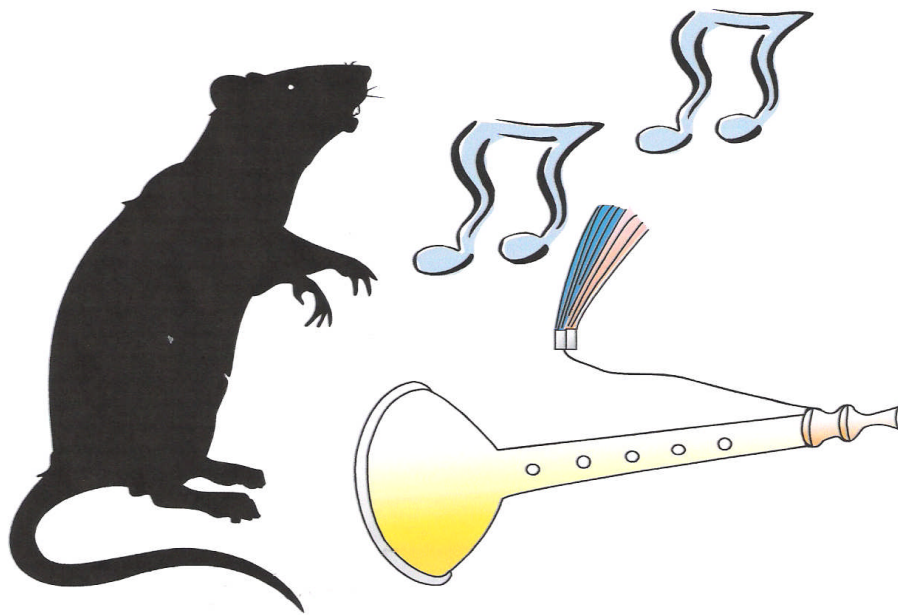


**Playstage  
Junior**

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# **THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN**



**A PLAY BASED ON ROBERT BROWNING'S  
POEM (WITH SOME MUSIC)**

**Written by  
LYNN  
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# **THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN**

## **CAST LIST**

**Narrator (*crippled boy*)**

**Rats (*any number*)**

**Cat**

**Dog**

**Woman with baby (*woman with pram*)**

**Baker**

**Butcher**

**Mayor**

**1<sup>st</sup> Man**

**1<sup>st</sup> Woman**

***(Other Townspeople, if needed)***

**1<sup>st</sup> Council Member**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Council Member**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Council Member**

**4<sup>th</sup> Council Member**

**Pied Piper**

**Small Rat**

**Children (*any number*)**

**Young Girl**

***14 main speaking parts, unlimited chorus parts***

## **THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN**

*The action of the play is continuous. The play is set around Hamelin Town Square. If scenery is used then it should suggest some houses on either side. In the centre of the square is a podium and, possibly, a statue or fountain. There are some wooden barrels to one side of the stage and some full sacks the other side. There is a small podium on one side of the stage for the Narrator to sit on. The play opens to an empty stage. Then, a crippled boy, using a crutch, hobbles to centre stage. He is the Narrator and he addresses the audience.*

### **NARRATOR**

**Hamelin Town is in Brunswick**

**By famous Hanover City;**

**The River Weiser , deep and wide,**

**Washes its walls on the southern side**

**A pleasanter spot you never spied;**

**But, when begins my ditty,**

**Almost five hundred years ago,**

**To see the townsfolk suffer so,**

**From vermin, was a pity.**

**Rats!**

*(The rats swarm on and mill about, looking evil)*

**They fought the dogs and killed the cats**

*(A cat and a dog come on and begin to, mime, fighting with the rats.*

*The cat runs away.)*

**And bit the babies in their cradles.**

***(A woman pushes a pram on. One rat sticks its head in the pram. The woman beats it off with her hands and pushes the pram off in a hurry.)***

**And ate the cheeses out of the vats**

**And licked the soup from the cooks own ladles.**

***(The rats split into two groups and begin to rummage in the barrels and sacks, throwing bits of paper all over the place.)***

**Split open kegs of salted sprats,**

**Made nests inside men's Sunday hats,**

**And even spoiled the women's chats,**

**By drowning their speaking**

**With shrieking and squeaking,**

**In fifty different sharps and flats.**

***(The rats all start squeaking and hissing.)***

***SONG – WE ARE THE RATS – (to the tune of Three Blind Mice)***

**We are the rats, we are the rats,**

**See how we run, see us have fun.**

**We run to a house and we go inside**

**We eat all the food that they try to hide**

**They can't make us go, but they've really tried**

**We are the rats, we are the rats.**

***(The rats all bare their teeth and hiss, for a count of one, two, three and one, two, three))***

**We are the rats, we are the rats,  
See how we run, see us have fun.  
We leave their rubbish in one big heap  
We bite their toes while they try to sleep  
We play in their streets and we jump and leap  
We are the rats, we are the rats.**

*(The rats all bare their teeth and hiss, for a count of one, two, three and one, two, three)*

*(The Townspeople come on stage, holding brooms and shouting at the rats "Go away!" and waving the brooms. The rats scurry off, but not before they've laughed, poked their tongues out and said "nah,nah,nah,nah,nah" at everyone.)*

**THE BAKER**

**Something has to be done. I cannot bake any pies or cakes anymore.  
My bakery shop is overrun with rats!**

**BUTCHER**

**I agree. I can't display all my meat – the rats just eat it all.**

**WOMAN WITH PRAM**

**One of them attacked my baby this morning!**

**EVERYONE *(All speaking at once)***

**It's a disgrace! Something should be done! It isn't safe anymore etc.....**

**BAKER**

**The Town Council should do something about it! What do we have a Mayor for? He does nothing at all, it seems.**

**BUTCHER**

**We pay the Council's wages and all they do is sit around in the Town Hall, while we're out here with the rats.**