

Pantomimes



What Is a Pantomime?

A pantomime is a type of show that is traditionally performed around Christmastime.

Pantomimes are often called 'pantos' for short. They are very popular in Britain.

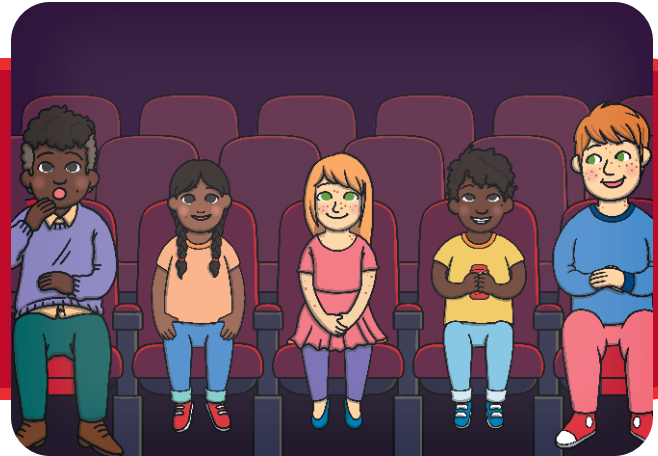


- ★ Pantos are usually based on popular fairy tales or nursery stories.
- ★ Each story is different but there is usually a goodie and a baddie.



Where Might You See a Pantomime?

A wide range of pantomimes are performed in theatres, church halls and other venues across Britain each year.



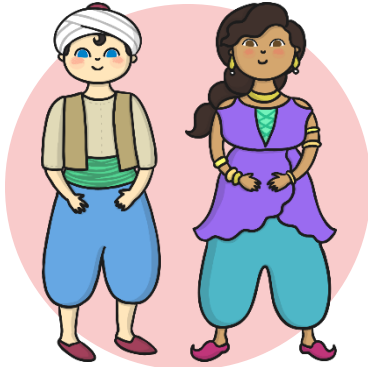
If you buy a theatre ticket to watch a pantomime, it will often have a seat number on it. This tells you where to sit to watch the show.



Popular Pantomime Shows

Some popular pantomime shows are:

Aladdin



Jack and the Beanstalk



Cinderella



Other well-known pantomimes include:

- Puss in Boots
- Peter Pan,
- Snow White and the Seven Dwarves
- Sleeping beauty

Have you heard of any of these characters or seen them in a pantomime?

Features of a Pantomime

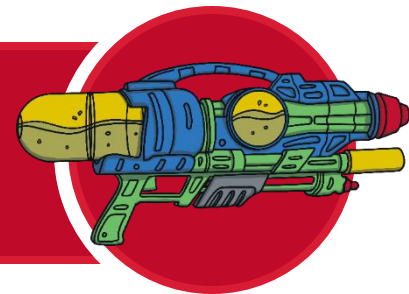
- ★ Pantomimes are funny shows. The characters tell jokes and make the audience laugh.



- ★ Pantomimes include songs and dancing.
- ★ Sometimes pantomime characters can be a bit cheeky. They might pretend to be clumsy to make the audience laugh.



- ★ They might throw a custard pie into another character's face or squirt a water gun at the audience.



Where is the panto?



We will travel on a bus with our class and other classes to Loughborough Town hall

What does it look like inside?



