

Musical Creatures

The introduction of each episode follows the journey of a single musical note as it flies across the sky, in front of the sun, through the clouds and down a rainbow until it heads out of sight down the chimney of the one bright orange brick house on a classic English row of grey townhouses in the town of Jollymont.

As the note exits the fireplace it enters the open mouth of a young girl, SHELLEY, who is singing and dancing along to music that appears to be coming from a vintage record player but as the camera pans across the room and zooms in on the spinning vinyl we can see that it is a small orchestra of tiny creatures, half musical instrument and half animal that are creating the glorious sound.

GUIRAFFE strums the rhythm, RATATATTAT accents the snare, VIOLIONS team up for the string section, PORCIPIPES takes a spikey Bagpipe solo and many other magical animals enthusiastically perform the opening number. (think the Muppets for a younger audience) It ends on a single triangle note from a baby ELAPET who plays the triangle as she has not yet discovered the use of her trunk as a trumpet. (every episode intro ends on a different note from a different musical creature) As Shelley would say, "It is epic!" Much like the musical creatures whom she looks after Shelley often combines words to form new meanings.

Guiraffe is now standing in front of a black board with three young Violions (Vicky, Victor and Veronica) standing and fidgeting in front of her as they begin a music lesson.

"Today children we will be learning the 'C' chord and how to count to '4'"

"Who knows the C chord?" asks Guiraffe.

All three stand to attention and Vicky begins a low confident C, Victor adds a strong E and Veronica squeaks in over the top with a wobbly F#. They all collapse in a fit of giggles.

Guiraffe gently reprimands them with a slight smile and invites them to try again. This time they make it all the way and sound a pleasant chord. They are so pleased with themselves that they start jumping up and down, pointing to a big jar on Guiraffes desk and shouting "treats, treats! We get treats!"

"Well I never!" exclaims Guiraffe. "Sit down immediately. Not once did I hear a 'please' or 'excuse me'. They sit down remorsefully. "What is going on with you three?"

Victor says "My mum says it's the full moon". Vicky says "My Dad says it must be something in the water"

Guiraffe sighs and begins to teach them counting to four as she strums a C chord with her tail. They copy her a few times and seeing that they are tired she says "That is enough for today!" and as they walk out of the classroom SNUTE (a wise and well respected creature that is half snake/ half flute) enters and Guiraffe takes the opportunity to ask advice on how to deal with the poor behaviour and bad manners of the young Violions. Snute knows the answer and suggests they call Shelley.

Together they walk to three large buttons ON, OFF and Volume then Guiraffe sits on the ON button that releases the needle and begins playing the record. It is Shelley's theme song and a moment later her big blue eyes are staring down at them.

"Hello my friends! What are you doing on this smashtastic day?"

They explain the problem with the behaviour of the Violions. Shelley smiles and says “Leave it to me, but I will need a C chord and the count of 4” Guiraffe obliges and as Shelley begins to sing the rest of the musical creatures come out to listen.

*You've lost your 'pleases' I wonder where they've gone?
You've lost your 'thank you's' I wonder where they've gone?*

*Have you looked inside your pockets, turned them inside out
I guess somewhere they're hiding deep within your mouth
You lost your manners 'do do do do'*

*You've lost your 'excuse me's' I wonder where they've gone?
You've lost your 'friendlies' I wonder where they've gone?*

*Have you looked inside your pockets, turned them inside out
I guess somewhere they're hiding deep within your mouth
You lost your manners 'do do do do'*

Go find them...

An individual focus on Vicky, Victor and Veronica as they begin to join in and the ‘camera’ pans out to see the whole orchestra joining in!

Zoom into record spinning on turntable for credits.