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*For Wendy Poore and Keith Buttelman,
who made it all possible.*

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Monster School was first performed on Nov. 7, 2012 by SCV Stagecraft for Kids at Fair Oaks Ranch Community School, Canyon Country, CA: Dennis Poore and Michele Emerick, directors.

MR. VAN HELSING: Rohit Pulipaka
DEBBIE: Alyssa Leonesio
KEVIN: Ranan Haynes
DREY CULA: Jimmy Warshawsky
FRANK ENSTEIN: Simon Saddy
SHEILA STEIN: Cameryn Roman
WOLF BOY: Owen Kinney
SCRATCH: Austin Treachy
THE PHANTOM: Daniel Callison
THE CREATURE: Nate Groves
YETI BIGFOOT: Aaliyah Corona
JACQUELINE HYDE: Elizabeth Martinez
INVISIBLE GIRL: Meri Muro
SHELLY QUASIMODO: Lianne M. Calvo
MARTHA MUMMY: Megan Ballou
MAGGIE MUMMY: Natalia Garabet
MILLIE MUMMY: Alicia Reinhold
MELISSA MUMMY: Taylor Zierhut
GUY THE GHOST: Owen Kliever
GWENDOLYN THE GHOST: Cristy Bustalino
GILDA THE GHOST: Ashleigh Azarraga
BORIS BAT: Maddox Preece
MORTICIA BAT: Michelle Austria
WEDNESDAY BAT: Abigail Jauregui
LILLY BAT: Agatha Felix
ELVIRA BAT: Meri Muro
BRITTANY BAT: Leila Tieng
URSULA BAT: Maitaie Preece
BETSY BANSHEE: India Watson
BARBARA BANSHEE: Taylor Treahy
BONNIE BANSHEE: Lara Gumatay

BUFFY BANSHEE: Kendall Leonescio
BEVERLY BANSHEE: Sridula Senthil
TERRY TROLL: Jane Ramirez
TOMI TROLL: Maegan Buela
ZELDA ZOMBIE: Valeria Aguirre
RUTH ZOMBIE: Cassidy Calara
ZANE ZOMBIE: Gunner Snodgrass
ZACK ZOMBIE: Parker Levine
ZARINA ZOMBIE: Angela Rameriz
ZOE ZOMBIE: Lauren Lising
XENA ZOMBIE: Kirsten Mendoza
FATHER: Alan Reinstein

Monster School

CHILDREN'S FARCE. It's the first day of school and Debbie and Kevin, the two new kids, feel a bit out of place. It's Monster School, and their fellow students include vampires, werewolves, mummies, ghosts, bats, banshees, trolls, and zombies. The monsters think the new human kids look scary, spooky, and just plain creepy, and it doesn't help when Debbie accidentally sits on the Invisible Girl. Meanwhile, Debbie and Kevin must deal with the banshees wailing, the mummies rapping, the zombies groaning, the trolls grumbling, and Drey Cula staring at their necks. Classes include Cobweb Farming 101 and lessons on how to make a door creak. When the students discover a developer has purchased Monster School with plans to tear it down, they must band together and fight to save their school—but using garlic, stakes, torches, and pitchforks isn't an option! Perfect for elementary students.

Performance Time: Approximately 30 minutes.

Characters

(9 M, 26 F, 8 flexible)

(Doubling possible. Flexible cast.)

MR./MRS. VAN HELSING: Teacher at Monster School who likes his steaks medium-rare; flexible.

SHELLY QUASIMODO: Hunchback who rings the school bell; female.

MISS INFORMED: Principal; voiceover; female.

DEBBIE FERGUSEN: New kid; a human who loves the color pink, garlic fries, boy bands, and yoga; female.

KEVIN FERGUSEN: New kid who likes videogames; male.

FATHER: Debbie and Kevin's father; male.

DREY CULA: Vampire who likes AB-negative blood, full moons, long walks on the beach, and guitar music; male.

FRANK ENSTEIN: Loves physics, Mel Brooks's movies, and having his neck bolts tightened; male.

SHEILA STEIN: Looks similar to Frankenstein but only speaks with a hiss; female.

WOLF BOY/GIRL: Werewolf who likes full moons and flea collars; wears a flea collar; flexible.

SCRATCH: Werewolf who likes Milk-Bones with cheese and scratches himself all the time because he has fleas; wears a dog collar with a dog license hanging from it; flexible.

PHANTOM: Phantom of the Opera; likes to sing opera in the sewer; wears a mask; male.

CREATURE: Creature from the Black Lagoon; carries a backpack with fish inside; flexible.

YETI BIGFOOT: A close cousin of the Sasquatch who likes to bring his pet dragon Fifi to school; flexible.

JACQUELINE HYDE: Talks to herself as if she is two people; female.

INVISIBLE GIRL: Invisible; voiceover; female.

MARTHA: Queen bee of the mummies who loves all things Egyptian; wears a fashionable mummy wrap; female.

