

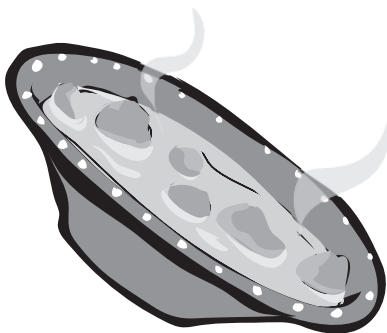
STONE SOUP

A Mini-Musical For Unison Voices based on the Famous Fable
by Sally K. Albrecht and Jay Althouse
Recording Orchestrated and Produced by Alan Billingsley

Musical Sequence

Title	Full Score	Reproducible Student Pages
1. Grumpy Every Day (Townspeople)	4	26
2. Wouldn't It Be Nice? (Travelers)	8	29
3. Soup From a Stone (All)	13	33
4. To Share (All)	19	36
5. Look at Old Town Now! (All)	23	38

Performance time: approximately 20 minutes.
See page 40 for a reproducible program cover.
See back cover for CD Track Numbers.



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Foreword

Stone Soup is one of the most popular folk tales of all time. In our research, we found that almost every country takes credit for it! We found one version featuring Russian soldiers, one claiming it as French folklore, and even one from the Czech Republic that is titled *Nail Soup*! Though the story changes slightly from one source to another, all have one thing in common: the joy that is spread as people share a meal that all helped prepare. *Stone Soup* is a story about motivation, teamwork, collaboration, and cooperation. We can all learn from this wonderful tale.

Cast of Characters and Costumes

NOTE: All characters in this musical may be male or female. Please change gender of script and lyrics as needed throughout this production.

- NARRATORS:** Two Narrators are indicated in the script. Narrators may read their lines out of a giant book(s) with “Famous Folk Tales” on the cover. They may alternate on either side of the stage, or be located downstage right, perhaps on stools. For a larger cast, these lines (20 in all) may be shared by additional narrators. Or a different pair of narrators may be used for each scene.
- TOWNSPEOPLE:** Any number. Eight townspeople are featured with speaking lines. Again, different performers may be used in each scene. Dressed in comfortable everyday clothing: jeans and overalls, bright-colored dresses with aprons, etc. Some performers may be dressed as adults, others as children.
- TRAVELERS:** Three travelers are featured with speaking lines. Additional travelers may be added as desired, and spoken lines may be divided further. Dressed in rather ragged and dusty clothing. Optional backpacks and sacks made from rustic-looking cloth, such as burlap.

Setting

The set may be as simple or as elaborate as you desire. Flats or large cardboard boxes may be decorated as small village houses or shops. Set up a few benches, fences, tree stumps, small plants, etc., to give the feeling of a cozy village. A slide on a large projection screen or a backdrop can feature rolling hillsides. Leave plenty of room center stage to set up your cooking area.

Props

(Also see “Cast of Characters and Costumes” and “Setting” descriptions.)

- Brooms, shovels, plants, paint and brushes, etc., for opening scene/activities
- Fancy small cloth bag containing three stones
- Cooking pot
- Wood logs—real or fake
- Bucket of water
- Spoon(s) to taste soup
- Ingredients for soup: pepper, salt, carrots, onion, beef or beef bones, potatoes, mushrooms, cabbage—and any other ingredients you’d like to add
- Blankets, tables, and chairs for the feast
- Drinks and bread, cups, bowls, and silverware as desired
- Musical instruments (such as mandolin, guitar, tambourine, hand drums, recorder/flute)

About the Composers

Sally K. Albrecht

Sally K. Albrecht is the Director of School Choral and Classroom Publications for Alfred Music. She is a popular choral conductor, composer, and clinician, especially known for her work with choral movement. Sally is the author of two books on the subject, *Choral Music in Motion, Volumes 1 and 2*, and also has produced six choral movement videos, distributed by Alfred.

An annual recipient of the ASCAP Special Music Award since 1987, Sally has over 275 popular choral publications in print, more than twenty-five larger elementary songbooks, musicals, and cantatas. She recently compiled and edited Alfred's *The Choral Warm-Up Collection*, featuring 167 choral warm-ups contributed by 51 choral music educators.



