

# Readers' Theater

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## The Emperor's New Clothes



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DRA: 16

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Each reader's part is highlighted in color.

### List of Characters

(in order of appearance)

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Group 1:  | Green      |
| Group 2:  | Blue       |
| Emperor:  | Orange     |
| Tailor 1: | Purple     |
| Tailor 2: | Light Blue |
| Servant:  | Pink       |
| All:      | Red        |
| Child:    | Brown      |

When the characters speak in unison, it is noted as **All**.



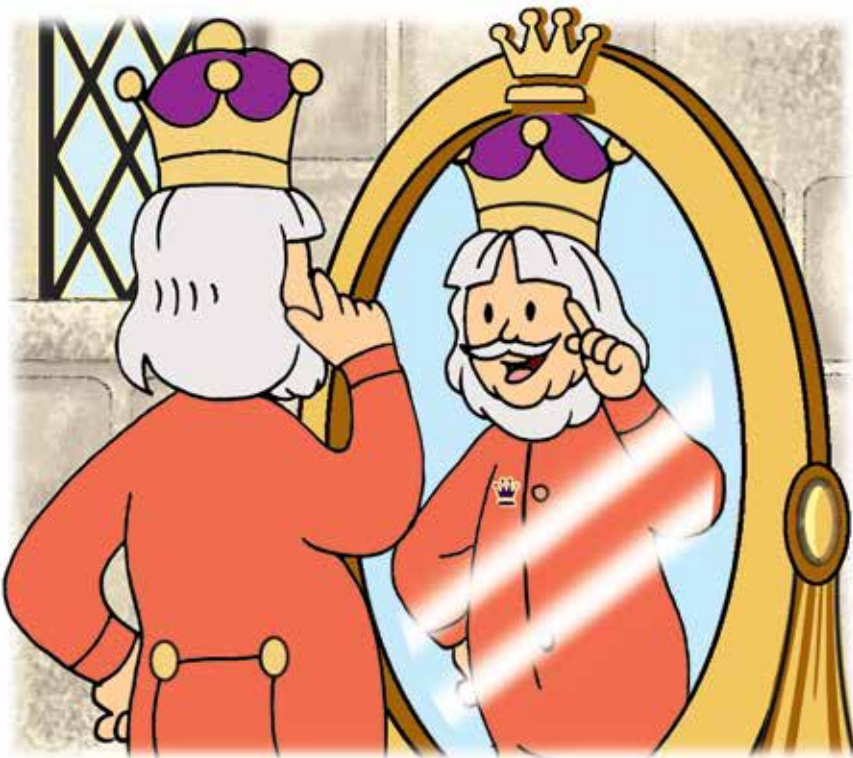
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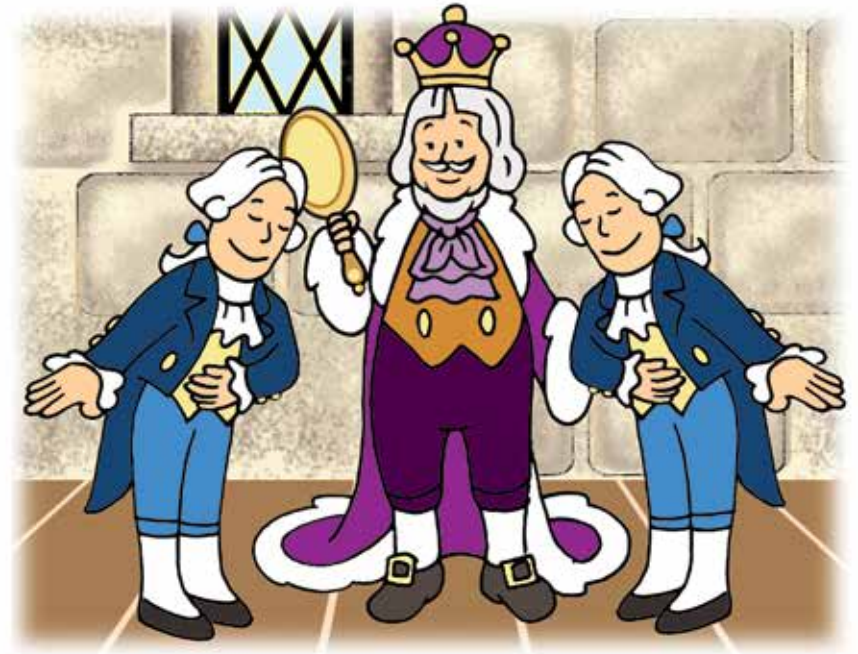
**Group 1:** Once the emperor was alone in his room, he stood in front of the mirror.

