL BELL RINGS AND THE CURTAIN OPENS ON THE EMPTY, BUT DECORATED, SCHOOL GYMNASIUM. THE STUDENTS CRASH IN FROM ALL SIDES CHEERING LOUDLY.)*

### T.L.E.H.P.A.A.C.P

**(THE LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY HALLOWEEN PARTY AND ANNUAL  
COSTUME PARADE)**

KIDS

**Put all the books away 'cuz it's time to play, let's give a big cheer!  
We've been waiting and waiting all day, and now hip-hip-hooray, it's finally here!  
Pass out each scrumptious treat and then hang all the neat decorations we made.  
It's time for the Halloween Party and Annual Costume Parade.**

**It's the one day of ev'ry year, can't wait to get to school.  
It's the one day we get to break the "no candy" rule.  
Cider and donuts to eat  
while you're sharing a seat with your best friend,**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

**bobbing for apples is sweet.  
How I wish that it never would end.**

**Pirates and cowboys and princesses,  
monsters of ev-er-y kind,  
and winning a prize for the best costume....  
Hope that it's gonna be mine.**

MRS. SWEETWATER

*(ANNOUNCING)* Presenting the Lakewood Elementary Annual Halloween Costume Parade!

*(A COSTUME PARADE FOLLOWS WHERE ALL STUDENTS (AND TEACHERS AS WELL IF THERE ARE ENOUGH) GET A CHANCE TO COME FORWARD AND SHOW OFF THEIR COSTUMES.)*

*(IF THE MAIN CHARACTERS ARE DRESSED IN COSTUMES AS SUGGESTED IN THE BOOK, THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:*

*ARTHUR - A SUPER HERO*

*FRANCINE - AN ANGEL*

*BRAIN - A BAKED POTATO*

*BUSTER - A CLOWN*

*MUFFY - A PRINCESS*

*BINKY BARNES IS NOT PICTURED IN THE BOOK*

*NOTE: DW IS NOT PART OF THIS SCENE AS SHE ATTENDS A DIFFERENT SCHOOL)*

*(MUSIC CHANGES TO A SLIGHTLY MORE OMINOUS SOUND AFTER THE LAST STUDENT COMES FORWARD AND AN ADULT DRESSED IN A MUMMY COSTUME ENTERS. THE STUDENTS WILL OBVIOUSLY REALIZE IT'S A MUMMY BUT NO ONE, NOT EVEN THE TEACHERS CAN GUESS WHO IT IS. THE STUDENTS ALL REACT AS THE MUMMY REACHES OUT TO THEM. FINALLY, THE HEAD COVERING WILL COME OFF TO REVEAL MR. RATBURN.*

ALL

Mr. Ratburn!

*(ALL CHEER AND THEN END THE NUMBER VOCALLY.)*

KIDS/TEACHERS

**Put all the books away 'cuz it's time to play, let's give a big cheer!  
We've been waiting and waiting all day, and now hip-hip-hooray, it's finally here!  
Pass out each scrumptious treat and then hang all the neat decorations we made.  
It's time for the Halloween party,  
the Lakewood Halloween party,  
the Lakewood Elementary Halloween party  
and annual costume parade!  
Hooray!**



# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

*(MR. RATBURN WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE REMAINDER OF THIS SCENE. ARTHUR, FRANCINE AND BUSTER SHOULD END UP DOWN STAGE IN A FOCAL POSITION)*

MR. RATBURN

Congratulations, everyone! You have certainly outdone yourselves this year with your costumes. Very, very creative one and all. And let's give a big round of applause to Miss Bryan and all her art students for the wonderful decorations they've made for us.

*(ALL APPLAUD AND CHEER. MISS BRYAN COMES FORWARD AND BOWS. SHE KEEPS BOWING UNTIL MR. RATBURN FINALLY CUTS HER OFF)*

Yes, thank you Miss Bryan.

And I understand that in addition to the usual delicious cider and donuts they provide for us each year, Mrs. MacGrady and the cafeteria staff have created some very special Halloween delicacies this year.....bat wing squares and glasses of vampire blood.

*(STUDENTS CHEER)*

ARTHUR

*(HOLDING HIS STOMACH)*

What?!?!

BUSTER

Don't worry, Arthur. It's really just chocolate brownies and cranberry juice.

ARTHUR

I don't care what it is. I'm not going to eat *anything* called bat wing squares or vampire blood.

FRANCINE

Don't be such a wuss, Arthur.

MR. RATBURN

Before we break out the treats though, it's time for my very favorite Halloween game, Guess the Goolish Glop! But first I'll need some volunteers.

*(THE STUDENTS RAISE THEIR HANDS ALL ANXIOUS TO BE CHOSEN. AS EACH NAME IS CALLED OUT, THE CHARACTER RUNS TO CENTER, ECSTATIC, AND CONGRATULATES THE OTHERS, GIVING EACH OTHER HIGH-FIVES. ETC. )*

All right, how about the princess, Mary Alice Crosswire (*MUFFY*), our clown--Buster Baxter, Arthur Read our super hero, Binky Barnes the awesome pirate, Mr. baked potato--Alan Brain and Francine Frensky, our little angel.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

*(NOTE: THIS WILL GIVE THE AUDIENCE A CHANCE TO VISUALLY IDENTIFY THE OTHER MAIN CHARACTERS WHO WILL BE THE FOCUS OF MUCH OF THE REST OF THE STORY.)*

Now, I'm going to ask Francine, Muffy and Buster to take these blindfolds and put them on each of the others. *(THEY DO)* Are your blindfolds in place?

ALL THREE  
Yes!

MR. RATBURN  
Good. Now, Mary Alice, Francine and Buster will follow me over to the table here and each take one of these bowls. *(HE REMOVES A CLOTH COVERING THREE BOWLS. THEY EACH GRAB ONE.)* That's right. Okay.....are the blindfolds still in place, boys?

ALL THREE  
Yes.

MR. RATBURN  
Perfect. First, we'll ask Mary Alice to take her bowl over to the Mr. Barnes. Now Binky, I want you to reach in the bowl tell me what you feel.

BINKY  
*(HE REACHES IN)* Well, they're round.....and soft.....and kinda wet. Is it grapes?

MR. RATBURN  
I'm afraid not.....it's actually a bowl of human eyeballs!!

*(THE STUDENTS LAUGH. BINKY TAKES OFF HIS BLINDFOLD TO SEE THAT IT REALLY IS A BOWL OF GRAPES. HE LAUGHS. ARTHUR IS VISIBLY MORTIFIED)*

All right, next we'll ask Buster to take his bowl over to The Brain. Now, Mr. Brain, reach into the bowl and tell me what you think it is.

