

Matilda!

Playlist (either access on Spotify or YouTube)

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5WYmgK7dvALIRYIWJduWwE?si=xXkqzZpET0KRRbofKK2CQw&utm_source=copy-link

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRNbIFWOj8GN1KbcA0zo02E-CV3c_YBy9

Ages 7-9

A play for approx 14 children. All Characters can be fit for any gender.

Character list:

Matilda Wormwood - A school girl who was brought up in a family that does not support her. They consider her love for reading weird and pointless. Matilda develops powers to defy the evil in her world and protect those who look after her.

Mrs Trunchball- The evil, child-torturing head master. Mrs Trunchball will make children big and small uncomfortable and is very cruel to her niece (Miss Honey).

Miss Honey- Miss Honey is a very caring teacher who wishes for the best in all her students. She looks after Matilda and supports her intelligence and magical gifts.

Harry Wormwood - Matilda's sleepy, criminal father who is not supportive or caring towards matilda.

Zianna Wormwood - Matilda's mother who neglects her daughter and is not very friendly.

Amanda Thripp- In Matilda's class, she is the girl with the pigtails.

Lavender Glottlestop- Matilda's loud & kooky friend. She has a big personality & likes to have fun.

Nigel- One of Matilda's closer friends at school.

Eric- In Matilda's class, the cute, small one who just wants everyone happy.

Alice- In Matilda's class, she is used to being treated badly and is the strong, bold one.

Tommy- A boy in Matilda's class, doesn't like upsetting Mrs Trunchball and is scared of her.

Hortensia- Already a feisty 10, veteran of many Trunchbull battles.

Bruce Bogtrotter- Matilda's classmate. He is subject to extreme punishment by Miss Trunchbull.

Narrator/magic coordinator - This character will be dressed in all black to disguise in the background. They will not only help share the story, but they will be moving all objects subject to Matilda's powers.

Play track - TV sounds

Play starts in Matilda's living room with her mother and father watching TV on the sofa. Matilda is in the corner of the stage reading a book. The TV soundtrack should last this whole scene and actors speak over it.

Narrator: Inside Matilda's house, the TV never stops. Inside Matilda's house, they only eat hotdogs. Inside Matilda's house, if you listen carefully, you may just hear her when she sobs.

Harry and Zianna Wormwood laughing uncontrollably and the TV.

Harry Wormwood: *(Realises Matilda isn't paying attention)* Matilda... What's wrong with you?? You get to watch the funniest TV in your house and you don't even watch it?!

Zianna Wormwood: I don't know where she came from.. I really don't. MATILDA... WE ARE WATCHING TV AS A FAMILY.

Harry Wormwood: Can you hear your mother?! All you is sit there with your head in those stupid books! Where do you get them from anyway!?

Zianna Wormwood: I've caught her sneaking off to the ... library!!! The library!! That's not the kind of place a Wormwood should go.

Harry Wormwood: Absolutely not. We go to the car dealers shop...

Zianna Wormwood: We go to the hairdressers.

Harry Wormwood: We go to the movie theatre!

Zianna Wormwood: We go to ballroom dance classes.

Harry storms over to Matilda who lifts her head out of her book for the first time.

Harry Wormwood: Are you listening to us Matilda?

TV track stops sharply.

Matilda: Yes, I have been listening. In answer to your questions; you are correct mother, I did get this book from the library, I am a member and they give me lots of

interesting books to read. And Dad, the car dealers shop is a scam and it's criminal, I do not want to be a criminal. And mother, My hair is just fine, I do not feel the need to go to the hairdressers every week. And lastly, this TV is mind numbing and boring.

Harry and Zianna Wormwood: *(looks are eachother then back at Matilda)*
BORING?!?!?

Matilda: There was actually something I wanted to ask you...

Harry and Zianna Wormwood: *(looks are eachother then back at Matilda)*
BORING?!?!?

Matilda: I am old enough this month to go to school, we have a school just down the road, please can I go?

Harry Wormwood: You... going to school?! But you're not clever enough they'll all laugh!

Zianna Wormwood: I say yes. Get her out of the house for 6 hours a day... sounds wonderful to me!

Zianna and Harry Wormwood exit. Matilda packs the books into her backpack, puts it on her back and starts to walk on the spot. Throughout the next track, all school students get into their spots on the stage sitting down in class with Miss Honey at the back of the stage (front of the class).

Play track- I'm here (fade at 20 seconds)

Narrator: As Matilda makes her way to school, she is left wondering, will she make friends? Will her teachers be nice? Will school be just like it is in books? Let's all find out.