**Emperor:** How foolish I have been! I am so glad that the little boy spoke up. From now on, if I can't see something, I will say so.

**All:** Now that's smart!



## The Emperor's New Clothes



**Group 1:** A long, long time ago, there was an emperor who loved clothes.

**Group 2:** He would change his clothes every hour. Then he would show them off to his people.

**Emperor:** Look at my beautiful clothes!

**Group 2:** Two tailors heard of the emperor's love for clothes.

**Group 1:** So they went to see the emperor.

**Tailor 1:** Your Highness, we would like to make you a special suit.

**Tailor 2:** We would make you a suit from the finest cloth you have ever seen.

**Group 2:** The emperor was very excited.

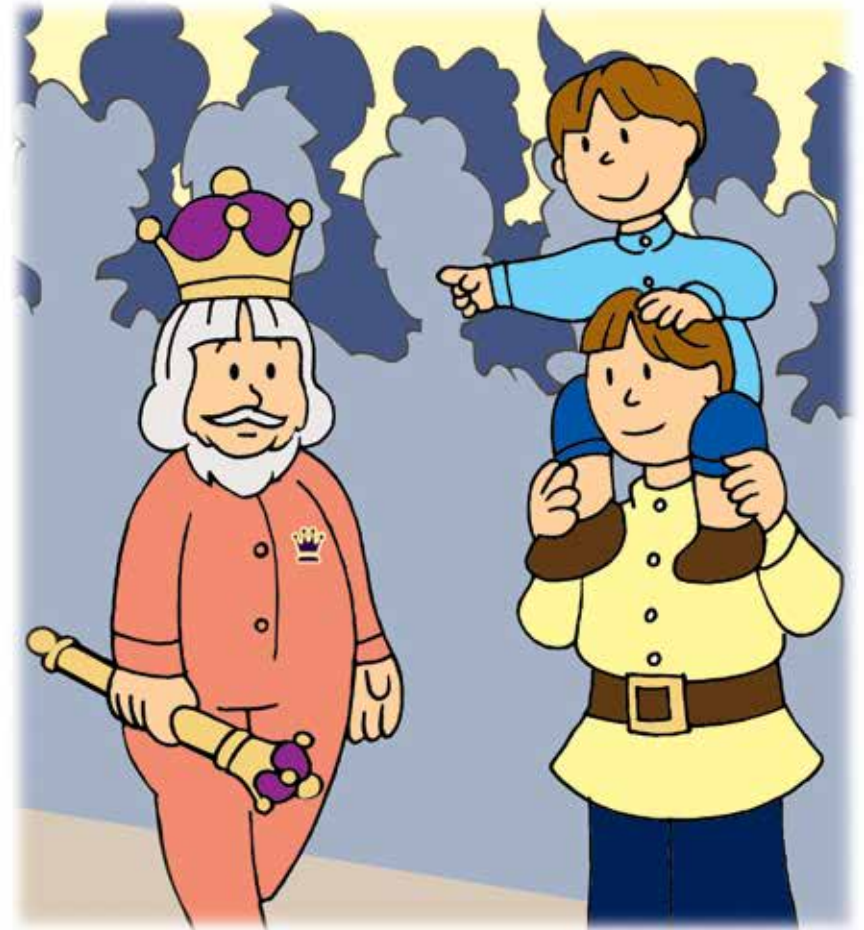
**Emperor:** I love clothes! I look so good in them!