BRAIN  
Well.....okay....here goes. *(HE PUTS HIS HAND IN)* It's cold.....and rubbery.....and kinda slimy. Is it jello?

MR RATBURN  
Oh....I'm sorry. It's not jello.....it's a big, juicy....beating human heart!

*(STUDENTS REACT AGAIN. BRAIN TAKES OFF HIS BLINDFOLD AND LAUGHS. ARTHUR IS EVEN MORE HORRIFIED)*

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

Last but not least we'll ask Francine to take her bowl over to Arthur. All right Arthur, reach in and tell me what you feel.

ARTHUR

*(HE TRIES VERY HARD TO PUT HIS HAND IN BUT PULLS IT AWAY)* I can't

MR. RATBURN

It's all right, Arthur, there's nothing to be afraid of.

ARTHUR

Touching human eyeballs and beating hearts is nothing to be afraid of?

FRANCINE

What's the big deal? Just put your hand in the bowl.

*(ONCE AGAIN, HE TRIES BUT PULLS HIS HAND AWAY)*

ARTHUR

I can't do it.

FRANCINE

Come on Arthur, it's just a game.

ARTHUR

I don't care. I don't want to play.

MR. RATBURN

That's all right, Arthur. We won't force you to take part if you don't care to. Why don't you take your blindfold off.

*(HE DOES.)*

FRANCINE

*(AS SHE REACHES INTO THE BOWL HERSELF AND PULLS OUT A HANDFUL OF COLD SPAGHETTI)* Ooooo, look Arthur. *(TRYING TO BE VERY SCARY)* It's a bowl of human brains.

*(THE STUDENTS START TO LAUGH)*

ARTHUR

Aagggghhhh!!.....get those away from me.

MR. RATBURN

That will be all, Francine.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

FRANCINE

*(IGNORING MR. RATBURN, SHE EATS SOME OF THE SPAGHETTI)* Mmmmm, delicious human brains, Arthur. *(HOLDS OUT A BIG HANDFUL TO ARTHUR)* Try some....you'll love it.

*(ALL THE STUDENTS ARE LAUGHING WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF BUSTER....THE TEACHERS SHOULD BE SHOWN TRYING TO DISCOURAGE THE LAUGHTER BUT HAVING NO EFFECT.)*

ARTHUR

*(RUNNING AWAY FROM HER)* Get away from me!

FRANCINE

*(LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY)* It's nothing but cold spaghetti. Like I said Arthur, you're nothing but a wuss.

ARTHUR

Leave me alone.

MR. RATBURN

That will be enough, Francine. Students, that's enough. *(THEY EVENTUALLY QUIET DOWN)* Arthur, are you all right?

ARTHUR

*(DEJECTED)* Yes.

MR. RATBURN

Are you sure?

ARTHUR

Yes, I'm okay.

MR. RATBURN

All right then.....*(LOUDLY)*  
Everyone into the cafeteria for Halloween treats!

*(ALL CHEER AND MAKE THEIR WAY OFFSTAGE. ARTHUR STARTS OFF BUT THEN TURNS BACK AND SITS ON THE FLOOR WITH HIS CHIN IN HIS HANDS. BUSTER COMES BACK IN LOOKING FOR HIM.)*

BUSTER

Arthur, are you coming?

ARTHUR

No, I'm too embarrassed.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

BUSTER

There's nothing to be embarrassed about.

ARTHUR

What do you mean? The whole school was laughing at me.

BUSTER

They didn't mean it. (*MAKING A CRAZY MOTION WITH HIS HAND NEXT TO HIS HEAD*)  
And you know how Francine can be sometimes.

ARTHUR

But it's not just Francine. Everybody thinks that I'm a coward.

BUSTER

No they don't.

ARTHUR

Yes, they do! And they're right. I am just big, old coward. Why can't I be like the Bionic Bunny?

### **IT'S OK TO BE SCARED SOMETIMES**

**Buster, what is wrong with me?  
I get so panic-stricken.  
No wonder they make fun of me...  
I'm just a big fat chicken!**

BUSTER

(*SPOKEN*) You're not a chicken, Arthur. And besides....

**It's OK to be scared sometimes.  
It's OK to say you're afraid.  
Don't listen to them; they're just acting tough.  
Forget all the jokes they made.  
It's OK to be scared sometimes.  
Just ignore what they say or do.  
You can bet that if things got scary enough,  
they'd prob'ly be as frightened as you.**

ARTHUR

**Really?**

BUSTER

**Really!**

ARTHUR

**Promise me you're not just being nice?**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

BUSTER

**Promise!**

ARTHUR

**But then...**

BUSTER

*(INTERRUPTING)*

**Arthur, take my advice.**

**It's OK to be scared sometimes.**

**It's OK if you get "cold feet!"**

**And don't forget there are times when problems come up  
that it's safer to just retreat.**

ARTHUR

**Buster, I appreciate**

**all your words of wisdom.**

**The day they passed out guts and nerve,**

**I guess I must've missed 'em.**

BUSTER

**It's OK to be scared sometimes.**

**It's OK to be not so cool.**

**I bet if you ask the bravest in a fight,  
they'd tell you they get scared too.**

**It OK to be scared sometimes.**

**Always stick to one simple rule:**

**"trust the feeling you get when things don't seem right.**

**Only you know what's best for you!"**

ARTHUR

**Really?**

BUSTER

**Really!**

ARTHUR

**Guess I never thought of it that way.**

BUSTER

**Well, then?**

ARTHUR

**But when....**

BUSTER

*(INTERRUPTING)*

**Listen to what I say.**

**It's OK to be scared sometimes.**

**No one ever can say they're not!**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

**And it doesn't mean you're any less of a guy,  
so don't give it a second thought.**

ARTHUR

*(FINALLY ACCEPTING IT ALL)*

**All right!**

BUSTER

**OK!**

ARTHUR

**I'll try.**

BUSTER

**That's great!**

**So, whenever you get that gloomy feeling again.....?**

ARTHUR

**I'll remember what you said:**

**It's OK to be scared, and I won't run and hide.**

**I can smile and hold my head up high instead.**

BUSTER

**And a friend wouldn't think any less of you**

**'cuz a friend will always be there in the end.**

ARTHUR

**A friend will always be there in the end.**

BOTH

**A friend will always be there in the end.**

*(THEY SHAKE HANDS.)*

(BLACKOUT)

***Scene 3 - The Kitchen in Arthur's home - early that evening***

*(MOM, IN COSTUME, IS HELPING DW WITH THE FINAL TOUCHES ON HER COSTUME, A RED DEVIL, COMPLETE WITH POINTED TAIL AND EARS. BABY KATE IS IN THE HIGH CHAIR, PUPPY PAL IS NEARBY, BOTH ALSO IN COSTUME)*

DW

Do you think I look scary enough, mom?