A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Sally received a B.A. Degree from Rollins College with a double major in Music and Theater. From there she moved to the University of Miami, where she received both an M.A. in Drama and an M.M. in Accompanying. She has worked with literally thousands of teachers and students through festivals, conventions, and workshops in over 40 states, Canada, Singapore, and Australia.

Jay Althouse

Jay Althouse received a B.S. degree in Music Education and an M.Ed. degree in Music from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. For eight years he served as a rights and licenses administrator for a major educational music publisher. During that time he served a term on the Executive Board of the Music Publishers Association of America.

As a composer of choral music, Mr. Althouse has over 500 works in print for choirs of all levels. He is a writer member of ASCAP and is a regular recipient of the ASCAP Special Award for his compositions in the area of standard music.

His book, *Copyright: The Complete Guide for Music Educators, 2nd Edition*, has been in print continuously since 1984 and is recognized as the definitive sourcebook on the subject of copyright for music educators. Mr. Althouse has co-written many musicals, songbooks, and cantatas with his wife, Sally K. Albrecht, and also compiled and arranged a number of highly regarded vocal solo collections. He is the co-writer of two best-selling books, *The Complete Choral Warm-up Book*, and *Accent on Composers*, a music history/appreciation text. Most recently, he completed a reproducible sequential text on music reading readiness entitled *Ready to Read Music*. All are available from Alfred Music.

About the Recording

Stone Soup was recorded at Noteworthy Studios, Manhattan Beach, CA

Alan Billingsley — Instrumental Arranger and Producer

Performers include:

Karli Berkompas
Connor Berkompas
Lisa Draper
Darren Draper
Ally Van Deuren

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STONE SOUP

(During introduction and song #1, Townspeople may enter through the audience, wander onto stage area, come in and out of houses, work in their yards. They avoid eye contact with others.)

NARRATOR 1: *(over introduction*)* Once, not so long ago, there was a sad little town called Old Town.

NARRATOR 2: Old Town, like many towns, had fallen on hard times.

NARRATOR 1: Food was scarce, and money was low.

NARRATOR 2: The townspeople mostly kept to themselves, unable and unwilling to share during their own hard times.

1. GRUMPY EVERY DAY

(Townspeople)

In a somewhat plodding manner (♩ = ca. 120)

1.
*(repeat as needed
under dialogue)**

5 2. *mf* 6

We're so hap-py be-ing grump-y ev-'ry day. We dis-
hap-py be-ing grump-y ev-'ry day. We don't

*NOTE: SoundTrax recording plays the introduction four times.

8

like hear-ing chil-dren when they play. When we're done with our la - bors
mind if the sky is dark and grey. We are not big com-plain - ers;

11

we ig - nore our neigh - bors. We keep — to our - selves and
we just think it's san - er to keep it bot - tled up and

13

stay a - way. Yes, we're hap - py be - ing grump-y ev - 'ry day.
locked a - way. Yes, we're hap - py be - ing grump-y ev - 'ry

16

mf
We're so

TOWNSPEOPLE: (*ad lib.*) What? Stone Soup? What's that? Never heard of such a thing!
(*Townsperson 8 hands over large pot*)

NARRATOR 1: (*action described takes place on stage*) So the weary travelers carefully placed the three precious stones into the big pot.

NARRATOR 2: Several townspeople brought out wood for a fire,...

NARRATOR 1: ... while others brought out buckets of water from the well.

NARRATOR 2: And more and more townspeople joined the anxious crowd gathering in the town square.

3. SOUP FROM A STONE

(*All*)

Light swing (♩ = ca. 120) (♩♩ = ♩³♩)

♩ (On repeats, Townspeople react, *ad lib.*)

5 TOWNSPEOPLE *mf*

Who ev-er heard of soup from a stone? _ If this town had on-ly known, _

9

we could each have made our own _ stone soup! Soup from a stone. _

2nd time to m. 25
3rd time to m. 33
4th time to m. 41

13

VERSE 1

17 *mf* TRAVELER 1 (*tasting soup*)

Hmm, this soup needs pep-per and salt. If it does-n't taste good, it's not my fault.