**Tailor 1:** Our finest cloth is very special, Your Highness. Smart people are the only ones who can see it.

**Tailor 2:** Not-so-smart people can't see the cloth at all.

**Group 1:** Before he left, the emperor nodded at the small boy. The small boy smiled.

**Group 2:** Then the emperor turned around and walked up the castle steps.



**Group 1:** Suddenly a small child pointed to the emperor.

**Child:** The emperor isn't wearing any clothes!

**Group 2:** The parade stopped. Everyone was quiet.

**Group 1:** The emperor turned and looked at the boy. Then people began to whisper to one another.

**All:** Look! The emperor has no clothes!

**Group 2:** Finally, the emperor understood what had happened.

**Emperor:** We must return to the castle!

**Group 1:** The emperor liked this idea.

**Emperor:** Yes, make me a special suit with your finest cloth.

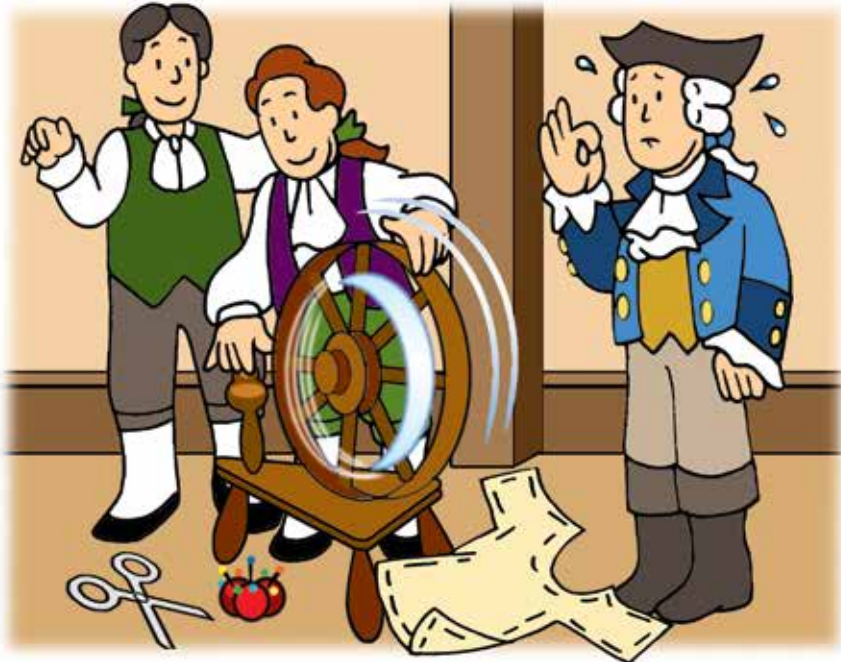
**Group 2:** The emperor gave the tailors bags of gold to pay for the suit. The tailors hurried away.