MOM

You look very scary. In fact, if I saw you walking down the street I think I'd scream and run in the opposite direction.

DW

Awesome!

MOM

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

But remember, DW, trick or treating is supposed to be a fun thing to do for everyone. Promise me you won't spoil it for the others by scaring them away.

DW

*(HIDING HER HAND BEHIND HER BACK)* I promise.

MOM

*(SUSPICIOUS)* Dora Winifred Read.....let me see your hand.

DW

*(INNOCENTLY)* Why?

MOM

You know why.

*(DW BRINGS HER HAND OUT TO REVEAL THE FACT THAT SHE CROSSED FINGERS WHEN SHE MADE THE PROMISE)*

Just as I suspected. DW, I've told you before that just because you cross your fingers when you say something doesn't mean that it doesn't count. Now, again, promise me you won't spend the night scaring everyone.

DW

I promise.

MOM

That's better.

*(ARTHUR ENTERS CARRYING TWO SMALL FLASHLIGHTS)*

ARTHUR

Here are the flashlights, mom.

MOM

Thank you, Arthur. *(PUTTING ONE IN EACH BAG)* I'll put one in each of your bags so that when it starts to get dark it'll help others to see you easier. Now, DW, don't forget....Arthur is in charge. I want you to listen to him.

DW

When do I get to be in charge?

MOM

Soon Baby Kate will be old enough to go trick-or-treating and you'll be in charge of taking care of *her*.

DW

*(EXTREMELY EXCITED ABOUT THE PROSPECT)* Yes!!



# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

MOM

Arthur, you take good care of your sister tonight and do whatever you can to keep her safe and out of trouble.

ARTHUR

Yes, mom.

MOM

OK, let's go over the rules one last time before you go.

### **THE RULES OF THE ROAD**

**Look both ways crossing the street;  
be polite to the people you meet.  
stay with the group, don't stray too far  
or you'll get lost and wonder where you are.**

**Try not to eat all the candy you take  
or you'll end up with a tummy ache.  
Treats, no tricks and, whatever you do  
always say please and thank you too!**

*MOM: (SPOKEN) Arthur?*

**ARTHUR**

**Look both ways crossing the street;  
be polite to the people we meet.  
Stay with the group, don't stray too far  
or we'll get lost and wonder where we are.**

*MOM (SPOKEN) Very good! DW?*

**DW**

**Try not to eat all the candy we take  
or we'll end up with a tummy ache.  
Treats, no tricks and, whatever we do  
always say please and thank you too.**

*MOM (SPOKEN) Now, once more.*

*(SINGING IN ROUND)*

**MOM**

**Look both ways crossing the street. etc.**

**ARTHUR**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

Look both ways crossing the street, etc.

DW

Look both ways crossing the street, etc.

MOM

Well, I think you're all set.

*(THE DOORBELL RINGS)*

DW

*(RUNNING OFF)* I'll get it. *(PUPPY PAL FOLLOWS HER OFF)*

ARTHUR

Mom, does DW really have to tag along with me? Can't we call Grandma Thora and ask her to take her trick-or-treating?

MOM

Then who would pass out Grandma Thora's treats at her house?

ARTHUR

But my friends aren't going to like it when they find out she's coming with us.

MOM

It won't be as bad as you think, Arthur.

*(DW RETURNS WITH THE GANG)*

BUSTER

Hi, Mrs. Read.

MOM

Hello, everyone. Happy Halloween!

ALL

Happy Halloween!

FRANCINE

Hello, Arthur. Are you still mad at me because I teased you in school today?

ARTHUR

No, Francine. I'm over it.

FRANCINE

Great.....then are you ready to go?

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

ARTHUR

Yes.....there's just one thing, everyone. I have to watch DW. She's has to come with us. (*HE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR THE NEGATIVE COMMENTS*)

BRAIN

That's great.

MUFFY

It'll be fun having her along.

(*ALL AGREE*)

MOM

You see, Arthur?

ARTHUR

Are you sure you don't mind?

BINKY

Not at all

BUSTER

The more the merrier.

FRANCINE

Let's stop yakkin' and let's get out there before all the good candy is gone!

(*ALL AGREE AND EXIT AS THEY SAY THEIR GOOD-BYES TO MRS. READ*)

MOM

Have a good time kids. (*YELLING AFTER HER*) And DW don't forget.....Arthur is in charge....and no tricks.

DW

I promise!

MOM

Uncross those fingers!

DW

(*FROM OFFSTAGE*) Rats!

(*MUSIC IN. LIGHTS FADE ON MOM SMILING AND SHAKING HER HEAD IN BEWILDERMENT.*)

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

***Scene 4 - A Street In the Neighborhood - later than evening***

*(WHEN LIGHTS COME UP, ALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN RUN ON NOISILY AND CROSS TO VARIOUS DOORWAYS TRICK OR TREATING. LASTLY, EACH OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS CROSS TO THE DOWNSTAIRS RIGHT HOUSE. FROM THE LOOKS OF THE TREAT BAGS THEY CARRY, THEY'VE EACH MADE QUITE A HAUL THROUGHOUT THE EVENING.)*

*(FRANCINE RINGS THE DOORBELL)*

ALL

Trick or treat!

*(NEIGHBORHOOD WOMAN OPENS DOOR)*

Trick or treat!

WOMAN

Well, hello, everyone. Don't you all look wonderful! Are you having fun and getting a lot of candy?

ALL

*(AD-LIBBING)* Yeah....you bet.....it's been great.....we're workin' on it, etc. etc.

WOMAN

Do you think you might have room in those bags for one more candy bar?

*(SHE PULLS A FULL-SIZE CANDY BAR OUT OF THE BASKET SHE'S CARRYING)*

BINKY

Awesome.....she's got the big candy bars!!!

*(ALL VOCALLY REACT TO THE INCREDIBLE TREASURE)*

WOMAN

*(DW IS FIRST IN LINE TO GET HERS AND THEN RUNS AROUND TO THE END OF THE LINE)*

One for you, and one for you....and here's yours, etc. etc.

