

James and the Giant Peach, JR

Storytelling for ***James and the Giant Peach, Jr*** relies on the commitment, strength, and talent of an ensemble cast. We recognize the importance creating a strong ensemble cast and encourage all participants to embrace their casting in order to tell the story on stage. Some roles will be double cast (shared).

Roles

Ladahlord (British Estuary dialect) - Ladahlord is a mysterious character who seems to have a hand in the magical things that are happening. Though he may seem a bit offbeat, he carefully watches over James, making sure James moves towards a better life. Ladahlord also serves as a guiding narrator throughout the story. This is a perfect role for a charismatic young actor who can sing and dance well.

James (British Estuary dialect) - James is the hero of our story, on an epic quest to find a family of his own and gain confidence in himself. This is a demanding role for an experienced singer and actor.

Ladybug (British Est./American Dialect) - Ladybug immediately takes on a doting, maternal role in James life. This is a fantastic role for a performer with a great singing voice and a regal demeanor.

Grasshopper (British Est.) - Grasshopper, the leader of the Insects, is ever the optimist and assumes a paternal role in James life. A strong singing and acting role with a warm, inviting presence.

Spider (British Est. / American dialect) - Spider is a clever creature who becomes a fun-loving older sister to James. A spunky personality and a strong singing voice.

Earthworm (British) - Earthworm is a gentle spirit, although he can be a bit of a coward. Luckily, he gains enough courage to save the day by baiting some gullible seagulls. Earthworm looks at James as a brother figure. Outlandish and strong vocal skills.

Centipede (British) - Centipede may be a bit of grouch, but he is ever-loyal to the pack, and by the end of the story, he's won over by James. James sees Centipede as that cranky uncle with a heart of gold. Centipede should have a good singing voice, and be able to make strong, specific acting choices.

Spiker and Sponge (British Cockney Dialect) - Spiker and Sponge are the sort of aunts (or monsters) that you fear ever being stuck with. They take James into their home but only so that he can be their own personal servant. Spiker is the brains of the operation, and Sponge is more concerned with finding something to eat. These are great character roles for two young performers who are strong singers and actors. Comedic roles. These roles are available to male or female actors.

Mr. Trotter, Mrs. Trotter (British Est.) - Featured roles. James' adoring parents appear to James in a dream turned nightmare.

Karl Kreatour - Featured role appearing in James' nightmare.

Matron Nurse - The Matron Nurse runs the Painswick Orphanage. Strong commanding character role.

Billy and Bobby Bobby-Cop (British Est.) - Billy and Bobby Bobby-Cop are a perfectly unified pair of cops working for Scotland Yard. These are fun comedic roles for two performers who work well together.

Vagrants - The Vagrants, including **Doreen Driggles, Ridgley Rapsallion, Violet Funkschmeller,** and **Chris Cryermouth** are have-nots who support Spiker and Sponge's treacherous plans. The **Passing Man, Man** (with wallet) and **Passing Woman** all have featured moments where they fall victim to Spiker and Sponge. Strong featured character roles, acting, dancing, singing.

The Garden Chorus comes to life in Shake It Up as Ladahlord mixes a magical potion. Various skill levels required; vocal, dance, acting, pantomime.

Reporters - The Reporters, including **Ida Walters**, are on the scene just as the peach is becoming larger than life.

Ladies (British) - Bitsy Botana and the rest of the Ladies Garden Guild are in flowery frocks and hats, intent on having Spiker and Sponge give the keynote speech at their conference. Strong singing roles.

Hollywood Agents (Mid-Atlantic) - The Hollywood Agents, led by **Buzz**, jump in on the success of the growing peach with movie and Broadway deals for Spiker and Sponge. Lively and energetic roles.

Farm Animals, Willy Wonka And Oompa-Loompas - Farm Animals, Willy Wonka and Oompa-Loompas are all in harm's way as the peach outgrows its stem and rolls towards the ocean. These are featured cameo roles.

Angry Crowd - The Angry Crowd is in search of the amazing giant peach, but they quickly turn into an angry mob when the peach is nowhere to be found. Ensemble roles.

Cruise Ensemble - The Cruise Ensemble are various vacationers en route to New York with Spiker and Sponge. Ensemble roles.

Sharks And Seagulls - The Sharks and Seagulls are featured in *Plump and Juicy*. Strong movers and dancers are cast in these roles.

New Yorkers - (Brooklyn/Mid-Atlantic dialect) New Yorkers, including the **Screaming Women, Lucille Van Kooglestein, Bunny Mackenzie The Third, Jake and Joe** all witness the peach land directly on the Empire State Building and are sent into a panic! Featured cameo roles.