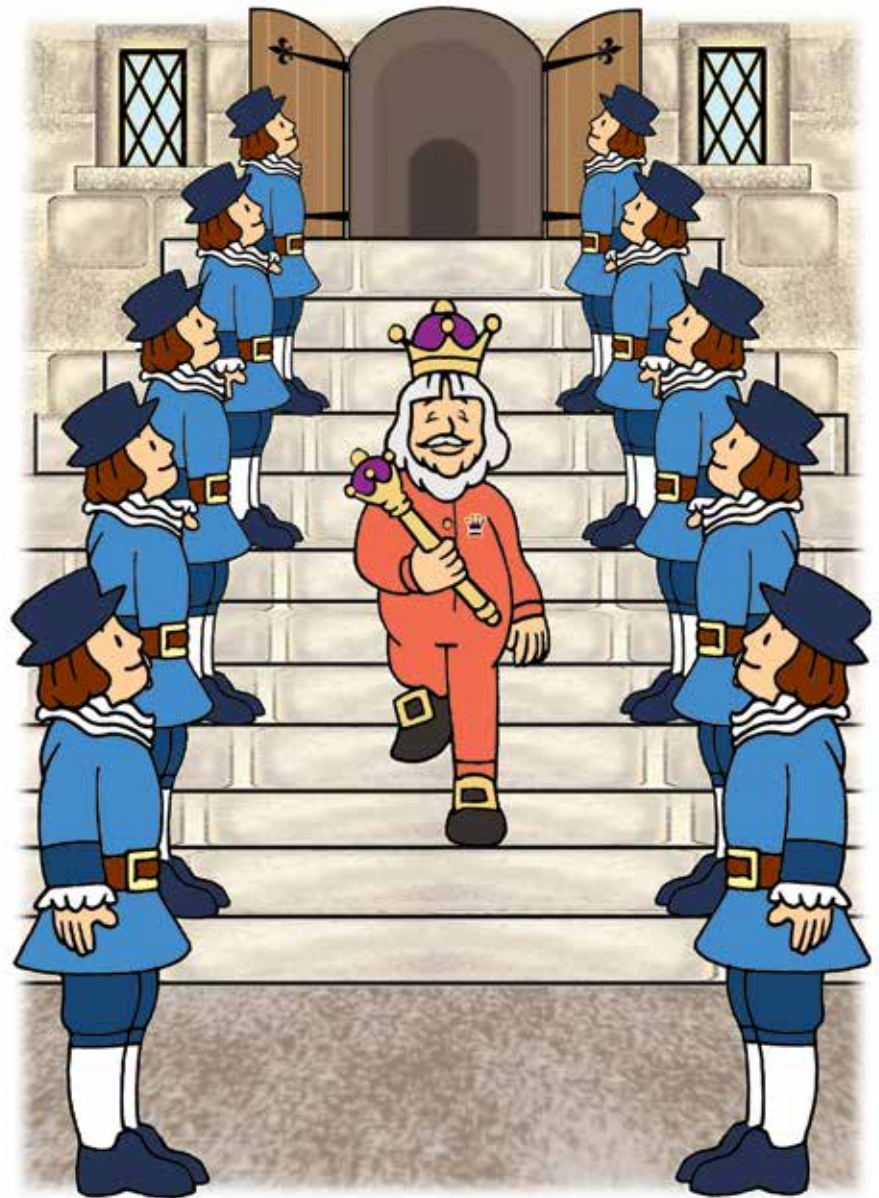
**Group 1:** A few days later, the emperor sent his smartest servant to see the tailors. The tailors seemed to be working hard. But the servant couldn't see what they were working on!

**Group 2:** The servant didn't want the tailors to think he wasn't smart. So he pretended to see the cloth.

**Servant:** Oh, look at that! That looks beautiful! I love the bright colors!

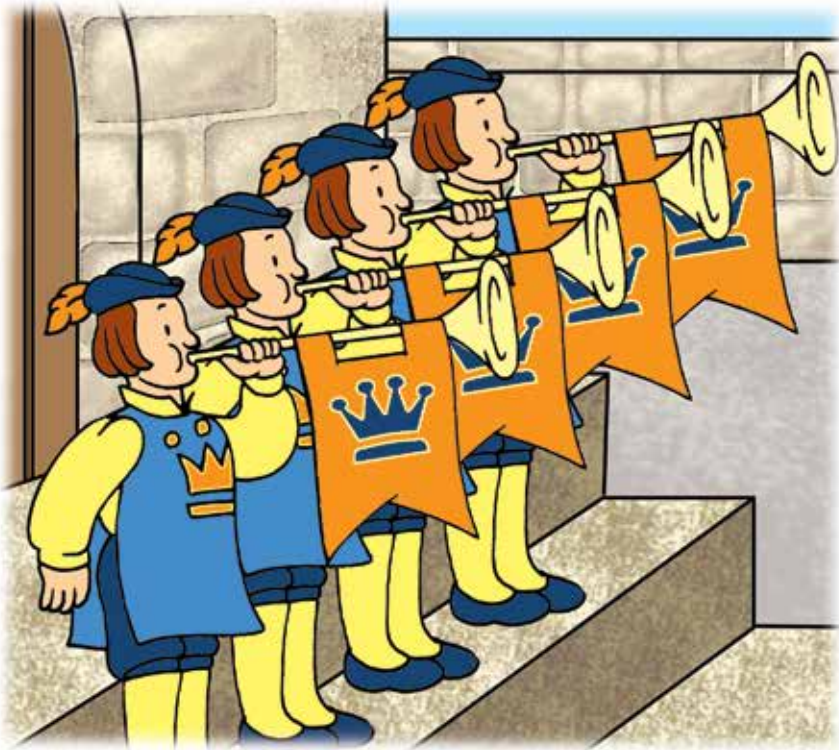


**All:** Look at the emperor! Isn't his new suit beautiful?



**Group 1:** The emperor led the parade down the castle steps and into the street. Many people came to see the emperor in his new suit.

