

**Assembly Scripts for  
*The Lemonade War* (2007)  
by Jacqueline Davies**

1. **Dueling Lemonade Stands** – This is a variant of the lead assembly first performed in Lethbridge, Alberta (by the very first school to do *The Lemonade War*). In this assembly, you will set up two dueling lemonade stands on stage. Students will get to watch as two competing partnerships vie for the attention (and money!) of one single customer.

You'll need to cast 5 people for this skit – the 4 lemonade stand owners and The Kid. We suggest using adults to play the parts of the lemonade stand owners/partners. It will be funny to see teachers acting like students, and they will have an easier time mastering the lines and getting into the competitive nature of the skit. These parts are labeled Stand 1 (A & B) and Stand 2 (C & D) but you can customize these with your actors' names. Consider using a student to be The Kid.

Set the scene so that it is clear that there are two different moneymaking lemonade stands on stage: tables, chairs, pitchers, cups, ice, a cash box, and a makeshift sign of some sort (remember that it should look like children made it). The stands should be at 45° angles so that they can face the audience while also appearing to face one another. Try to do what you can to make it look like the stands are on opposite sides of a street or pathway.

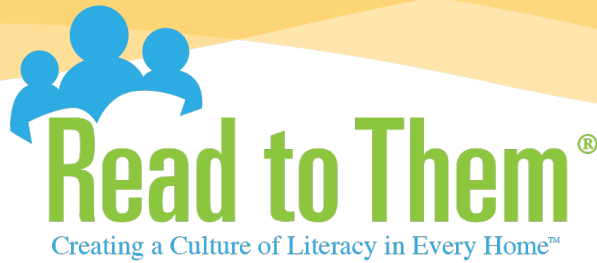
*Acting Tip:* You will get the most laughs from The Kid's reactions to the dueling lemonade stand offers. Make sure your student actor is able to milk attention from the audience – not reacting too quickly – to make sure the audience can track their reactions as their attention turns back and forth from the lemonade stand histrionics to the what-should-I-do indecision of The Kid.

*The scene opens with both sets of partners standing behind their stands, busying themselves with getting set up and preparing for business.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(wipes forehead with t-shirt)* Whew! It's a scorcher today!

**Stand 1 (B):** *(nodding)* No kidding. But it will be good for business. *(holds up lemonade pitcher)* Who doesn't love an icy cold cup of lemonade on a boiling hot day like this?

**Stand 1 (A):** *(looks over shoulder at the other stand and points conspicuously at Lemonade Stand 2)* Why do they always have to set up their lemonade stand right across from us? I mean, I know this is a popular spot. But can't they find another street corner somewhere in this town?



**Stand 1 (B):** *(laughs)* Don't sweat it. *(throws partner a rag)* Literally. Don't sweat it. This new batch of lemonade is so delicious that there's no way they can compete with us.

*The Kid appears on stage, pushing a bicycle. They don't say anything. They just stop and wipe their brow, taking in the lemonade stands on either side of them.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(pokes partner)* Hey, our first customer! *(calls out to the kid)* Hey kid! Would you like to buy some lemonade? We've got it fresh and cold.

*The Kid thinks for a minute, then conspicuously moves in the direction of Stand 1. The partners at Stand 2 notice.*

**Stand 2 (C):** *(waving arms around)* Hey! Hey, kid! Over here! *(the kid stops and looks over at Stand 2)* Are you hot? Are you thirsty?

*The Kid nods.*

**Stand 2 (C):** Well, come on over! *(waves at the kid)* We've got the best lemonade in town. And it's only a dollar!

*The Kid starts to push the bike over to Stand 2.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(screeches)* A dollar?!? What a rip-off! *(jangles some coins in the air)* Our lemonade is only 50 cents!

*The Kid nods and turns back toward Stand 1.*

**Stand 2 (C):** *(hollers out)* Whoa, wait a minute kid. Don't fall for that nonsense. Their lemonade may only be 50 cents. But it's not fresh. It's from *concentrate*. *(glares at the kid)* Do you know what that means?