DW

*(BACK AT THE FRONT OF THE LINE, HOLDING BAG UP ONCE AGAIN)* Don't forget *me*.

ARTHUR

*(STEPPING IN)* That's OK. She already got one.

DW

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

I'll take another.

ARTHUR

No you won't. *(TO THE WOMAN)* Thanks for the candy!

*(ALL EXTEND THEIR THANK YOUS AND GOOD-BYES TO HER AS WELL)*

WOMAN

You're all very welcome. Have a great night, everyone. *(SHE CLOSSES THE DOOR)*

ARTHUR

DW, how many times do I have to tell you, only one treat from each house!

DW

*(OVERLAPPING WITH ARTHUR AS HE SAYS IT)* ...only one treat from each house! Yeah, yeah.....whatever.

MUFFY

Boy, we sure have made out tonight.

BINKY

This has to be the best haul ever.

BRAIN

I must agree that the quality of the confections this year is much higher than in years past.

*(MUSIC IN)*

BUSTER

Is there anything better than Halloween candy?

FRANCINE

Next to my birthday, Halloween is my absolute favorite day of the year!

*(ALL AGREE AND SING. SONG CAN BE SPLIT UP IN ANY WAY NECESSARY FOR THE STAGING)*

### MAIN CHARACTERS

**Halloween is like candy heaven--  
where the sun is a tootsie roll pop,  
where each cloud has a marshmallow filling,  
and everthing has sprinkles on top.**

**Halloween is sweet candy-licious--  
surrounded by choc-o-late cream,  
in a pond full of sweet gummy fishes,**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

**we're living in a choc-o-late dream.  
Candy heaven, candy heaven, candy heaven.**

*(MUSIC TRANSITION TO FASTER TEMPO AS EACH THE  
REST OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN RUN IN)*

**ALL**

**Halloween is like candy heaven--  
lots of treats, and all of it free!  
Ev'ry house is a candy store heaven  
and all of it just waiting for me.**

**Halloween's a kid's buried treasure,  
full of gold, the "eatable" kind.  
And the very best thing about it--  
we can keep all the loot that we find.**

**Make sure you grab bag that's gigantic,  
bigger than all the rest,  
'cuz there's so many houses.  
Which one will have the best?**

**Skip the house with fruit and granola,  
find the ones with the big candy bars--  
doesn't matter, long as they're made by  
Hersheys or Nestles or Mars.**

**Candy for breakfast!  
Lunch wouldn't hurt!  
Candy for dinner...  
and always save room for dessert!**

**Halloween is like candy Heaven.  
Ev'ry road is lollipop lane.  
Ev'ry street's a rainbow of sugar....  
like living in the Candy Land game.**

**No matter how much candy you've eaten  
there's always room for more,  
lots more cuz, after all,  
that's what Halloween is for.**

**When it's raining, don't run for cover.  
Stay outside and hold out your hat,**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act One

**cuz it's raining candy from Heaven.  
What could be better than that?**

*(THEY COMPARE THEIR LOOT)*

**Look at the stuff I got.  
What did you find?  
Hey, that's my favorite!  
Wanna trade that one for mine?**

**Kit-kat bars, peppermint patties and  
Reese-y Cups, licorice twists  
bubble gum, strawberry Twizzlers,  
oh, what could be sweeter than this?**

**Peppermint patties, ahh!  
Chocolate bliss, ahh!  
Strawberry twizzlers!  
Oh, what could be better than this?**

BUSTER  
Okay, where to next?

MUFFY  
I think we've gone to all the houses on this block.

BINKY  
*(POINTING TO THE "WITCH'S" HOUSE)* All except for *that* one.  
*(ONCE AGAIN, LIGHTS CHANGE, EERIE MUSIC, THUNDER AND LIGHTENING AND  
DOOR OPENING AND SLAMMING SHUT OCCURS)*

BRAIN  
*(ONCE ALL LIGHTS AND SOUND HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL)* Might I suggest we skip  
that one?

ALL  
*(AD-LIBBING)* Good idea.....that sounds like a good plan to me.....I don't mind skipping it, etc.  
etc.

*(AS THE FOLLOWING DIALOGUE CONTINUES, DW SNEAKS AWAY FROM THE GROUP  
AND MAKES HER WAY TOWARD THE FRONT DOOR OF THE 'WITCH' HOUSE.  
(OMINOUS MUSIC UNDERSCORES)*

FRANCINE  
I hear they're giving out candy apples over on Maple Street.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

ARTHUR  
*(A BIT FRIGHTENED AT THE THOUGHT)*  
But.....but.....that's across from the cemetery.

FRANCINE  
So?

ARTHUR  
*(HESITANTLY)* But...it's the cemetery.....and tonight is.....Halloween.

FRANCINE  
And?

BRAIN  
I believe what Arthur is trying to say is that, tonight being "All Hallows Eve," legend has it that it's the one night that spirits rise from their graves and roam *throughout* the cemetery.

ARTHUR  
Yeah....what he said.

FRANCINE  
In other words, Arthur, you're afraid?

ARTHUR  
Well, kind of..... But look, you can all go. We should be getting home soon anyway, right DW?  
DW? Where's DW?

*(AT THIS POINT, DW IS AT THE 'WITCH'S' DOOR, NOSING AROUND. NONE OF THE GROUP SHOULD SEE HER)*

MUFFY  
She was here a minute ago.

ARTHUR  
Oh, no. I've got to find her. *(CALLING OUT)* DW? DW, where are you?

*(ALL CALL OUT FOR HER LOOKING IN EVERY DIRECTION EXCEPT DOWN STAGE LEFT AT THE HOUSE)*

*(ARTHUR STEPS FOREWORD AND SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE)*  
Have any of you seen DW?  
*(THE AUDIENCE SHOULD START YELLING OUT THE ANSWER TO HIM. AT FIRST HE SHOULD PLAY IT UP AS IF HE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE SAYING)*  
What? What? Did you say the "Fish's" house? At "Rich's" house? An "itchy" mouse?, etc.



# Arthur's Halloween

## Act One

BRAIN

*(COMES DOWN TO ARTHUR, POINTS AT THE WITCH HOUSE)* Arthur, look!!!

ARTHUR

DW, STOP!!!!

*(AT THIS ALL ACTION STOPS. MUSIC ROLLS AS WITCH'S DOOR OPENS SLOWLY, THE HINGES MAKING A VERY LOUD SQUEAKY SOUND.)*

*(ARTHUR GETS CLOSER TO THE HOUSE BUT DOESN'T WANT TO ACTUALLY GO UP TO DW)*

ARTHUR AND FRIENDS

DW get away. Hurry.....before the witch comes!, etc. etc.