**Group 2:** The emperor walked by. The people cheered and waved. No one told him that they couldn't see the new suit.



**Group 1:** The servant told the emperor about the beautiful cloth.

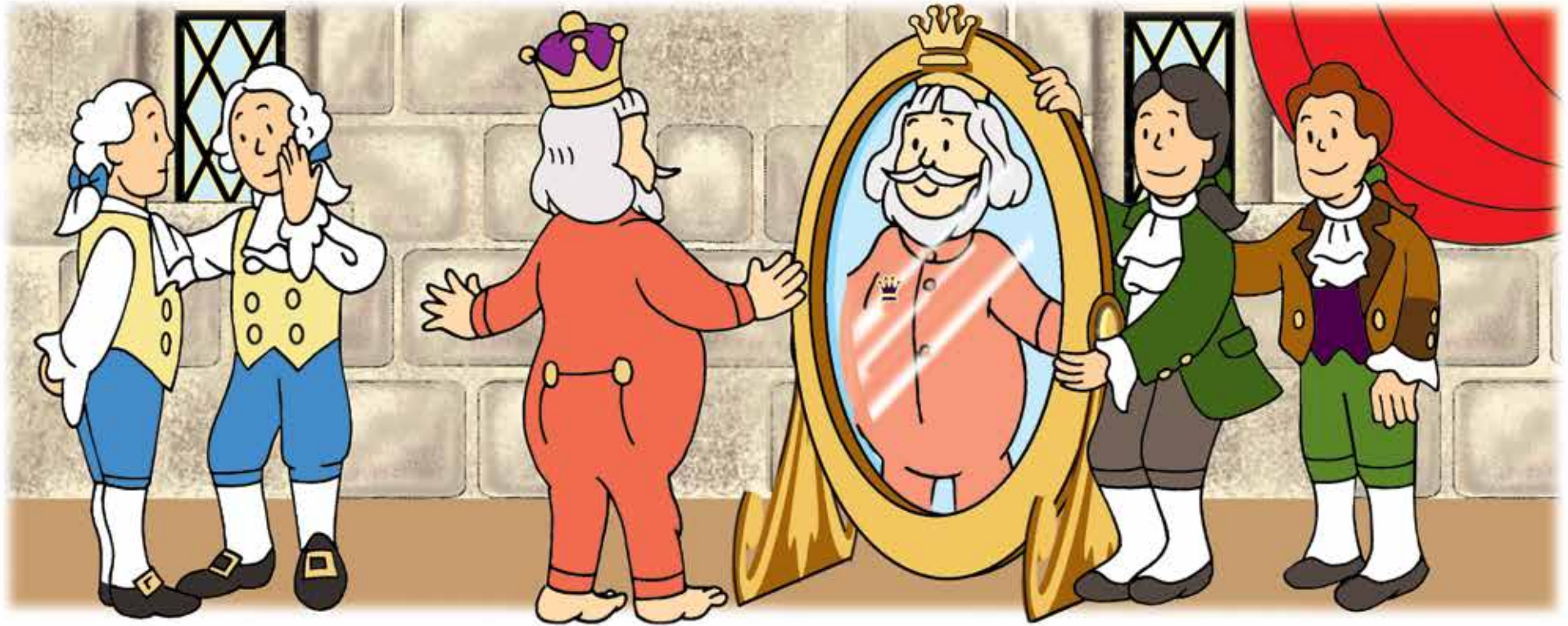
**Group 2:** About a week later, the tailors asked to see the emperor.

**Group 1:** The tailors pretended to hold up the new suit.

**Tailor 1:** What do you think of your new suit, Your Highness?

**Tailor 2:** Isn't it beautiful?





**Group 2:** The emperor couldn't see the suit! But he didn't want anyone to think he wasn't smart. So he smiled and nodded.

**Group 1:** The tailors pretended to help the emperor put on his new suit.

**Group 2:** The emperor looked in the mirror. All he saw was his underwear! But still, he just smiled and nodded.

**Emperor:** Do I look good in my new suit?

**Tailor 1:** Oh yes, Your Highness! Everyone will want to see you in your new suit!

**Tailor 2:** Let's have a parade.

**Emperor:** Oh, my! Oh, dear! Very well, let's have a parade.