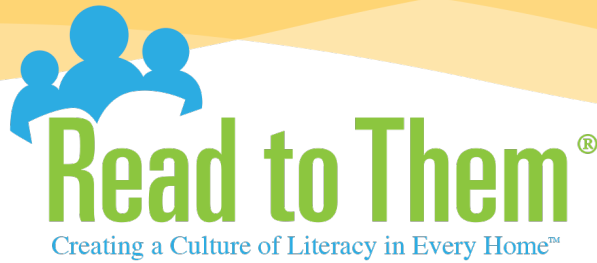
*The Kid shakes his head.*

**Stand 2 (C):** It means they get a can out of the freezer. They make it from a mix. *(holds up a pitcher of lemonade)* But our lemonade is fresh-squeezed. 100 percent pure ingredients.

**Stand 2 (D):** Yeah! 100% pure!

*The Kid looks skeptical.*

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**Stand 2 (C):** *(leans toward the kid)* Come on, I'll give you a taste test. Try it out. On me.

*The Kid shrugs and takes a step in the direction of Stand 2.*

**Stand 1 (A):** Just a second there, buddy. You don't *really* want that lemonade. It's not cold. And it's sour. It's not like our lemonade.

**Stand 1 (B):** Yeah. They use real lemons. *Boooooorsville*. You want the good, fake sugary stuff, don't ya? Right out of a can, correct?

*The Kid nods a little.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(pumps fist, then waves for the kid to come closer)* Come on, then. Come get a cup of the good stuff!

*The Kid takes a small step toward Stand 1.*

**Stand 2 (C):** Hey, hey, hey. Not so fast. *(snaps fingers)* I'll tell you what I'll do for you. I will offer you *two* cups for the price of one. *(pretends to be shocked)* What a deal, right? It's almost hard to believe. *(rubs face with both hands)* But you look like a good kid. And *really* thirsty. I'm giving you the deal of the day.

**Stand 2 (D):** Yeah! The deal of the day!

*The Kid takes a step toward Stand 2.*

**Stand 1 (A):** All this talk of lemonade...I bet you're getting pretty hungry. Are you hungry?

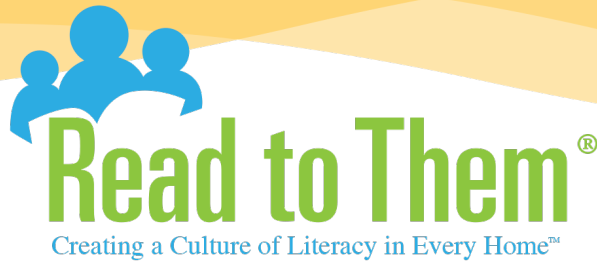
*The Kid stops and nods.*

**Stand 1 (A):** I thought so. Well, we've got you covered. We're not just selling lemonade. *(pulls out a plate of cookies)* We've got cookies too!

*The Kid's eyes get wide. They start moving toward the cookies.*

**Stand 2 (C):** *(jumps up and down)* Whoa, whoa, whoa! You're not going to buy *those* cookies are you? *(reaches under counter and brings out another plate of cookies)* Their cookies came straight off the store shelf. *Our* cookies are 100% homemade.

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**Stand 2 (D):** Yeah! 100%!

*The partners from Stand 2 stare at The Kid expectantly. They hold out their plate of 100% homemade cookies. The partners from Stand 1 lean closer to The Kid.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(holds out plate of cookies)* Our cookies may be from the store, but they are the best that store-bought cookies can be. *(picks up a cookie and takes a huge bite)* Mmmmmm....delicious! *(holds out the half-eaten cookie)* Wanna taste?

*The Kid takes a step backward, shaking their head.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(shrugs)* Your loss. *(shoves rest of cookie in mouth)*

*Both partners from Stand 2 whisper something to each other. Then they grab their lemonade pitcher and start walking toward The Kid.*

**Stand 2 (C):** Okay, here's the final offer, kid. *(leans close, holding out the lemonade pitcher)* I'm going to give you a giant glass of lemonade PLUS a homemade cookie for the low, low price of one dollar. Now that's a deal you can NOT beat.

