



## Sample Reader's Theater Lesson Plan for World Read Aloud Day

Text: Rosie's Ballet Slippers by Susan Hampshire

Script: By Janice Florentine

**Rosie's Ballet Slippers** is a story about a girl's first ballet class. Children can learn ballet steps along with Rosie! This script is for a small to large group of readers. Students can take turns playing the roles with more lines.

### **Helpful Vocabulary:**

Plie- Standing in any ballet position, bend at the knees with your back straight.

Saute- Jump in the air, back straight, one leg out to the back.

Reverence- The ending of a ballet class.

**Text:**

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**Characters:**

Narrator

Rosie

Madame- Dance Teacher

Rosie's mother

Other dancers

**Narrator:** Rosie's mom had a big surprise. Rosie bounded down the stairs with excitement for the surprise.

**Rosie's Mom:** Rosie, come, sit on the couch. I have something very special for you.

**Rosie:** Oh, Mommy. What is it?

**Narrator:** Rosie tore open the pink velvety box.

**Rosie:** Pink ballet slippers!!!! This is the best gift ever.

**Narrator:** Rosie had to wait a few days before she got to go to her first ballet class.

**Madame:** Welcome to ballet class. My name is Madame and I will be teaching how to be a ballerina. Please put your ballet slippers on and come join us on the dance floor.

**Other dancers:** Welcome to our class Rosie.

**Rosie:** Thank you. I can't wait to learn ballet.

**Narrator:** Ballet class began with some stretches.

**Madame:** Everyone sit on the floor with your legs stretched straight out in front of you. Point your toes toward the door.

**Narrator:** As the boys and girls stretched their toes, Madame played music for their toes to dance.

**Madame:** Very good. Now it is time to stretch our hands.

**Other dancers:** Yeah. Can we pretend our hands are dripping wet like when we get out of the shower.

**Rosie:** Look Madame. I shook my fingers dry.

**Narrator:** Laughter was heard throughout the room.

**Madame:** Excellent. We call these our ballet hands.

**Narrator:** Madame gave each student a blue and red sticker for their ballet slippers.

**Madame:** Boys and girls please place the blue sticker on your left shoe and the red sticker on your right shoe.

**Rosie:** Why do we have stickers on our ballet slippers, Madame?

**Madame:** Now it is time to do points. When I ask you to point I will say which color slipper to point. Are we ready to begin?

**All dancers:** Oh yes Madame.

**Madame:** Stand straight up girls, good posture is very important. Hold the ends of skirts like a flower just opening up. Boys, place your hands firmly on your hips, shoulders back.

**Narrator:** All the dancers lined up quietly and waited to begin practicing points.

**Madame:** We will do two points with the red foot and two points with the blue foot. Let's begin.

**Narrator:** Rosie kept checking her feet to make sure she didn't make a mistake.

**Madame:** Now it's time to skip. Hold hands and make a circle. We will play follow the leader while we skip around the room.

**All dancers:** We're tired. Is it time to stop yet?

**Madame:** Okay. We can do plies. Stand in first position. Be sure your heels touch but your toes don't. Bend your knees. That's a *plie*.

Second position- separate your heels and keep your toes pointing away from each other.

**Rosie:** Madame, I can do first position and second position.

**Narrator:** Madame showed the children how to hold their hands for each of the five ballet positions. Sometimes their hands were out in front of them, sometimes they were out to the side and sometimes they were up over their heads. Each time they had to remember to have ballet hands.

**Madame:** Would everyone like to learn to do a *sauté*?

**Rosie:** What's that?

**Madame:** A *sauté* is a fancy name for a jump with pointed toes.

**Narrator:** All the dancers lined up to try a *sauté*.

**Madame:** Boys and girls I am going to put on a pretty ballet song for you to practice skipping, *sautés* and plies.

**Other dancers:** Let's fly around like baby birds trying to leave the nest.

**Narrator:** Ballet practice was about to end. Madame gathered all the dancers in the center of the room.

**Madame:** Does anyone remember what we do at the end of class?

**Other dancers:** Boys bow and girls curtsy.

**Madame:** Very good. The ballet word is *reverence*. Boys put one arm across your waist and fold yourself in half. Girls hold your skirt out to the side, slide one foot behind the other and bend at the knees.

**Narrator:** Ballet class was over. All the parents came to pick up their dancer.

**Rosie's Mom:** How was your first dance class?

**Rosie:** It was the best class ever. I am going to wear my new pink ballet slippers when I get home and practice pointing, skipping, plies, and *sautés*. I love ballet.