MAGGIE: A mummy student who loves glitter; female.
MILLIE: A mummy student; female.
MELISSA: A mummy student; female.
GUY: Ghost student; male.
GWENDOLYN: Ghost student; female.
GILDA: Ghost student who is terrified of humans; female.
BORIS: A student bat; male.
MORTICIA: A student bat; female.
WEDNESDAY: A student bat; flexible.
LILLY: A student bat; female.
ELVIRA: A student bat; female.
BRITTANY: A student bat; female.
URSULA: A student bat; female.
BETSY: A student banshee; female.
BARBARA: A student bat; female.
BONNIE: A student bat; female.
BUFFY: A student bat; female.
BEVERLY: A student bat; female.
TERRY: A student troll; flexible.
TOMI: A student troll; flexible.
ZELDA: A student zombie; female.
RUTH: A student zombie; female.
ZANE: A student zombie; male.
ZACK: A student zombie; male.
ZARINA: A student zombie; female.
ZOE: A student zombie; female.
XENA: A student zombie; female.

Note: For smaller casts, roles may be combined. Gender is flexible for many characters. Change the script accordingly for flexible roles. Mummies speak by making garbled sounds.

Option for Doubling

INVISIBLE GIRL/MISS INFORMED (female)

Setting

Monster School, Transylvania.

Set

Mr. Van Helsing's classroom. There are desks for students. There is a table and chair for Mr. Van Helsing and a large whiteboard with a red whiteboard marker.

Synopsis of Scenes

Prologue: Before the curtain.

Scene 1: Mr. Van Helsing's classroom.

Scene 2: Before the curtain.

Scene 3: Mr. Van Helsing's classroom.

Scene 4: Before the curtain.

Scene 5: Mr. Van Helsing's classroom.

Props

Small stake
Red whiteboard marker
Hand bell
Dog bowl
Large rope that serves as a leash for Yeti's unseen pet dragon
Plastic fish
Backpack, for Creature
Backpack, for Wolf Boy
Notebook
Physics book
Rotten apple (for shrunken head)
Assorted plastic body parts for Zombies (plastic hands, feet, fingers, eyeballs etc.)
Large dog bone
Letter
Bucket with money
Plastic skull for recess games (e.g. skull ball, skull bowling, skull tetherball, etc.)

Special Effects

Wolves howling
Bong sound effect for hand bell (opt.)
Roaring, for pet dragon
3 Small lights to be worn on the wrist or as a headband, for Ghosts

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"Don't worry about it.
Everyone sits
on the Invisible Girl
on the first day of school."

—Phantom

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Prologue

(Before the curtain. Holding a hand bell, Shelly Quasimodo enters and goes CS.)

SHELLY QUASIMODO: Time to ring the school bell.
You got to ring those bells.
You got to ring those bells. *(Rings the bell and exits.)*

Scene I

(AT RISE: Monster School, Mr. Van Helsing's classroom, the first day of school. There are tables and chairs for students to sit in groups. Mr. Van Helsing, the teacher, is sitting at his desk. He sees something crawling across the desk. He pulls out a stake and stabs it. He stands, crosses to the whiteboard, and writes with a red marker, "Cobweb Farming 101.")

MR. VAN HELSING: *(To himself, looking out at the empty room.)*
Where is my class?

(As if on cue, the Monsters start to enter and take their seats. Note: Each monster enters in character (e.g. Drey Cula shocks Frank Enstein awake. Bats fly in from the audience. Trolls wander around talking to themselves. Zombies walk stiffly as they enter.)

DREY CULA: Good morning, Frankie.

(Drey Cula shocks Frank Enstein awake.)

FRANK ENSTEIN: Hey, D. You tighten Frankie's left bolt, please?

DREY CULA: No problem. *(Tightens Frank Enstein's neck bolt. Sheila Stein enters.)* Hey, Sheila, how you doing?

SHEILA STEIN: Hissssss.

(Martha Mummy, Maggie Mummy, Millie Mummy, and Melissa Mummy enter.)

MARTHA MUMMY: We just love the first day of school.
(Other Mummies agree.) I get to wear my new wrap. Last year's bandages are so out of style. *(To Sheila.)* Nice hairdo! Love it!

SHEILA STEIN: Hisssss.

(Bats enter from the audience, "flying" in circles around the classroom.)

OTHERS: Good morning, bats!

BATS: Good morning.

(Ghosts "float" into the classroom.)

OTHERS: Good morning, ghosts!

GUY THE GHOST: You can see us?

OTHERS: Of course!

(Ghosts look upset and take their seats. Howling is heard offstage. Wolf Boy and Scratch enter. Scratch scratches himself all the time and wears dog collar with dog license. Scratch is carrying a bowl of water that he puts on his desk. He laps up some water from his dish. Scratch sniffs Mr. Van Helsing and then sniffs all around the desk. Creature enters followed by Yeti, who is holding a large rope that serves as a leash for his offstage pet dragon. Note: The leash is anchored offstage.)

YETI BIGFOOT: *(To offstage "dragon," looking up to give the impression of a large creature.)* Be a good dragon, baby! Good girl!

CREATURE: You can't bring your dragon to school.

