

# SCRIPT

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What happens when the biggest joker in school gets chosen to be “Teacher-for-a-Day”? Plenty!

# Teacher for a Day

20-minute Musical Play for Middle School  
by Secretary Michael

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## SCENE 1: IN KRANK'S CLASS

*(school classroom; 18 students in desks;  
teacher is walking up and down aisles, angrily returning graded papers)*

**KRANK**

*(holding paper in front of Magillus)*

I've just about *had* it with you, Magillus! What do you call *this*?!

**MAGILLUS**

A piece of paper?

**STUDENTS**

*(all laugh)*

**KRANK**

Stop your laughing! Nobody has room to laugh!

*(continues returning papers to others)*

Look at this!

Social Studies: "F"!

And one for you too!

Math: Zero Percent!

Social Studies: "F"!

*(raises fist of papers - shakes them angrily)*

Half of these papers got F's because I couldn't even read them!

Looks like you wrote them with your feet!

Here's one here! "F"

*(slaps down papers on individual desks while announcing grades)*

"F"

"F"

Math: Zero Percent!

Mister MAGILLUS, do you know what this big red "F" on top of your paper stands for?

**MAGILLUS**

Funny?

**STUDENTS**

*(laugh)*

**KRANK**

*(angry again)*

Stop your laughing! Nobody has room to laugh!

*(as if speaking to a little child)*

No, Mister Magillus... But I'll give you a teensy weensy hint. It rhymes with the word "jail". That's "jail", Mister Magillus - a word I'm sure you'll someday be very familiar with. Now search your vast, vast vocabulary and try to find a word that starts with the letter "F" and rhymes with "jail".

**MAGILLUS**

Tomato?

**STUDENTS**

*(laugh)*

**KRANK**

Stop your laughing! Nobody has room to laugh!

*(an announcement over the loudspeaker interrupts KRANK's tirade)*

**LOUDSPEAKER**

May I have your attention for a moment please. It is now time to announce our weekly scholars:

Room 10: Smith and Taylor

Room 11: Stevenson and Brown

Room 12: Perez and Cooper

Room 13: uh... nobody

**KRANK**

*(holding his head)*

Oh great!

**LOUDSPEAKER**

Room 14: Chang and Johnson

Room 15: Adams and Callahan

Congratulations to all of you. Please come down to the office to pick up your certificates.

And now, we are ready to announce our winner in the *Teacher-for-a-Day* contest. As you know, the student chosen will be allowed to teach his or her class when we return to school on Monday. The student will also receive \$200 for supplies.

The Parents Club has read your essays about what you would do if you were chosen to be *Teacher-for-a-Day*. They have made their selection. And the winner is...

*(sound of envelope being torn open and paper being unfolded)*

From Room 13: Magillus!

**KRANK**

*(shouting in horror)*

No! Not him!

**STUDENTS**

*(erupt in cheers and laughter)*

**MAGILLUS**

*(jumps up, boasting over the cheers)*

I faked it!

SCENE 2: AT A WALL IN THE MALL

*(inside shopping mall; students are grouped upstage center against wall;  
KRANK is downstage left or right - apart from the group;  
shoppers occasionally stroll across front of stage with shopping bags)*

**STUDENT 1**

Thanks for bringing us to the mall, Magillus!

**STUDENT 2**

Yeah, this is my favorite place!

**MAGILLUS**

Hey - it's my job!

**KRANK**

*(with angry voice)*

You call this schoolwork?

**MAGILLUS**

Sure, Mr. Krank! This is Social Studies class!

*(turns to classmates)*

Attention my brilliant students!

Let's all sit down here and observe everybody walking by.

**STUDENT 3**

Cool! Just watchin' the people!

**STUDENT 4**

*(pointing at woman)*

Look! Do you think she's trying to attract him?

**STUDENT 5**

Shh! Don't point! Don't everybody look at the same time! Be discreet!

**STUDENT 6**

Over there - the old man. Why do you think he looks so confused?

**STUDENT 7**

Maybe he's got Alzheimers.

**STUDENT 8**

Maybe he found out that his grandkids are having their Social Studies class at the Mall.

**STUDENT 9**

Yea, that would confuse anybody!

**STUDENT 10**

Now *she's* out for some serious shopping! Look at her move!

