It's a Jungle out There!

SCENE 1

IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE!

(As the song ends, the animals freeze. King Leo, Stripes and Spots enter. Stripes is carrying a huge pile of papers all taped together as in one long sheet.)

Leo: Roar, roar, rooooaarrr! (Leo sits down at the desk.)
Stripes: Calm yourself, Your Majesty.
Spots: Yes, please, Sire!

Leo: How can I calm down when there is so much work to do? (Very upset) Have you seen the list of appointments for today? (He takes the papers from Stripes and unfolds it into a long list.)

Spots: Wow! That sure is a lot of appointments!
Leo: And that's just for this morning!
Stripes: Why don't you cancel some of them, Sire?
Leo: (Already busy signing papers, etc.) If I do that, I'll lose business and then I won't be the most powerful animal of all. After all, it takes a lot of work to be the King of the Jungle!

THE KING OF THE JUNGLE

Leo: (Sitting down unhappily) I just don't get it. Here I am, the King of the Jungle. I have more riches and more power than any other animal, and still I don't feel happy.
Stripes: Perhaps we could help you, Your Majesty.
Spots: Yes, Sire. Just tell us what you want us to do.
Leo: (Thinking) Well . . . (Getting an idea) you could go on a quest. (Getting enthusiastic) You could ask all the animals for the Key to Happiness. And when you find it, bring it back to me.

Stripes and Spots: (Bow) Yes, Your Majesty.
Leo: (Picking up his papers and getting back to work) And hurry!! Time is money, you know.
SCENE 2

(Deep in the jungle. Gathered on stage is a group of cheetahs. Spots and Stripes enter.)

**Ms. McCloskey’s Class**

Spots: Hello there. You all seem happy. What are you doing?

Cheetah (Brandon H): Hey, dudes!
Cheetah (Cheyenne): We’re having a party.

Stripes: That sounds like fun. What are you celebrating?

Cheetah (Mason): Celebrating? Well...
Cheetah (Cameryn): We don’t really know.
Cheetah (Nayshaun): Does anybody know? *(They all scratch their heads and look blank)*
Cheetah (Brandon B): *(shrugs)* It doesn’t really matter.
Cheetah (Fernando): We don’t need a reason, dudes.
Cheetah (Jadyn): We’re party animals!

**PARTY ANIMALS**

Spots: You mean, you’re having a party and it’s not even anyone’s birthday or anything?

Cheetah (Molly): Yeah, that’s right.
Cheetah (Evangeline): Yesterday we had a party,
Cheetah (Jasper): Today we’re having a party,
Cheetah (Rekala): And tomorrow we'll have another party!
Cheetah (Jessica): Yeah! Hooray!

*All Cheetahs: *(Ad lib cheers)*

Stripes: Gosh, that sounds kind of boring.

Cheetah (Sammi): Well, of course it’s boring!
Cheetah (Logan): But we’re cheetahs!
Cheetah (Ivan): Nothing slows us down!
Cheetah (Raymond): We live life in the fast lane!

Stripes: They didn't seem that happy after all. Maybe we should keep searching.

Spots: (Looking nervously over his/her shoulder) Say, did you ever have the strange feeling that you were being watched?

Stripes: Don’t be ridiculous. Who would want to watch us?

Spots: I don’t know, but...

**Ms. Hartman’s Class**

*(A wild bunch of monkeys enter. They’re playing tag, keep away, etc.)*

Stripes: *(To Spots)* Now these guys really know how to have a good time.

Spots: Yeah! Let’s ask them for the Key to Happiness. *(To the monkeys)* Hey, fellas, how come you always have so much fun?

Monkey (Olivia D): Hey, man, that’s easy. Games!

Stripes and Spots: Aha!

Stripes: What kind of games do you play?

Monkey (Renaia): All kinds of games—

Monkey (Giada): Almost too many to list!

Monkey (Jeremiah): Ball games,

Monkey (Liv B): card games,

Monkey (Michael): guessing games,

Monkey (William): playground games,

Monkey (Shanell): board games.

Monkey (Dominic): But most of all...

Monkey (Colten): Video Games!!

*(They all jump around in a frenzy cheering wildly.)*

Spots: Hold on a minute. We want to ask you some questions.

Monkey (Logan): We’re sorry.
Monkey (Carly): When it comes to playing video games...

Monkey (Mario): We just can’t help going bananas.

GOIN’ BANANAS

Spots: But when do you get your work done?

Monkey (Matthew): Work? What’s that?

Monkey (Isaiah): All we do is play, play, play.

Monkey (Lee Lee): Yeah! Hooray!

All monkeys: (Ad lib cheers)

Stripes: (To Spots) I think we’ve struck out again.

Spots: I’m getting that weird feeling again. (Looking around nervously)

Stripes: Come on. We have to get going.

(They exit)

SCENE 3

Ms. Leehang’s Class

(On stage is a large herd of hyenas all laughing and giggling noisily. Stripes and Spots enter.)

Spots: These guys must be having fun. Just listen to them.

Stripes: Maybe they can give us the Key to Happiness. (To the hyenas) Excuse us, Mister. Why are you so jolly today?

Hyena (Marius): Oh, ha ha ha, you see...