YETI BIGFOOT: I know, I know, but she follows me everywhere. You want to tell a 25-foot-tall fire-breathing monster that she has to stay home?

WOLFBOY: Sounds like the Cub Scout den mother I had last year.

CREATURE: Still, she can't come into the classroom.

YETI BIGFOOT: Okay. *(To offstage "dragon.")* Stay, Fifi. Stay.

(Yeti Bigfoot jumps back as if escaping the breath of an angry dragon. Creature sits at his desk, pulls a fish out of his backpack while getting a notebook out, and then puts the fish back into his

backpack. Screeching, the Banshees enter. Everyone puts their hands over their ears.)

OTHERS: Good morning, Banshees. *(Phantom enters.)* Good morning, Phantom.

PHANTOM: *(Sings.)* Good morning.

(Trolls enter, grumbling to themselves.)

OTHERS: Good morning, trolls.

TROLLS: *(Grumpily.)* Grrrrrrrr.

(Trolls sit. Zombies enter, walking stiffly like zombies.)

EVERYONE: Good morning, Zombies.

ZOMBIES: *(Garbled noises.)* Aargghhh!

(Note: Zombies speak using garbled noises and sounds. Everyone sits.)

MR. VAN HELSING: *(To class.)* Welcome back to another year at Monster School. I am your teacher this year...Mr. Van Helsing. Let me tell you a little about myself. I like steaks... *(Class reacts with horror.)* ...especially medium-rare. Now, for the class rules. Number one, please don't talk without raising your hand. There is no chewing of anything in the classroom. *(Gives the Zombies a hard look.)* That means you, zombies. It's very distracting. *(Zombies make zombie sounds.)* Also, I will not stand for anyone unwrapping the mummies.

MARTHA MUMMY: Thank you, Mr. Van Helsing.

MELISSA MUMMY: *(To Mr. Van Helsing.)* You have no idea how long it takes us to get dressed every morning.

MILLIE MUMMY: *(To Mr. Van Helsing.)* And you have no idea how hard it is to get unwrapped every night.

MAGGIE MUMMY: Hey! Have you heard the “Mummy Rap”?

MUMMIES: *(Rapping.)*

“We are mummies
We have style
We’re direct
From the Nile
We are mummies –”

MR. VAN HELSING: Thank you, mummies, that’s enough. Bats, if you want to hang upside down, you must do it on your own time. Banshees, please keep your wailing to a minimum. *(Banshees wail.)* I said, *minimum*. Now I will call the role. *(Calling roll.)* Drey Cula?

DREY CULA: Here.

MR. VAN HELSING: *(Calling roll.)* Larry Talbot? Larry Talbot? *(Sighs.)* Wolf Boy?

WOLFBOY: *Hair!*

(Wolf Boy and Scratch laugh at Wolf Boy’s joke and high-five each other.)

MR. VAN HELSING: *(Calling roll.)* Scratch?

SCRATCH: Also *hair*. *(Laughs.)* Hair, hair, hair!

MR. VAN HELSING: *(Calling roll.)* Frankenstein?

FRANK ENSTEIN: *(Correcting.)* Frank Enstein. *(Holds up a book on physics.)* Frankie like physics.

MR. VAN HELSING: Well, it’s all relative...Sheila Stein?

SHEILA STEIN: Hisssss.

MR. VAN HELSING: *(Calling roll.)* Yeti Bigfoot?

YETI BIGFOOT: *(Proudly.)* I’m a close cousin of the Sasquatch.

MR. VAN HELSING: *(To Creature.)* Nemo, do you still live in the Black Lagoon?

CREATURE: It’s more like a swamp since the crayfish moved in.

MR. VAN HELSING: *(Calling roll.)* Zelda Zombie?

ZELDA ZOMBIE: (*Zombie noises.*) Arrggh!

MR. VAN HELSING: (*Calling roll.*) Martha Mummy?

MARTHA MUMMY: Here! Here! Here! I am so happy to be in your class, Mr. Van Helsing!

MILLIE MUMMY: (*To Mr. Van Helsing.*) I brought you a present for the first day of school!

(*Millie Mummy brings a shrunken head [rotten apple] up to Mr. Van Helsing.*)

MR. VAN HELSING: Thank you, Millie. You can go to the head of the class. (*Takes the shrunken head and puts it on his desk. Calling roll.*) Maggie Mummy?

MAGGIE MUMMY: It's a wrap! (*Laughs.*)

MR. VAN HELSING: (*Sighs. To himself.*) We're just starting the day. (*Calling roll.*) Melissa Mummy?

MELISSA MUMMY: All wrapped up! (*Laughs.*)

MR. VAN HELSING: (*Calling roll.*) Phantom?

PHANTOM: (*Annoyed.*) I am sitting right here! Can't you see that I'm sitting right here with a mask on my face?

MR. VAN HELSING: (*To class.*) Before we go any further, we have two new students joining our class today: Debbie and Kevin Ferguson. (*Debbie and Kevin enter. Other Students scream when they see them. To Debbie and Kevin.*) Welcome to Monster School. Please take a seat.

[END OF FREEVIEW]