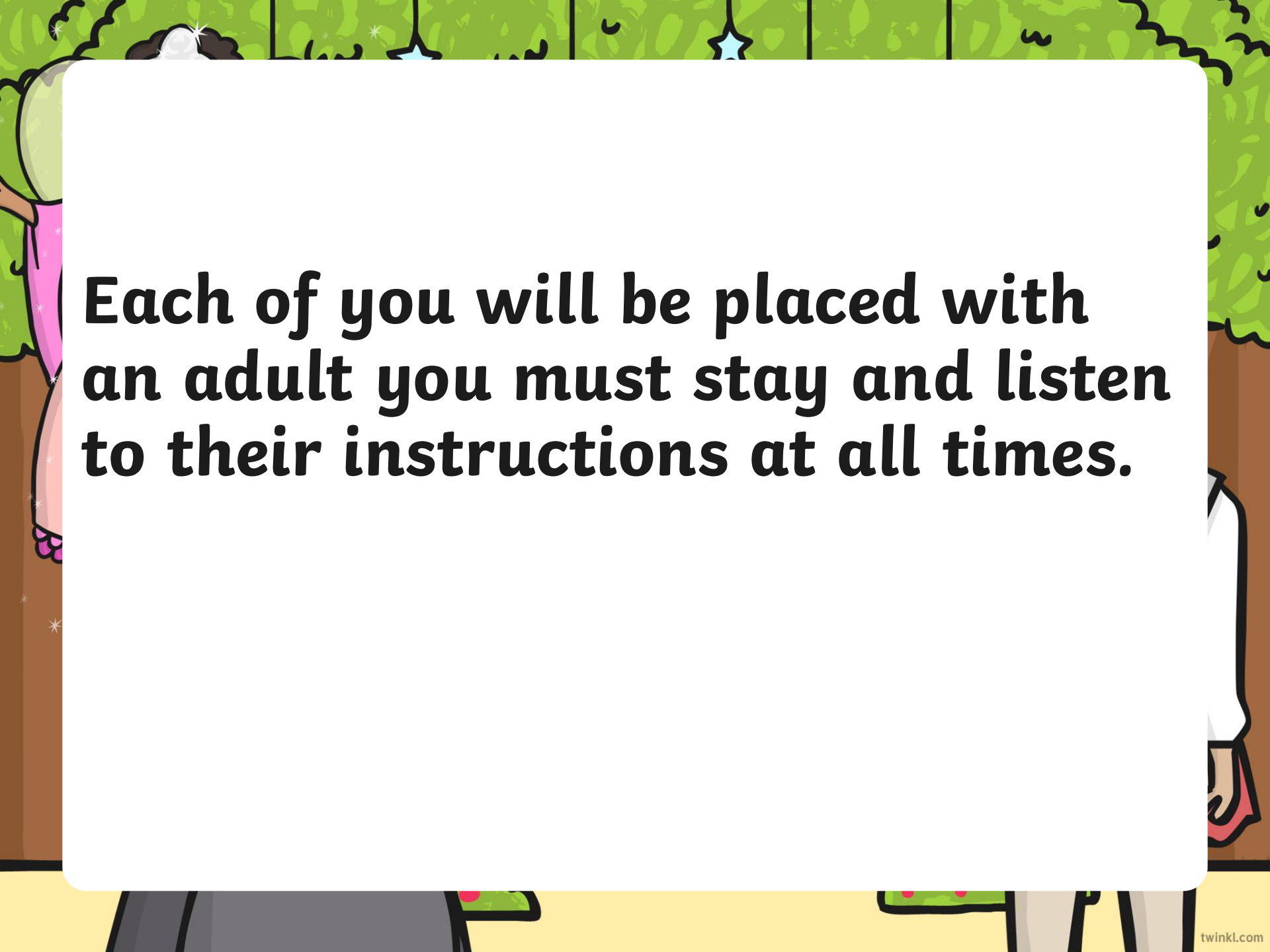
Where will they perform?



How will we get to the panto?



We will travel on a bus together and find a seat.
Put on our seatbelts.
We do not take our belts off and stay in our seats until we can
safely leave and arrive at the panto.