**STUDENT 11**

No, I think she's just getting her exercise. She has headphones on.

**STUDENT 12**

Hey - by the fountain - do you think they're married?

**STUDENT 13**

I doubt it - they're too *lovey dovey* to be married.

**STUDENT 14**

But I bet those two over there are.

**STUDENT 15**

Do you think that kid in green's playing hooky? I mean, what would he be doing here on a school-day?

**STUDENT 16**

What would we be doing here on a school-day?

**STUDENTS**

*(everybody laughs; music begins; students sing)*

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL.  
DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

A HAPPY GIRL WITH A () YELLOW SWEATER  
A RUNNING MAN WITH AN () URGENT LETTER  
A CRYING BOY, OH HE'S () SUCH A SCREECHER  
A GARBAGE CAN (OOPS!) THAT'S OUR TEACHER!

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL.  
DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

A SINGING GIRL WITH HER () SINGING MOTHER  
A TEASING BOY RUNS TO () CATCH HIS BROTHER  
A SET OF TWINS AT THE () DOUBLE FEATURE  
A COKE MACHINE (OOPS!) THAT'S OUR TEACHER!

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL.  
DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

A LAUGHING GIRL RIDING () ON HER FATHER  
A BABY SMILING WITH-()-OUT A BOTHER  
A PLAYING BOY WITH A () PLASTIC CREATURE  
A POTTED PLANT (OOPS!) THAT'S OUR TEACHER!

*(song continued next page)*

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL.  
 DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL.  
 DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

*(some shoppers have begun to gather around the students)*

**STUDENT 17**

Look how big our class is getting!

**MAGILLUS**

That's okay!

*(grabs supplies, raises voice)*

Come on over, everybody! Don't be shy! Welcome to Mall School!  
 Next we're gonna have "Writing Class", so come get your pencils and paper!

**KRANK**

Hey! Those supplies belong to the school!

**MAGILLUS**

Oh, thank you Daddy!

That's my Daddy. He just donated all these supplies to Mall School!

**SHOPPERS**

*(everybody turns towards Krank and claps; Krank hides his face)*

**MAGILLUS**

He worked a long time for it, too. In prison they don't pay you hardly anything at all!

**SHOPPERS**

*(everybody steps back from Krank - who covers his head with his jacket)*

**MAGILLUS**

*(turning to Shopper 1)*

Now if you will please pass out these pencils...

*(turning to Shopper 2)*

And if you will please pass out this paper, we'll get started.

*(to the entire crowd)*

Many years ago, Mall School had a teacher named Mr. Krank. He was a crazy old guy who used to always say: "It looks like you wrote this with your feet!"

**MAGILLUS** [CONT'D]

That made us feel really good, because we *did* write it with our feet!  
But we had to practice hard to get that good. That's what we'll do today.  
So will everybody please take off your shoes and get side-by-side in a  
long line.

Put your paper on the floor - like this. Then stick your pencil between  
your toes - like this.

Hold-on to your neighbor's shoulders so you don't fall over. Here we go!

**EVERYBODY**

*(singing)*

GITCHA GITCHA PENCIL - GITCHA GITCHA BEAT

() GITCHA WRITIN' WITH YOUR FEET

GOTCHA GOTCHA RHYTHM - GOTCHA GOTCHA SONG

() GOTCHA WRITIN' ALL DAY LONG

COME AND TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF - COME AND TAKE A CHANCE

COME AND TAKE-A TAKE-A TAKE-A PENCIL DANCE

KICKA KICKA "M" - KICKA KICKA "P" ()

KICKA "U" BUT DON'TA KICKA ME!

KLOCKA KLOCKA MINUTE - KLOCKA KLOCKA MILE

KLOCKA KLOCKA LONG, LONG WHILE

COME AND TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF - COME AND TAKE A CHANCE

COME AND TAKE-A TAKE-A TAKE-A PENCIL DANCE

WRITE-A WRITE-A POEM - WRITE-A WRITE-A PROSE

() WRITE-A WRITE-A WITH OUR TOES

WROTE-A WROTE-A TINY - WROTE-A WROTE-A BIGGY

() WROTE-A WROTE-A WITH OUR PIGGY

COME AND TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF - COME AND TAKE A CHANCE

COME AND TAKE-A TAKE-A TAKE-A PENCIL DANCE

COME AND TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF - COME AND TAKE A CHANCE

COME AND TAKE-A TAKE-A TAKE-A PENCIL DANCE

**STUDENT 18**

It's lunch time!

