

Little Peoples Puppet Skit “Fishing”

Materials required: a large frozen fish, bucket, fishing rod & line.

*Characters: Billy (puppet – a young fisherman with no patience)
Old Fisherman Sam (real character – a wise old fisherman)*

S: *(comes into the room, sits down, and begins to start “fishing”)* Ahhh. There’s nothing better on a beautiful day like today than coming down to my favourite fishing hole to catch me a fish or two. You know, I’ve been coming here for the last twenty years. Now that’s a loooonnnng time let me tell you! Sometimes I’m lucky and I can catch the fish really quickly. But at other times, it can take hours before I even get a little nibble! Sometimes, I wait down here for hours but don’t even catch anything! But I don’t mind because I kinda like sitting down here, just thinking about stuff. You can get pretty wise doing all that thinking you know.

B: *(appears at the puppet stage, talking down to the floor over one side)* You stupid fish – where are you? Don’t you care that I’ve been waiting here for the last five minutes? I’m going to go over here *(near where Sam is)* this looks like a much better spot. Oh great there’s someone already here. G’day you old codger – how are you today? Pulling many whales today?

S: Name’s Fisherman Sam. G’day young fella – no, you certainly won’t find any big fish around here.

B: Well, my name’s Billy and I don’t really care. I’d just like to catch a few of those slippery little suckers as quickly as possible so that then I can go home and show everyone what a good fisherman I am.

S: Well, to be a good fisherman, it takes a lot of patience. See, first you need to learn how the rod and line work together. Then you need to learn how to cast it out. After that there’s the way you thread the hook and put the bait on. And then ...

B: Yeah yeah yeah. I’m not interested in all that stuff – I just want to catch some fish really quickly so I can go home.

S: You’ve got to enjoy the whole fishing experience!

B: Fishing is so dumb – it takes forever and you never catch anything anyway. I’ve gotta get me one of those TV’s like on the ad – then I’d catch heaps of fish without doing anything! All those fish just jumped into that guy’s boat and he didn’t have to wait more than about 10 seconds! Now that’s what I call real fishing. No waiting, no messing around with smelly bait, no throwing out a stupid line that always gets caught and all that stuff. Just get a really long extension cord and a really big TV and you’re set! More fish than you can poke a fishing-line at!

- S: Well I'm sorry you feel that way, son. I think you might as well just go to the fish shop on your way home because that's the only way you'll ever catch anything with the amount of patience you have!
- B: Yeah, you're probably right. In fact, I'm starting to get bored already. I can't even be bothered throwing in my line now – I've spent so much time talking to you! I'll see you later old man. (*Billy disappears from the puppet stage*).
- S: Yeah – bye son. Good luck at the fish shop – but they certainly won't taste as good as if you'd caught them yourself! Ahhhh, back to me fishing now ... nice and relaxing... (*all of a sudden a fish flies out of the puppet stage*). Whoooooa! (*Sam leaps up as fast as an old codger can, grabs the fish, and puts it in his bucket. Then, with a twinkle in his eye*) well, well, whaddya know hey? There are big fish in the river after all – you just need to have a bit of patience to catch one. You know, I bet if Billy had of hung around a bit longer, he could have gotten that fish! Hmmmm – sometimes it pays to have a bit of patience! Well, that's about all I need for the next week or so. I might as well take my fish and go on home (*disappears from the room*). Bye!

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