Hyena (Elijah): That guy over there, he he he...

Hyena (Skyler): He just slipped on a banana peel, ha ha ha...

Hyena (Taylor): And, ho ho ho ho, he can’t get up. Ha ha ha ha!

Spots: Well, that’s not very nice. Maybe he’s hurt.

Hyena (Lillie): Oh, we don’t care.

Hyena (Dari): That would just make us laugh harder. Ha ha ha ha!

Spots: You mean, you laugh at everything?
Hyena (Jake): That's right.

Hyena (Makilah): Absolutely everything.

Hyena (Tyler): Life is just one big joke to us.

Hyena (Joey): Everything is funny!

Hyena (Kyle): You know the saying:

Hyena (Adrianna): Laugh and the world laughs with you;

Hyena (Oswaldo): Cry and all you get is a soggy kleenex.

Hyena (Atreyu): Ha! That's a good one!

Hyena (Mya): Yeah, good one!

All Hyenas: *Yuk, yuk, yuk. Ha, ha, ha. (Ad lib laughing)*

**EVERYTHING IS FUNNY TO ME**

Spots: Gosh, Stripes, I wonder if anyone has the real Key to Happiness. *(They both sit down dejectedly on the ground. The elephant enter.)*

**Ms. Fargo’s Class**

Elephant (Joe): Good afternoon, gentlemen.

Spots and Stripes: *(Sadly without looking up)* Hello.


Elephant (Farrah): What's the matter?

Stripes: We’re on a quest for the Key to Happiness. We’ve been searching for days, and nobody has the answer.

Spots: All they can say is, “party, party, party,” or “Play, play, play,” or “laugh, laugh, laugh.” We can't go back to the King with a silly answer like that.

Elephant (Antony): Maybe you need to rest awhile.

Elephant (Ian): Why don’t you come and relax with us?

Stripes: That sounds nice. *(They walk to the flower patch where the herd is resting.)*

Spots: *(Pointing to one elephant who is vigorously sniffing one of the roses)* What is he doing?
Elephant (Micheal): He’s stopping to smell the roses.
Elephant (Destiny): Would you like to try?
Elephant (Ziona): You’d better do it soon.
Elephant (Eric): After we get through,
Elephant (Lexi): There’s not much left to sniff! *(He points to his long trunk)*

Spots: *(Taking a deep whiff of the roses)* Wow! I just realized; you are the friendliest animals we’ve met in the jungle so far.
Stripes: And you’re so happy! You must have the Key to Happiness.
Elephant (Dakota): Why, we certainly do.
Elephant (Myko): Here it is. *(He hands Stripes a rose.)*

Spots: *(To Stripes)* That’s not a key; it’s just a dumb flower!
Stripes: Shh . . . *(Tries to hush her up)*
Elephant (Ryan): But you see—
Elephant (Kamile): It represents something.
Elephant (Emilio): It stands for stopping to smell the roses.

Spots and Stripes: *(Scratching their heads)* We don’t get it.

**Ms. Yoon’s Class, Part 1**

Elephant (Ayden): He means you have to learn to appreciate the things around you.
Elephant (Adam): You need to realize that there are things in life that are more important than money, fancy clothes or being popular.
Elephant (Adam): Especially things like having good friends.

**GOOD FRIENDS**

**Ms. Yoon’s Class, Part 2**

Elephant (Hayden): *(crying tears of joy)* Oh, that one gets me every time...
Elephant (Dominic): *(handing tissue to crying elephant)* Here you go, friend.
Elephant (Warren): When you’ve got a friend,
Elephant (Koby): you’re as rich as a king.
Stripes and Spots: *(They jump up suddenly remembering their quest)* THE KING!!
*(King Leo enters)*
Leo: Roar, roar, roooaaarr!
Stripes and Spots: *(Bowing)* Greetings, Your Majesty.
Stripes: What are you doing here?
Leo: I’ve been following you all along.
Spots: Aha! I knew someone was watching us.
Stripes: But why, Sire? Didn’t you trust us?
Leo: Certainly, but after you left, I started thinking how nice it would be to go on a little adventure and . . . well . . . *(slightly embarrassed)* I guess I missed you, too. *(He clears his throat)*
Stripes: Sire, we’ve found the key to happiness. *(He ceremoniously hands the rose to King Leo)*
Spots: It stands for . . .
Leo: I know what it stands for. I’ve been watching, remember?
Spots: Oh, yeah.
Leo: *(To Spots and Stripes)* Now I finally realize how happy I’ve been since we started this quest. And I owe it all to you my good friends. *(To everyone)* This really *is* the Key to Happiness! *(Holds up rose)*
Stripes and Spots: Congratulations, Sire.
Leo: No more of that “Sire” stuff. From now on, just call me Leo. After all, we’re friends. *(To the elephants)* Thank you for sharing your secret with us. Now our quest is over and we must return home.
Elephant (Marissa): Have a safe journey.
Elephant (Marissa): Remember to stop and smell the roses.
Elephant (Abby): Always keep your friends close.
Elephant (Axel): And never forget...
Elephant (Seth): It's a jungle out there!

REPRISE: IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE!

THE END