*(DW LOOKS AT ARTHUR AND THEN PEEKS INTO THE HOUSE. MUSIC IS STILL ROLLING)*

DW

It's OK Arthur. I'm not scared.

*(AND WITH THAT SHE DISAPPEARS INSIDE)*

ARTHUR

Noooooooooooo!!!!!!!!!!!!

*( DOOR SLAMS SHUT LOUDLY. THEN, FROM INSIDE A LOUD ECHOING SCREAM IS HEARD.)*

ALL

*(LOOKING AT AUDIENCE)*

Oh, no!

*(EERIE MUSIC QUICKLY BUILDS TO A BLACKOUT)*

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

*(A SHORT EERIE MUSICAL ENTR'ACTE GETS US INTO THE SECOND ACT. PERHAPS AS THE MUSIC ENDS, JUST BEFORE LIGHTS COME UP WE HEAR THE LOUD ECHOING SCREAM AGAIN)*

### **Scene 1 - A Street In the Neighborhood - immediately following**

*(LIGHTS COME UP TO REVEAL EVERYONE IN THE EXACT SAME POSITIONS AS THEY WERE AT THE END OF ACT ONE, ARTHUR STILL AT THE WITCH'S DOOR.)*

ALL  
*(JUST AS BEFORE)*  
Oh, no!

ARTHUR  
What do I do now?

MUFFY  
You can't go in there, Arthur.

BUSTER  
She's right.

ARTHUR  
But I can't just leave her in there.

FRANCINE  
Maybe you'd better go get your dad.

ARTHUR  
My dad's at work.

BINKY  
Then go get your mother.

ARTHUR  
I can't do that! She warned me not to let anything happen to DW. If she finds out, she'll never trust me again. I don't know what to do. *(LOOKS AT BRAIN)* What do you think I should do, Brain?

*(MUSIC IN)*

BRAIN

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

Well, before you make a decision one way or the other, perhaps you should consider the possible consequences of going in after her.

**THERE'S NO TELLING**

BRAIN

**There's no telling what the witch will do  
if she catches you,**

**Arthur.**

**She might even make a witch's stew  
out of parts of you,**

**Arthur.**

ALL

**Better not try your luck in there.  
Careful, if you get stuck in there,  
you could end up a dead duck in there.**

**Take our advice!**

MUFFY

**There's no telling, what'll be in store  
once you're through that door,**

**Arthur.**

**Zombies waiting there on ev'ry floor!**

**You'll be nevermore,**

**Arthur.**

ALL

**She could cast a magic spell,  
lock you in a dungeon cell.  
No one'll hear you scream or yell.  
'cept for the mice!**

BINKY BARNES

**I heard she keeps bats as pets  
and lions and tigers and bears**

ARTHUR  
(*SPOKEN*) Oh my!

**spiders crawl down creepy nets,  
and skeletons guard her stairs!**

FRANCINE

**There's no telling what you'll find inside.  
Better run and hide,**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

**Arthur.**  
**Something horrible and evil eyed....**  
**you'll be terrified,**  
**Arthur.**

**BUSTER**  
**She might even use you for**  
**some weird experiment...**

**ARTHUR**  
*(SPOKEN)* No way!

**or toss you in her oven door,**  
**the way Hansel and Gretel went!**

**ALL**  
**There's no telling what the end will be.**  
**There's no guarantee,**  
**Arthur.**  
**Stay out here where all your friends will be,**  
**safe from her witchery,**  
**Arthur.**

**If you want to stay alive,**  
**Listen to your friends who know!**  
**There's only one way to survive:**  
**Arthur,**  
**Oh, Arthur,**  
**Oh, Arthur**  
**please....**  
**don't go!**  
**Don't go!**

**ARTHUR**  
Oh.....I still don't know what to do? *(HIS FRIENDS ALL REACT DISBELIEVING. TURNING TO AUDIENCE)* Should go in after DW?

*(AS AUDIENCE YELLS OUT DIRECTIONS, OVER THE DIN WE HEAR THE SQUEAKY HINGES AND SEE THE DOOR OPEN OMINOUSLY AGAIN)*

Well, I guess that means I'm supposed to go in after her. *(LOOKS BACK AT FRIENDS THEN AT THE HOUSE)* Well, here goes. *(SLOW MUSIC UNDERSCORING OF 'THERE'S NO TELLING' COVERS HIS CROSS TO THE HOUSE. HE MOVES TENTATIVELY.)*  
I'm almost there.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

BUSTER

Be careful, Arthur.

MUFFY

I'll pray for you, Arthur.

ARTHUR

*(AS IF TO ALERT ANYONE OR ANYTHING WAITING INSIDE THE HOUSE)* I'm at the door now. *(LOOKS BACK TO FRIENDS)* Here goes nothing.

*(MUSIC ROLLS AS HE HESITATES ONE LAST TIME)*

FRANCINE

We'll be right here waiting for you when you come out, Arthur.

BINKY

Be brave!

ARTHUR

Here I go.

*(HE SLOWLY DISAPPEARS INSIDE. MUSIC STOPS. IN SILENCE, SLOWLY, THE GROUP SNEAKS UP TOWARD THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE. JUST AS THEY GET THERE THE DOOR SLAMS QUICKLY AND LOUDLY. THEY ALL YELL AND SCREAM AND RUN OFF, COMICALLY RUNNING INTO EACH OTHER AND FALLING DOWN AS MUSIC BUILDS TO BLACKOUT)*

### **Scene 2 - A hallway in the "witch's" house - immediately following**

*(EERIE MUSIC UNDERSCORES BUSINESS. AS LIGHTS COME UP, ARTHUR PEEKS OUT FROM STAGE LEFT. THE HALLWAY MIGHT APPEAR TO NEED SOME PAINT OR PATCHING UP BUT SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY GIVE OFF A SCARY IMPRESSION)*

ARTHUR

*(IN A LOUD WHISPER)* DW?

*(A BIT LOUDER AS HE STARTS TO CROSS, HESITANTLY)* DW, where are you?

*(SUMMONING UP THE COURAGE TO YELL OUT VERY LOUDLY TO THE POINT WHERE IT ECHOES OMINOUSLY)* DW, can you hear me?