**Each of you will be placed with
an adult you must stay and listen
to their instructions at all times.**

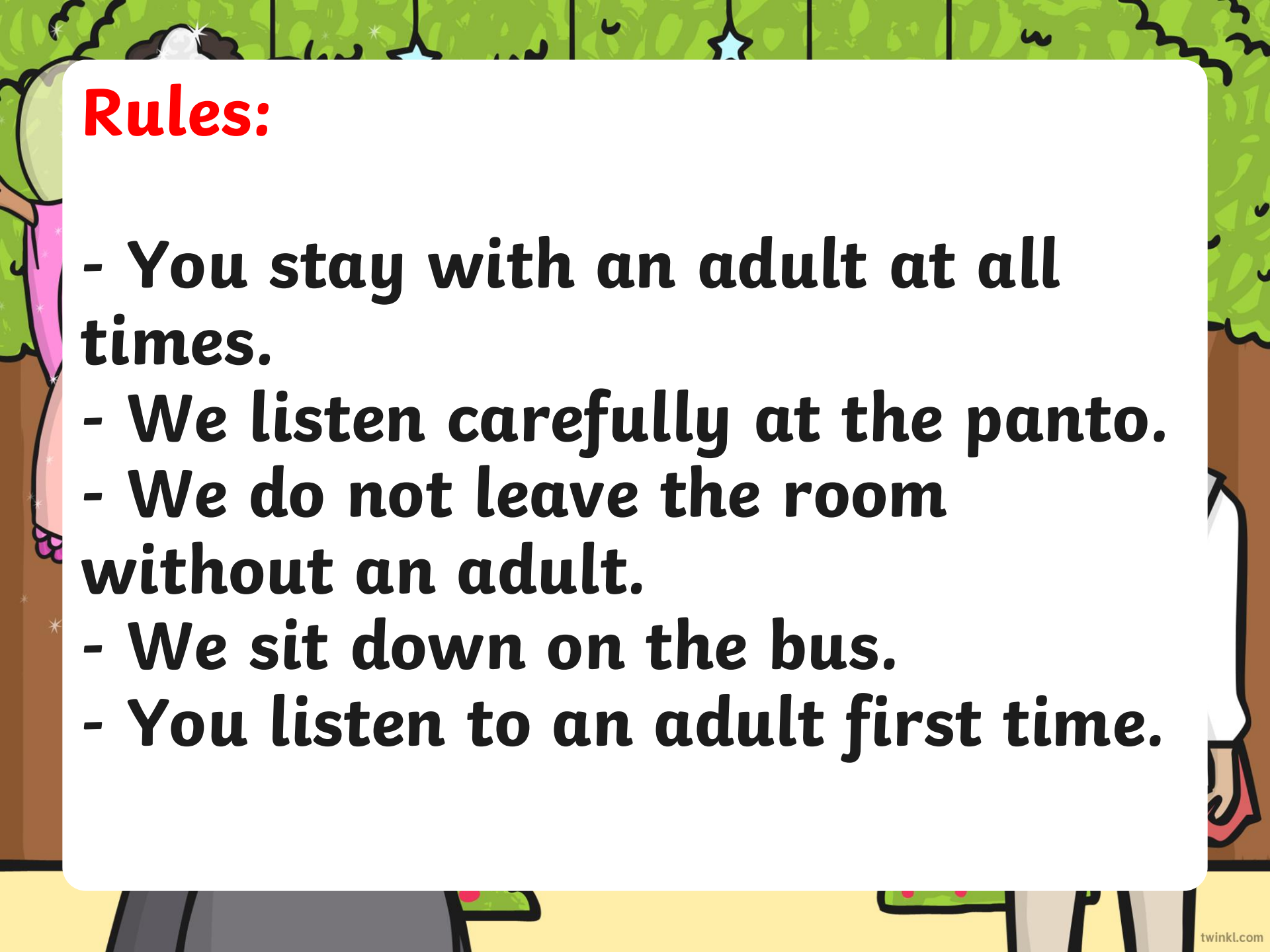
What can I expect at the panto?



- There may be lots of lights and the room will be dark.
- There might be loud music/songs/singing/laughing/hissing.
- There will be an audience and lots of seats for people to watch.
- We watch the performance and stay in our seats.

An example of a panto:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdA_6BtsXko



Rules:

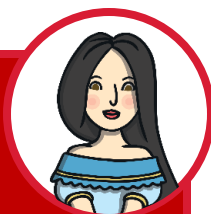
- **You stay with an adult at all times.**
- **We listen carefully at the panto.**
- **We do not leave the room without an adult.**
- **We sit down on the bus.**
- **You listen to an adult first time.**

Pantomime Characters

Although different pantomimes will have different main characters, there are some similarities in most pantomimes.

Hero or Heroine

This is the goodie. They are usually the main character in the show. They often have a problem that needs to be solved.



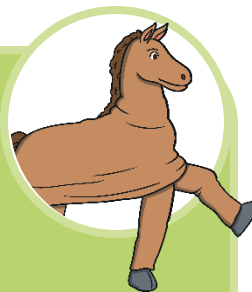
Villain

This is the baddie. This character tries to cause trouble for the hero or heroine.



Animal

There is often a pantomime horse or a pantomime cow. It is usually played by two actors. One actor is in the front of the animal costume and the other actor is in the back of the costume.



Pantomime Dame

This is usually a male actor dressed up to play an older woman.



Can you think of any other pantomime heroes or villains?

Pantomime Phrases

Pantomimes like to get the audience involved in the show by shouting phrases at the actors on the stage.

Boo! Hiss!

The audience is often encouraged to boo and hiss when a pantomime villain comes onto the stage.

“Oh no it isn’t!”

If a pantomime character says, “Oh yes it is!”, then the audience reply, “Oh no it isn’t!”

“It’s behind you!”

Phrases like this are often shouted when a character is unable to find something on the stage or is trying to escape from a villain.

Have a go at shouting some of these pantomime phrases.

What will we do when we get back to school?

- We will have our **lunch** and sit in the dining room as normal.
 - We will go out to **play**.
- **After** we will be **making** our parts of **costume** for the **performance** and making **Christmas decorations**.