

MARMADUKE!

Script by Carol Peaker

Music by Alex Thomas

SUMMARY

A quirky musical for the whole family about a bored schoolboy who meets a madcap inventor mouse and becomes his sidekick! Includes malfunctioning inventions, silly shenanigans, cheesy jokes and a light-touch message about the importance of creativity in learning.

ROLES

22 separate speaking roles (24 if Marmaduke and Noah are played by different children in the first and second acts).

- Can be performed 12 actors playing multiple roles.
- Large ensemble numbers mean it can also be performed by as many people as you can comfortably fit on your stage.

(Staging Tips for both large and small productions are available with script and backing track/score)

MUSIC

Eight original songs with backing tracks; or available as piano/bass/drums scores.

Speaking Roles:

Marmaduke (male adult)

A gleeful, big-headed inventor mouse obsessed with cheese. A demanding larger-than-life role.

Noah (male, 10-11)

Marmaduke's sidekick; a bored school kid who wants to fix year six. The role with the most lines. Can be renamed Ramona and played by a girl.

Mr RePete (male adult)

The grumpy school-inspection-obsessed Year Six teacher

The Mayor of Mouseland (female adult)

The human-hating, rule-abiding mayor; thorn in Marmaduke's side; mother of Milton. An over-the-top character with a big personality.

Milton Mouse (male, 10-11)

The Mayor's son, unhappy after being replaced as Marmaduke's sidekick. Not a lot of lines, but needs to be able to look miserable and funny at the same time.

Gillian Yuck (female, 10-11)

Noah's archenemy and teacher's pet; utterly bratty and entitled.

Samira (female, 10-11)

Noah's best friend; loves dismantling things with her handy all-purpose mini-screwdriver.

Delphi (female, 10-11)

Noah's friend; believes creativity is the answer for fixing year six. Always waving around a paintbrush.

Rafi (male, 10-11)

– Noah’s friend; wants to start a revolution. Badge-wearing communist who no one listens to.

Einstein (male adult)

Formerly Mr RePete, Einstein appears and explains the Theory of Relativity when Noah uses Marmaduke’s invention in the classroom. He is likeable and energetic and speaks in a German accent.

T-Rex (adult)

Waistcoat-wearing, talking, murderous dinosaur that Marmaduke and Milton meet when they go to the Cretaceous period in Marmaduke’s time machine.

Gillian Yuck’s Mum (female adult)

A mum worn down by her daughter’s extraordinary pestering.

Smaller Speaking Roles (1-4 lines)

Charlie – Noah’s classmate

Aiden – bratty year three kid who pesters his mum; Petal’s twin

Petal – bratty year three kid who pesters her mum; Aiden’s twin

Charlie’s Dad

Aiden and Petal’s Mum – worn down by twins’ pestering

Emmeline – Noah’s classmate

Delilah – Noah’s classmate

Milly Mouse – mouseling at Milton’s birthday party

Max Mouse – mouseling at Milton’s birthday party

Marvin/Marleen Mouse – mouseling at Milton’s birthday party

Singing only:

Extra school Children

Extra Mouselings

Science Thingies

MUSICAL NUMBERS

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| 1. Top of the School! | Year Six Class |
| 2. The Shrinkifier | Science Thingies |
| 3. Times Tables Blues | Noah, Delphi, Samira, Rafi |
| 4. The Flashback Fedora | Science Thingies |
| 5. The Mayor is in the House | Mayor of Mouseland, Milton, Mouselings |
| 6. Pester Power | Extra schoolchildren |
| 7. The Theory of Relativity | Einstein |
| 8. The Marshmallow Song | Mouselings, Milton, Mayor, Noah, Science Thingies |

SYNOPSIS

When Noah’s school-Inspection-obsessed teacher decides to spend all of year six practising times tables, Noah falls into despair. But then, a flamboyant inventor mouse called Marmaduke appears from under his bed with a ‘Shrinkifier’ and whisks him off to Mouseland. Noah has a wild time with Marmaduke’s wacky inventions, including a ‘Metal Mystery Box,’ which turns his shoe into an ice-lolly. But all is not fun and games

in Mouseland: there is also an angry, human-hating Mayor, and her son Milton, who is inexplicably miserable.

Back at school, Noah tells his friends about Marmaduke and promises to ask him to invent a Year Six Fixer. But Noah's plan is scuppered when Marmaduke uses his 'Brain Tickler' to make the Mayor of Mouseland perform a dance routine at Milton's birthday party. Furious, the Mayor bans Marmaduke from inventing and Noah from Mouseland.

Fortunately, a power shortage in Mouseland brings the Mayor to Marmaduke's door asking for help. Marmaduke invents a 'Pester Power Sucker Upper' that stores human child pester power and Noah charges it up after school. Mouseland's power shortage is solved, and the Mayor forgives Noah and Marmaduke.

When Noah finds out that Marmaduke has invented a "Boredom Blaster", he decides to use it to Fix Year Six, despite Marmaduke's dire warnings. Bedlam ensues: the 'Metal Mystery Box' appears in the classroom and the teacher turns into Einstein! Things get even crazier when the Mayor of Mouseland emerges from the 'Metal Mystery Box' just as the School Inspector arrives. Noah calms everyone down and persuades them to cooperate.

All's well that ends well. The School Inspector fixes year six, and Marmaduke invents a 'Mind Reader' that allows him and the grumpy Mayor to understand each other. In a grand celebratory finale, Marmaduke explodes a giant marshmallow.

If all this weren't fun enough ... Marmaduke! also has an entertaining subplot featuring Milton, the Mayor of Mouseland's miserable son, who encounters a waistcoat-wearing T-rex when he visits the cretaceous period in Marmaduke's time machine. Then there's Noah's arch enemy and teacher's pet, the bratty, entitled Gillian Yuck, whose Pester Power prowess will strike a chord with every parent in the audience.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

In October 2025, Marmaduke! was performed by 13 adults at the Pegasus Theatre in Oxford, enjoying a sold-out run (total audience of 520). It received a standing ovation and a rapturous review in Dailyinfo:

<https://www.dailyinfo.co.uk/feature/21843/marmaduke-a-wacky-family-comedy>

In June 2026, Marmaduke! will be performed by sixth-formers at Magdalen College School alongside year six children from four East Oxford primary schools.