*(HE IS FRIGHTENED BY THE ECHO AND BEGINS TO RETREAT. SUDDENLY HE HEARS DW'S VOICE ECHOING IN FROM ANOTHER PART OF THE HOUSE.)*

DW

Arthur, help!

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

ARTHUR  
(*CALLING OUT*) DW?

DW  
Arthur, please help me!

ARTHUR  
(*NOT QUITE KNOWING WHERE SHE'S CALLING FROM*) Where are you, DW?

DW  
Help!

ARTHUR  
(*CONTINUES ACROSS STAGE*) I'm coming! I'm coming....don't be scared!

DW  
Please hurry!

ARTHUR  
Hang on, DW, I'll rescue you. (*WE HEAR ANOTHER ECHOING SCREAM WHICH CAUSES ARTHUR TO FREEZE IN HIS TRACKS*) (*SAYING ALOUD TO HIMSELF*) But then who's going to rescue me?  
(*MEEKLY, LOOKING UP TO HEAVEN*) Help!

(*HE RELUCTANTLY CONTINUES OFF AS LIGHTS FADE AND EERIE MUSIC COMES TO AN END.*)

### **Scene 3 - The Kitchen of the "Witch's" House - immediately following**

(*LIGHTS COME UP TO REVEAL A RATHER PLEASANT LOOKING KITCHEN. A KITCHEN TABLE IS VISIBLE WITH A PITCHER OF MILK, TWO EMPTY GLASSES AND A DISH OF COOKIES ON IT. A CUPBOARD IS TO THE RIGHT OF THE TABLE. ON THE FLOOR, ALSO TO THE RIGHT OF THE TABLE, SITS A SWEET-LOOKING ELDERLY WOMAN, MRS. TIBBLE. ALSO VISIBLE IS A BIRD CAGE HOUSING A MYNAH BIRD.*)

(*DW IS STANDING AT STAGE RIGHT CALLING OUT FOR ARTHUR.*)

DW  
Arthur, I'm in here.

ARTHUR  
(*FROM OFFSTAGE*) DW?

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

DW

Please hurry, Arthur.

*(ARTHUR RUSHES ON FROM OFFSTAGE RIGHT)*

ARTHUR

It's okay. I'm here. *(LOOKING AROUND QUICKLY AS IF THE WITCH WAS GOING TO APPEAR ANY MOMENT. HE GRABS HER HAND AND STARTS TO PULL HER OFFSTAGE)*

Come on! Let's get out of here before the witch gets us.

DW

*(TRYING TO STOP HIM)* But, Arthur.....

ARTHUR

If we hurry, maybe we can away before she sees us.

DW

*(PULLING AWAY FROM HIM)* No, Arthur.

ARTHUR

What do you mean no???! Do you want the witch to catch us? Come on.....quick!

DW

There is no witch.

ARTHUR

What?

DW

I said there is no witch.

ARTHUR

Then why were you yelling for help?

DW

Because Mrs. Tibble needs us.

ARTHUR

Who's Mrs. Tibble?

DW

*(POINTING TO THE WOMAN ON THE FLOOR)* That's Mrs. Tibble.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

MRS. TIBBLE

*(CHUCKLING)* Hello, young man. Forgive me for not getting up but, at the moment, I'm afraid I can't.

DW

We were just about to have our milk and cookies. She went to sit down and missed the chair.

MRS. TIBBLE

Unfortunately, my eyesight isn't what it used to be.

DW

I tried to help her up but I couldn't do it by myself.

ARTHUR

Then.....you're not really a witch?

MRS. TIBBLE

A witch? *(LAUGHS)* Oh, my goodness, no. Just a plain old woman who doesn't get around as easily as she used to. I think with both of you helping, I might be able to get back on my feet, though.

DW

Come on, Arthur.

*(AS THEY CROSS TO HELP HER, ANOTHER SCREAM IS HEARD)*

ARTHUR

*(VERY FRIGHTENED)* What was that?

MRS. TIBBLE

Oh, don't be scared. That's just Stanley, my mynah bird. *(DIRECTED TO STANLEY)* Thank you, Stanley, I see him.

STANLEY

I see him. I see him.

MRS. TIBBLE

My hearing isn't what it used to be either and that's Stanley's way of letting me know when someone comes to the door.

ARTHUR

*(STILL RECOVERING A BIT FROM THE SOUND OF THE SCREAM)* Oh....



# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

MRS. TIBBLE

It seems I can't hear the doorbell very well anymore.

DW

*(READY TO HELP HER UP)* Okay, Arthur, are you ready?

ARTHUR

Okay.

*(ARTHUR STANDS IN FRONT OF HER, GRABBING HER HANDS, DW PUSHES FROM BEHIND HER)*

DW

When I count to three, I'll push, you pull. Ready? One, two, three!

MRS. TIBBLE

*(CHUCKLING THROUGHOUT THE ORDEAL)* Oh, dear.....oh, my.... etc.

DW

Almost.....a little more....almost there. *(THEY FINALLY GET HER UP)* There!

MRS. TIBBLE

*(A BIT OUT OF BREATH, STILL CHUCKLING)* Thank you both so much. I don't know what I would have done if you hadn't come along.

DW

I'm glad we were here.

ARTHUR

Are you all right?

MRS. TIBBLE

Oh, yes, I'm fine. Not to worry. Now, I think we can get back to those milk and cookies. What do you think, DW?

DW

I'm ready!

MRS. TIBBLE

Please join us, Arthur, won't you?

ARTHUR

Sure!

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

*(AS SHE GOES TO CUPBOARD TO GET ANOTHER GLASS FOR ARTHUR, DW AND ARTHUR SIT AT THE TABLE, ARTHUR ON THE LEFT AND DW AT THE UPSTAGE CHAIR.)*

MRS. TIBBLE

*(HOLDS OUT GLASS TOWARD DW)* Here, we are Arthur.

ARTHUR

*(WAVING TO HER)* I'm over here.

MRS. TIBBLE

*(SQUINTS AT HIM, THEN LAUGHS)* Oh, so you are. As I said, my eyes aren't what they used to be. Please help yourselves to the cookies while I pour the milk. It's so nice to have company for a change. The older that I get the less people seem to stop by. I have a daughter that visits whenever she can but she lives so far away. She telephones me everyday though.

*(AS SHE SPEAKS ABOVE LINES, SHE PICKS UP THE PITCHER AND IS ABOUT TO POUR WHEN ARTHUR REALIZES THAT SHE'S GOING TO MISS THE GLASS. HE SHOVES IT UNDER THE SPOUT JUST IN TIME. THIS HAPPENS WITH DW'S GLASS AS WELL. NEXT, SHE IS ABOUT TO SIT DOWN, NOT REALIZING THAT THE CHAIR ISN'T BEHIND HER. WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT, DW QUICKLY GETS UP AND PUSHES IT IN TO HER JUST AS SHE SITS.)*

Now then, why did you think I was a witch?