**MAGILLUS**

*(looking at watch, then pointing offstage)*

Next stop - the Pizza Palace!

*(everybody cheers and heads offstage together;  
music reprises "Pencil Dance")*

SCENE 3: AT THE PIZZA PALACE

*(everybody is eating pizza on the tables in front of the Pizza Palace)*

**STUDENT 19**

Look what time it is! School's almost over!

**MAGILLUS**

Oh no! We haven't had our Math Class yet!

**EVERYBODY**

*(moans)*

**MAGILLUS**

Trust me. If you love to eat, you'll just love Mall School Math!

*(turns to person behind counter)*

Hey! It's Math time! Time to bring out all the food!

**STUDENT 20**

*(shouting over music which has begun)*

This Math is for me!

**EVERYBODY**

*(singing)*

HOW MANY TACOS IN A MILE? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY PIZZAS MAKE YOU SMILE? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY PINTS IN A ROOT-BEER FLOAT? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY QUARTS FIT DOWN YOUR THROAT? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

MATHEMA-TE-TICS AIN'T SO TOUGH - I JUST WANNA WANNA EAT IT UP!

HOW MANY KIT-KATS CAN YOUR CRUNCH? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY FRENCH FRIES CAN YOU MUNCH? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY SIPS IN A 12-OUNCE SLURPEE? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY CUPS 'TIL YOU GET REAL BURPY? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

MATHEMA-TE-TICS AIN'T SO TOUGH - I JUST WANNA WANNA EAT IT UP!

HOW MANY CHEWS ON A CHURCH'S CHICKEN? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY PIECES ARE YOU PICKIN? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY DONUTS CAN YOU FIND? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

HOW MANY FIT IN A MOUTH LIKE MINE? [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]

MATHEMA-TE-TICS AIN'T SO TOUGH -

I JUST WANNA WANNA EAT IT - [MATHEMA-TE-TICS FOR ME]



**MAGILLUS**

*(looking up at clock)*

Oh look! Mall School is almost over. In 10 seconds I'll no longer be your teacher

**EVERYBODY**

*(all moan, then they look up at the clock and begin counting down)*

7 - 6 - 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1...

**COUNTER PERSON**

*(holding up bill)*

Hey! Who's gonna pay for all this stuff? Who's your teacher?

**EVERYBODY**

*(all turn and look at Krank)*

**COUNTER PERSON**

*(talking to Krank)*

Is it you?

**KRANK**

*(puts head in hands, walks over to counter while speaking in long, mournful syllables)*

Oh no! I knew something like this would happen!

**COUNTER PERSON**

*(handing paper to Krank)*

And here's your check for \$200!

**KRANK**

A check? For me?

**MAGILLUS**

Yes, Mr. Krank. The money was supposed to be for supplies. We figured that you're the best supply any class could ever have.

**EVERYBODY**

*(cheers)*

**MAGILLUS**

*(talking over music that has just begun)*

We just wanted to see what your reaction would be - you know - Doin' Social Studies with our buddy.

**EVERYBODY***(cheers, then sings refrain)*

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE - WATCHIN' THEM ALL

DOIN' SOCIAL STUDIES WITHA MY BUDDIES  
 STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE...  
*(all turn towards KRANK)*

STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE...  
*(all reface audience)*

STUDYIN' THE PEOPLE WALKIN' THE MALL.

END OF PLAY

## MUSICAL SCORES

These can be downloaded for free from the Machinists Union Press: [<https://www.machinistsunion.org/>]

## CAST

The play can accommodate a class of any size. For example, if there are 30 students in a class, the roles might be distributed like this:

Krank: 1  
 Magillus: 1  
 Students: 20  
 Intercom Announcer: 1  
 Pizza Palace Worker: 1  
 Shoppers (carrying boxes and bags): 6

If there are fewer than 30 actors available, some can easily double-up on roles.

Of course gender makes no difference in this play. It could be all girls, all boys, Mr. Krank or Ms. Krank. Simply change whatever you want. It's been made free and put into the public domain for that very reason.