**Stand 2 (D):** *(jeering at Stand 1 partners)* Yeah! Can't beat that!

*Both partners from Stand 1 whisper something to each other. They grab their pitcher of lemonade and start walking toward The Kid.*

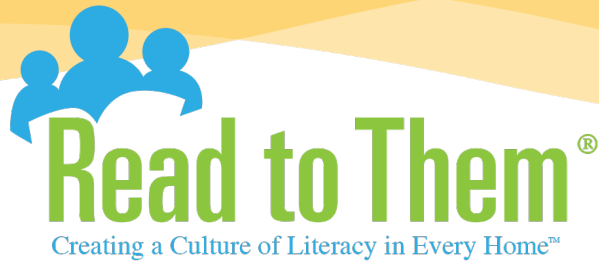
**Stand 1 (A):** We can beat that, and we will! *(turns to The Kid)* Okay, this is *truly* your lucky day. *(holds up lemonade pitcher)* We are willing to offer you not *just* a gigantic cup of lemonade but three – count them – *three* cookies. And...for your dining enjoyment, my partner here is going to entertain you with a juggling act! *(points to partner)* Go on, show the kid what you got!

*Stand 1 (B) actor pulls three balls out of their pants pocket. They attempt – but fail – to juggle.*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(clapping)* Look at that! Food, drink, *and* entertainment at our lemonade stand!

**Stand 2 (C):** *(scoffing)* You think that's entertainment?? *(whispers in partner's ear)* My partner will show you some true lemonade stand talent. *(signals partner)* Go for it!

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*Stand 2 (D) actor begins (but fails) to breakdance.*

**Stand 2 (C):** *(clapping wildly) See, kid? We've got it all! (leans closer) Whaddya say?*

**Stand 1 (A):** *(leans closer) Yeah, whaddya say?*

*All the partners lean as close as they can to The Kid, their eyes wide and excited. The Kid looks from one to the other.*

**The Kid:** What do I say? What do I say? I'll tell you what I say!

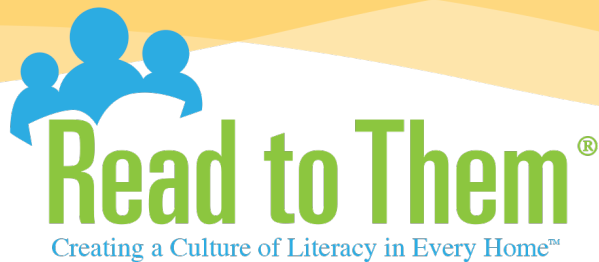
*The Kid lays the bike down on the ground, opens their backpack, and pulls out two copies of The Lemonade War.*

**The Kid:** *(shoves the book into the hands of one of the partners) I say that all four of you need to read this book! Then, I'll come back and consider buying some lemonade from you.*

*The Kid then walks toward the front of the stage, holding up another copy of the book.*

**The Kid:** *(looks out at audience while pointing back to the lemonade stand partners) I think they could all learn a thing or two about how to run a lemonade stand, don't you? (waits for audience response) Well, guess what? We are ALL going to learn together. (holds out the book) Welcome to The Lemonade War!*

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**2. Fruit Fly Fun** – This assembly will be told from the point of view of the smallest characters in *The Lemonade War*...the fruit flies!

Have a handful of people on stage dressed as – you guessed it – fruit flies! It would be fun to incorporate some students into this, since only two of the fruit flies will have lines and the others just fly around during the assembly. For the fruit fly costumes, have everyone wear brown clothing and make some wings out of wire coat hangers and brown pantyhose. A headband with brown or black pipe cleaners and oversized dark sunglasses can represent the antennae and eyes.