ARTHUR

Well.....

DW

All the kids think that. Your house looks so spooky, they were afraid. *(DIRECTING IT TO ARTHUR)* But I wasn't a bit afraid!

ARTHUR

I wasn't afraid. *(SUDDENLY THE LOUD EERIE MOANING SOUND THAT WE HEARD EARLIER IS HEARD. ARTHUR REACTS)* Yes, I was!

MRS. TIBBLE

Isn't that an annoying sound? It's the wind blowing in through the cracks in the walls. I'm not surprised that the appearance of the house might scare some of the children. The truth is, the older that I get, the less I'm able to tend to all the repairs around here. My front door has a mind of its own too.....blowing open and closed with the slightest breeze. And the hinges need a little oiling. Sure do squeak! *(CHUCKLES)* The house is falling apart around me.

ARTHUR

We could come by and help out after school.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

DW

Sure, I'm very handy.

MRS. TIBBLE

Oh, I couldn't ask you to do that. There's so much that needs to be done.

ARTHUR

And I'm sure that my dad could fix some of the stuff that we can't.

DW

Yeah, he's pretty handy too..... but not as handy as I am.

ARTHUR

That way the place wouldn't look so spooky.

MRS. TIBBLE

Well, I have to admit it would be wonderful to have some help.

DW

Only thing is...you'd have to pay us.

ARTHUR

DW!!

MRS. TIBBLE

She's right, Arthur, you *should* be paid for your work. Well, what do you think a fair price would be, DW?

DW

*(THINKS FOR A MOMENT)* Hmm.....how about.....two....no *three*.....chocolate cookies and a glass of milk!

MRS. TIBBLE

I think that would be very fair! *(HOLDING OUT HER HAND)* Agreed.

DW

*(TAKING HER HAND)* Agreed!

ARTHUR

*(ADDING HIS HAND)* Agreed!

*(THEY SHAKE ON IT)*

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

*(MUSIC IN)*

MRS. TIBBLE

I'm so pleased you stopped by. As I said, Stanley and I don't get much company these days, do we Stanley?

STANLEY

Just me and you.....just me and you.

MRS. TIBBLE

It's always wonderful to make new friends.

### FRIENDS

**It's delightful having friends to talk to.  
We're sharing such a pleasant visit.  
How nice you had the time; it's truly quite sublime.  
It's never fun to be alone is it?**

**It's lovely having friends to laugh with.  
This happy feeling cannot be denied.  
When friends can share a giggle  
that makes your tummy jiggle,  
it tickles everything inside.**

**The older that you get you realize--  
time you spend with friends is heavenly.  
For when you are surrounded  
by your friends, you'd be astounded  
just how wonderful your life can be!**

DW

**It's fun to find a brand new friend,  
'specially a friend like you.  
And it's important that your friend  
remembers now and then  
she has to share her milk and cookies too!**

MRS. TIBBLE

*(SPOKEN)* How true!

ARTHUR

**It's great when you can make new friends.**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

**I'm glad we weren't afraid to call.  
It really is a switch  
to see you're really not a witch,  
and your house isn't scary after all.**

MRS. TIBBLE  
**The older that we get we realize  
DW  
everyone needs friends like me!**  
ALL THREE  
**'Cuz when you are surrounded  
by your friends you'll be astounded  
at how wonderful your life can be.**

*(THEY DANCE TOGETHER)*

ALL  
**It's nice to know that you have friends,  
MRS. TIBBLE  
friends on whom you always can depend.  
DW  
'cuz friends will understand  
and lend a helping hand,  
ARTHUR  
and friends will always be there in the end.**

ALL THREE  
**The older that we get we realize  
MRS. TIBBLE  
friendship is what holds the magic key.  
ALL THREE  
'Cuz when you are surrounded  
by your friends you'll be astounded  
just how wonderful your life can be.**

MRS. TIBBLE  
**I think we all agree  
a friend is life's necessity.**

ARTHUR  
**So, always try to be  
an F-R-I-E-N-D (*Spelling it out*)**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

DW

**To be a friend with me,  
bring some cookies, then you'll see**

ALL THREE

**just how wonderful  
how very wonderful  
how truly wonderful  
your life can be!**

*(LIGHTS FADE AS THEY LAUGH AND HUG EACH OTHER)*

**Scene 4 - A Street In the Neighborhood - a few minutes later**

*(WHEN LIGHTS COME UP, FRANCINE PEEKS OUT FROM OFFSTAGE RIGHT AND THEN SNEAKS OUT A FEW STEPS, LOOKING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE WITCH'S HOUSE.)*

FRANCINE

*(LOUD WHISPER TO OTHERS OFFSTAGE)* It's okay. No sign of the witch.

*(THE OTHERS COME ON HESITANTLY.)*

BINKY

Do you think that Arthur and DW are still in there?

FRANCINE

They must be....and that's not good.

MUFFY

I don't like this. If they haven't come out yet, they're probably goners.

BUSTER

What do you think the witch did to them?

BRAIN

Maybe she threw them into her dungeon.

BINKY

Or turned them into frogs.

FRANCINE

Or fed them to her zombie guards.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

MUFFY

Maybe we should call the police.

BUSTER

Maybe we should go get his mom.

MUFFY

Stay calm. We'll think of something.

*(THEY ALL BEGIN SPEAK AT ONCE TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO. SUDDENLY, ONCE AGAIN, THE SQUEAKY DOOR OPENS AND ALL FREEZE IN THEIR TRACKS)*

FRANCINE

*(VERY FRIGHTENED)* Oh no....now what?

BUSTER

*(HIDING BEHIND BRAIN)* The witch is coming!!

BINKY

I want to run but I'm afraid to move.

FRANCINE

Me too.

*("FRIENDS" MUSIC IN AS ARTHUR AND DW EMERGE FROM THE HOUSE. ALL RUSH AROUND THEM ECSTATIC AT THEIR GOOD FORTUNE)*

ALL

*(ALL SPEAKING AT ONCE)* You made it....you got away from the witch.....we didn't think we would ever see you again.....welcome back, etc, etc.

FRANCINE

What happened in there?

BUSTER

Was the witch scary and ugly?

MUFFY

Did she try to cook you for dinner?

