

SHREK CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

- 5th - 8th graders may be cast in any of these roles.
- 4th graders are eligible to be cast in any of the roles marked with an *.
- Some actors may be cast in more than one role. Final decisions will be made during casting based on best fit and scheduling.

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

These roles will all have understudies, who are able to perform at the Saturday matinee. All have lines & singing solos

Shrek - A big, green, terrifying ogre who lives alone in a swamp. He embarks on a journey to rid his land of fairytale creatures and, along the way, falls in love with Fiona. Begins as a grumpy hermit, but reveals his layers and eventually becomes the hero. Excellent singer and actor - Scottish accent a plus.

Fiona - The beautiful princess of Far- Far-Away, she transforms into an ogre every night when the sun sets. Rescued by Shrek and eventually falls in love with him. Quirky, blunt, and multitalented, she is not an ordinary princess. Excellent singer and actor with great comic timing - strong dance a plus.

Donkey - A talking donkey who joins Shrek on the run from Farquaad's guards. Quite the chatterbox, he is not deterred by Shrek's looks and practically forces himself into his good graces. Easily frightened and pushy, but also an optimist with heart. Excellent singer and comic actor with a huge personality.

Lord Farquaad - The comically short, ruthless ruler of Duloc. He is in search of a princess to marry so that he can become king. Has an intensely unfair bias against fairytale creatures that stems from a resentment of his father. Self-absorbed, lonely, and cruel. Excellent singer and comic actor. Actor must be able to play this role on his knees for the whole show.

Dragon: A dragon that has been charged with guarding Princess Fiona in her isolated castle. She eventually falls in love with Donkey and attempts to keep him there forever. Imposing and flirtatious, but tired of her job as the glorified baby-sitter. She sings "Forever" with her Knight back-up singers & Skeleton dancers.

FAIRYTALE CREATURES

Gingy: A gingerbread man initially kidnapped by Lord Farquaad. His wit and resolution help him both avoid trouble and inspire the rest of the fairytale creatures. This character is portrayed with a puppet, which may be voiced and operated by a puppeteer appearing as a baker. Featured solos in "Freak Flag" and "Story of My Life."

Pinocchio: The leader of the fairytale creatures. Although portrayed by a live actor, Pinocchio is an animated puppet whose nose grows every time he lies. Plenty of sass with a penchant for lying, he leads the troupe of Fairytale Creatures in the musical numbers "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Sugar Plum Fairy: A beautiful fairy who has featured lines and solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Big Bad Wolf: A tough guy who isn't afraid to let the world know his secrets. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag." Strong acting needed.

Mama Bear: Sassy & sweet mother to Baby Bear. Powerhouse diva voice. Featured solos in "Story of My Life", "Freak Flag", and "This is Our Story."

Papa Bear: Father to Baby Bear, firm but kind. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Baby Bear: Very sweet & cute. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Fairy Godmother: Cinderella's Fairy Godmother who has featured lines and solos in "Freak Flag," "Story of My Life" and "This is Our Story."

Ugly Duckling: Comedic role, a bit nerdy. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Peter Pan: Comedic role, childish. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Wicked Witch: Comedic role, Elphaba on a bad day. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Humpty Dumpty: Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

3 Pigs (Bricks, Straw, Sticks): German accent a plus. Featured solos in "Story of My Life", "Freak Flag", and "I'm A Believer."

Elf: Comedic role, very mischievous. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

White Rabbit: Comedic role, very neurotic. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Mad Hatter: Comedic role, very eccentric. Featured solos in "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

Dwarf: Lord Farquaad's father. No solos, but sings with other Fairytale Creatures.

***Ensemble Fairytale Creatures:** Little Red Riding Hood, Tinkerbell, Robin Hood and others have no lines or solos.

SUPPORTING ROLES

Some of these Roles will be doubled as Villagers or Dancers

Young Fiona: Princess Fiona as a little girl, sassy & sweet. Sings a solo in "I Know It's Today" with Teen Fiona and Fiona.

Teen Fiona: Princess Fiona as a teenager, sassy & sweet. Sings a solo in "I Know It's Today" with Young Fiona and Fiona.

Ogre Mom: Shrek's mother, sings a beautiful duet with Papa Ogre to young Shrek in the opening number "Big, Bright, Beautiful World." May double as Ogress.

Ogre Dad: Shrek's father, sings a beautiful duet with Mama Ogre to young Shrek in the opening number "Big, Bright, Beautiful World."

***Little Ogre:** Younger version of Shrek. He is very important to the storytelling.

Queen Lillian: Fiona's mother and Queen of Far-Far-Away, sings a beautiful duet with King Harold to young Fiona in the opening number "Big, Bright, Beautiful World."

King Harold: Fiona's father and King of Far-Far-Away. Sings a beautiful duet with Queen Lillian to young Fiona in the opening number "Big, Bright, Beautiful World."

Three Blind Mice: 60's girl group - think The Supremes. Sing back-up for Donkey in "Make A Move" and must be able to hold harmonies.

4 Knights: Very old, with long beards. Sing back-up for Dragon in "Forever."

Blue Bird: Bird that gets into a sing off with Fiona in "Morning Person."

Antelope: Sings the opening lines of *Circle of Life* during a traveling scene.

Bishop, Duloc Greeter, Cow, Dish, Spoon, Little Bunny, Pied Piper all have solo speaking lines. ***Sign Bearer, Deer, Police Officer** and **Princess** have no solo speaking lines.

FARQUAAD'S MINIONS

Captain of the Guard: Comedic role, funny voice encouraged. Very militant, leader of all the guards. Non-singing role.

Thelonius: Farquaad's personal assistant. Goes everywhere Farquaad goes. Non-singing role.

***Guards:** Appear in the songs "Story of My Life", "Don't Let Me Go", "Regiments A & B", & "Ballad of Farquaad." Some guards have solo speaking lines.

ENSEMBLE

***Dancers:** Villagers in "Big Bright Beautiful World", Skeletons in "Forever", & Tapping/Dancing Rats in "Morning Person."

***Villagers:** Vocal Ensemble in "Big Bright Beautiful World", "What's Up Duloc?", & "Choir's Song"

***Puppeteers:** Non singing, non speaking - Will handle the Dragon & other important pieces.