You'll also need actors to play Evan, Jessie and Mrs. Treski, but none of these characters will ever be onstage. You'll just hear their voices offstage during their speaking parts. You'll also need someone to announce the book at the end. This can be done by a teacher, the principal, the librarian, or even a community member. (If you have a local sponsor, this is a great opportunity for them to be involved!)

The assembly takes place in the Treski's kitchen around the fruit bowl. Fashion an oversized fruit bowl out of a large box or a table turned on its side. Fill the bowl with fake fruit. You can use large balloons clustered together to be grapes, and then make some 2-D fruits out of poster board or bulletin board paper. You are trying to give the illusion of fruit that would be to scale for fruit flies the size of people, so the bigger the better.

For most of the assembly, a spotlight will be focused on the fruit flies and the fruit basket. The overhead light will come on to signal that one of the Treskis has entered the kitchen. (And it will be turned off to signal they have left again.)

*The scene opens with only the spotlight on and all the fruit flies flying around the basket.*

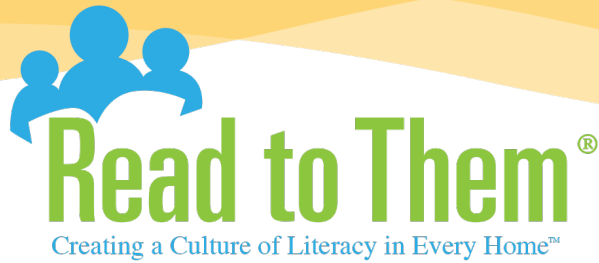
**Fly 1:**           *(flaps arms, runs around the basket)* Wow! What a feast! We are so lucky to be in the Treski family's kitchen!

**Fly 2:**           *(flaps arms, sticks face in basket)* You're telling me! Summertime is a great time to be a fruit fly in the Treski house. Mrs. Treski loves buying fresh fruit for her kids and we get to eat it all!

**Fly 1:**           No doubt. With Evan and Jessie home from school for the summer, there is more fruit than ever before!

**Fly 2:**           *(picks up a piece of red fruit from the container, holds it out for audience to see)* I mean, just look at this apple! So smooth, so juicy... *(rubs face against fruit)* It's the perfect snack for a fruit fly to indulge in.

*Both flies look out at the audience.*



**Fly 1 & 2:** More fruit means more food and more fun!

*Suddenly, the overhead light comes on. Both the flies look at each other.*

**Fly 1 & 2:** Time to take cover!

*All the fruit flies run and crouch down around the fruit bowl, then peer out above it. We hear heavy footsteps off-stage. Then, Evan's voice.*

**Evan:** Wow. It's soooo hot today! I think I'm going to make some lemonade!

*The squeak of a refrigerator door is heard.*

**Evan:** Ah yes! One last can of lemonade is still in the freezer!

**Fly 1:** *(whispers loudly)* It's Evan! He's getting something out of the freezer! Everyone stay in your hiding spots!

*Mrs. Treski's voice is heard off-stage.*

**Mrs. Treski:** Evan? Is that you? Are you in the kitchen?

**Evan:** *(yells loudly)* Yeah Mom! I'm just gonna make myself a nice cold pitcher of lemonade!

**Mrs. Treski:** Okay, but make sure you clean up after yourself. Those fruit flies are multiplying every day. They love anything sweet.

**Evan:** *(yells loudly)* Got it, Mom!

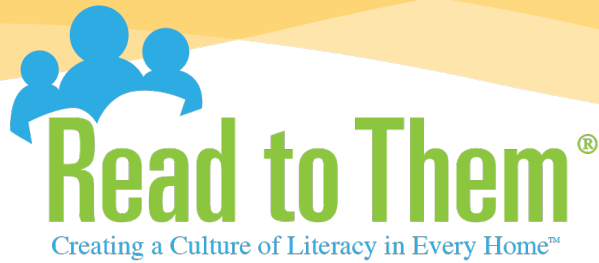
*The sounds of someone rummaging around in a kitchen drawer are heard off-stage.*

**Evan:** All right... I got my can of lemonade open. Now I need to fill my pitcher with some nice cold water.

*The sound of water running is heard off-stage.*

**Evan:** Okay, now to mix it all up! Where is that wooden spoon that mom always uses? *(hollers loudly)* Mom? Mom? Ugh...she must be on a phone call, and she hates when I holler for her when she's trying to work. I'll just have to go ask her in person.