BRAIN

It's truly amazing that you escaped!

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

ARTHUR  
Well, the truth is....

DW  
(*INTERRUPTING*) The witch was the scariest and most horrible thing I've ever seen.

ARTHUR  
But...

DW  
She chased me around and was ready to throw me into a big black pit filled with snakes and spiders when Arthur came running in to save me. That made her really mad so she started chasing after him. Luckily he grabbed a fishbowl filled with water and creepy three-headed fish and he soaked her which made her melt right into the floor.

BINKY  
(*AMAZED*) Just like in The Wizard of Oz!

DW  
Yep....just like in The Wizard of Oz.

MUFFY  
(*AMAZED*) So that really *does* work on witches.

FRANCINE  
And you were able get away from the zombies and skeletons too!

DW  
Thanks to my big brother. He fought them all off. And that's why I'm still alive to tell the story!

BINKY  
Wow.

ARTHUR  
But.....

BUSTER  
I knew you had it in you, pal.

BRAIN  
Boy, if I ever get into serious trouble, I sure hope you're with me, Arthur. Three cheers for Arthur! Hip, hip...



Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

ALL  
Hooray!

BRAIN  
Hip, hip....

ALL  
Hooray!

BRAIN  
Hip, hip....

ALL  
Hooray!

*(MUSIC IN)*

BRAIN  
**If a house near you is haunted,  
or a witch moves in next door,  
if something scary makes you wanna "yelp!,"  
if somebody's in trouble  
or there's danger in the air,  
don't be afraid, there's someone who can help!**

ALL  
**Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the great!  
He's a super-hero  
even though he's only eight!  
Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the awesome!**

BUSTER  
**He's our own Bionic Bunny  
when there's someone to save.**

ALL  
**He's not afraid of anything.  
He's Arthur, the brave!**

FRANCINE  
**If there's a dragon underneath your bed  
or monsters make you cry**

BINKY

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

**when mom and dad turn off the lights at night,  
there's nothing to be scared of  
just remember who's nearby--  
someone who can always make it right.**

ALL

**Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the strong!  
Whenever he's around,  
nothing can go wrong.  
Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the awesome!**

BUSTER

**Who needs Harry Potter  
or a magic wand to wave?**

ALL

**He's our super Superman!  
He's Arthur, the brave!**

**We used to think he'd run away  
when things were looking grim,  
but now, if you're in danger  
you can always count on him!**

ALL

**So, if you hear spooky noises  
when you're in your room at home  
or see a creepy shadow on the wall,  
no need to pull the covers up  
and shiver all alone.  
Don't forget there's someone you can call.**

**Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the great!  
He's a super-hero  
even though he's only eight!  
Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the awesome!  
He's our own Bionic Bunny  
when there's someone to save.  
He's not afraid of anything.  
He's Arthur, the brave!**

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

**Problems go away  
'cuz he's there to save the day.  
Long may he wave--  
He's Arthur, the brave!  
Arthur, the brave!**

BUSTER

I have to run home and tell my mom about this. She's not going to believe it.

ALL

*(AS THEY ALL DISPERSE)* Yeah!!! Me too. See you Arthur! Keep up the good work! Congratulations buddy! You're awesome., etc., etc.

*(ARTHUR AND DW ARE LEFT ALONE ON STAGE)*

ARTHUR

Why didn't you tell them the truth about Mrs. Tibble?

DW

I think they liked believing she's a real witch.

ARTHUR

But it's not nice to lie to people, especially your friends.

DW

Well, it wasn't a *real* lie.

ARTHUR

What do you mean?

DW

*(DEMONSTRATING)* I had my fingers crossed the whole time I was telling it, so it really doesn't count as a lie.

ARTHUR

But that's cheating.

DW

If it makes you feel any better, you can set the record straight in a couple of days. In the meantime, why don't you just enjoy the glory?

ARTHUR

I have to admit, it did feel pretty good making them *think* I was brave.

# Arthur's Halloween

## Act Two

DW

See?! .....(THEN, IN A RARE MOMENT FOR DW) Besides, I thought you *were* very brave tonight.

ARTHUR

You did?

DW

Of course. You didn't know that there *wasn't* a real witch in the house when you came in to rescue me.

ARTHUR

(REALIZING THAT SHE'S RIGHT) Gee, that's right. I never thought of that. Maybe that *proves* I'm not such a scaredy-cat after all. Thanks, DW.

DW

(A BIT SMUGLY) You're welcome.

ARTHUR

And, you know what? I think I realized something else tonight.

DW

What?

(MUSIC IN)

### **WHY ME? (Reprise)**

ARTHUR

**When you're a kid  
who's practically nine  
and with a life as busy as mine  
having a little sister.....**

(PAUSE)

**can really be the best!**

(UP TO TEMPO NOW)

**Even though we don't always agree,  
I look out for her and her for me.  
There's no question, it's a cinch--  
that when things get rough  
we both'll come through in a pinch.**

**So, all in all, it's plain to see,**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

**friends with your sister's a good thing to be.**

**Having a little sister.....**

DW

**Having a bigger brother.....**

BOTH

**Having a little sister/bigger brother  
is really OK  
by me!**

DW (*INTERRUPTS MUSIC, SPOKEN*)

But that doesn't mean I have to share my cookies with you! Deal?  
(*SHE HOLDS OUT HER HAND*)

ARTHUR

Deal! (*THEY SHAKE ON THE BUTTON OF THE MUSIC*)  
Now, come on, we're late and we've got a lot of candy to eat!

DW

Can we take the shortcut through the cemetery?

ARTHUR

Why not!? The cemetery's a great place. I hear people are just dying to get in.

(*THEY GO OFF HAND IN HAND AS MUSIC SWELLS TO AND END, PUPPY PAL WAGGING HIS TAIL HAPPILY BEHIND THEM.*)

(*LIGHTS FADE*)

(*CURTAIN CALL IS DONE TO "HALLOWEEN IS LIKE CANDY HEAVEN."  
ONCE THEY HAVE ALL BOWED, THEY SING*)

ALL

**No matter how much candy you've eaten  
there's always room for more,  
lots more cuz, after all,  
that's what Halloween is for.**

**When it's raining, don't run for cover.  
Stay outside, and hold out your hat,  
'cuz it's raining candy from Heaven.  
What could be sweeter than that?**  
(ALL THROW CANDY OUT TO AUDIENCE)  
**What could be sweeter than that?**

Arthur's Halloween  
Act Two

*(ALL YELL "HAPPY HALLOWEEN!")*