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*The overhead light goes out and we hear footsteps again. The spotlight comes back on the fruit flies.*

**Fly 1:** *(peeks out above fruit bowl)* Okay, everyone! Coast is clear! Come on out!

*All the flies start flying around the fruit bowl again.*

**Fly 2:** *(looks at Fly 1)* Hey...what was it that Evan's mom said? About us multiplying? What does "multiply" mean? Was that a compliment?

**Fly 1:** I don't know what multiplying means. But I don't think it was a compliment. She never seems very happy to see us.

**Fly 2:** That's too bad. We fruit flies are such nice house guests. *(sniffs air)* Hey, do you smell that? *(sniffs harder)* That sweetness, that glorious sweetness. I think Evan left something out on the counter for us!

**Fly 1:** *(sniffs air)* Oh...I know that smell! That's an open can of lemonade! Let's go check it out!

*All the flies begin flying around the stage and start zig-zagging toward the side of the stage where Evan's voice had come from. The overhead light comes back on. All the flies freeze in place.*

**Fly 2:** *(looks at Fly 1)* I think someone's coming back into the kitchen.

**Fly 1:** *(nods in agreement)* This is no time to think! *(waves at the other flies)* To your hiding places! Let's go!

*All the flies head back to the fruit bowl and crouch down. Footsteps are heard off-stage.*

**Jessie:** I can't believe it's already almost lunchtime. I've spent the whole morning reading. A good book sure makes you lose track of time! *And* work up an appetite.

**Fly 1:** *(whispers loudly to Fly 2):* It's Jessie! Everyone, stay low!

**Jessie:** Hey, what's this? It looks like someone was making a pitcher of lemonade. I bet it was my brother. He didn't even finish it! And look at the mess he made! Someone needs to clean this up before it attracts more fruit flies. They love anything sweet.

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- Fly 1:** *(whispers loudly to Fly 2)* She's going to get rid of our sweet treat!
- Fly 2:** *(shakes head)* Not cool...not cool at all.
- Jessie:** Speaking of fruit flies...maybe it's time I do something about them before they continue to multiply.
- Fly 1:** *(whispers loudly to Fly 1)* There's that word again! Multiply!
- Fly 2:** *(whispers loudly to Fly 2)* Yeah...I don't like the sound of where this is going.
- Jessie:** Mom doesn't like to use any sort of chemicals to get rid of fruit flies, but I think I read somewhere about how to make a mixture that's all-natural. I'm going to go look it up before I make lunch. And...I'm going to go find my brother to clean up the mess he made before the fruit flies find it! *(yells loudly)* Evan! Hey Evan! Where are you?

*The light goes out and footsteps are heard. The spotlight comes back on the fruit flies.*

- Fly 1:** *(stands up)* Uh oh. Did you all hear that? Jessie's going to try and get rid of us!

*All the fruit flies begin standing up and flying around the bowl again.*

- Fly 2:** Do you think she can do that?
- Fly 1:** She's smart, so she can do anything she puts her mind to. But guess what?
- Fly 2:** What?
- Fly 1:** We're not waiting to find out! *(signals all the flies)* Come on, gang! Let's go get a taste of that lemonade before it's too late!!

*All the flies start zig-zagging around the stage and eventually make their way to the side where the voices were coming from, whooping and hollering along the way. As they exit the stage, the person who is going to announce the book comes on the stage.*

- Announcer:** *(looks out at audience)* Are you all wondering what that was all about? Would you like to meet the real Evan and Jessie - and perhaps even the fruit flies? *(holds up book)* Well, we are all going to learn more when we read *The Lemonade War* together!

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