Miss Honey: Good morning everyone.

All students: Good morning Miss Honey.

Miss Honey: Now, as you are all aware, we have a new child in our class today. Would you like to give everyone a wave, Matilda?

Matilda does so.

Miss Honey: Everyone please make Matilda feel welcome, can you all say 'hello Malida'!

All students: Hello Matilda!

Miss Honey: Lovely. You're going to fit right in Matilda. Now we have all been practising our times tables. I know you are new, so don't worry if you don't know the answers yet. Let's see... What is 2×2 ?

All students: Four.

Miss Honey: What is 2×7 ?

All students: Fourteen.

Miss Honey: Very good! You're getting so good. Very soon you'll be able to answer 12×375 !

Matilda: Four thousand five hundred.

Miss Honey: (*Counts on her fingers to see if Matilda is correct*) Yes, that's right Matilda. How did you learn maths like that?

Matilda: Just from books for the Library!

Miss Honey: Well that's very impressive.

Bruce Bogtrotter: I wish I could do maths like that!

Lavender Glottlestop: I think we could, if we all practised!

Nigel: I wonder what Mrs Trunchball would say if she heard Matilda was really clever.

Eric: (*to Matilda*) Mrs Trunchball is the headmaster at our school.

Alice: She's nothing like Miss Honey. Mrs Trunchball is cruel and likes to punish children.

Mrs Trunchball enters and stamps her way into the classroom.

Mrs Trunchball: What is all this rubbish going on?! Maths!? They can't do maths Miss Honey!! They are nowhere near clever enough! I'll throw you all in the Chokey!!

Matilda: What's the chokey?

Mrs Trunchball: What's the chokey?! What's the Chokey?!

Tommy: The chokey is a small cupboard full of needles and it's not very nice. Make sure you never get sent there.

Hortensia: Don't worry Matilda, we've been here long enough to know how to deal with Mrs Trunchball!

Mrs Trunchball: (*To Amamnda*) What have a said about wearing cute pig tails in my school!?

Amanda Thripp: I'm sorry, my mum did them! She thinks they look cute!

Mrs Trunchball: CUTE?! I'll get rid of them!!

Play track - Scary Time

Mrs Trunchball takes hold of the two pigtails and Amanda (in full control of the action) spins around on stage and throws herself off stage (appearing as though it is Mrs Trunchball).

Mrs Trunchball: That will teach her! Anyone else have anything to say?? (*silence*)
Mhmm. That's what I thought. I will get anyone who speaks back to me!!!

Mrs Trunchball exits one side whilst Amanda Thripp enters the other wide holding her like it hurts.

Amanda Thripp: Owwww. That really hurt my head.

Bruce Bogtrotter: We can't let her get away with it!

Lavender Glottlestop: It's not fair how she goes around bullying us all!

Nigel: Could we do something? If we all worked together?

Eric: We could protest!

Alice: Yes! Say we will not do anymore school work until she stops bullying us.

Tommy: We could pretend we're revolting and scare Mrs Trunchball!

Play dance track - Revolting Children

Have all the cast onstage for the dance. Ensure different positions throughout and repeat the chorus. After ending positions, only Narrator, Miss Honey and Matilda on stage.

Narrator: Matilda had started discovering something about herself. She channelled the power from the upset and anger built up throughout her life. She is about to share her power for the first time.

Matilda: Miss Honey, can I share something with you?

Miss Honey: Of course you can, Matilda.

Matilda: Watch that chair.

Matilda looks at the chair intensely, the narrator slowly lifts it across the room as Matilda's eyes follow it as it is placed gently.

Miss Honey: Matilda... how did you... how?

Matilda: I'm not sure, it just happened one time when my dad was shouting at me and I was wishing for his dinner to fall all over the floor to stop him shouting at me. So I was looking at his dinner, and it fell off the table.

Miss Honey: Are you saying you taught yourself to do this?

Matilda: I guess so, yeah!

Miss Honey: Oh, Matilda, that is an extraordinary gift.

Matilda: I use it to get back at people who have been mean.

Miss Honey: I know the feeling, my aunt used to be very mean to me.

Matilda: Your Aunt? Who is she?

Miss Honey: I shouldn't really be talking about this... My Aunt is Mrs Trunchball. She is my father's sister. When my father died, she took everything from me and was very cruel.

Matilda: I'm so sorry Mrs Honey, I wish I could help you.

Play Track - Miracle (fade when Mrs Trunchball starts shouting)

Matilda and Miss Honey exit.

Narrator: That is when Matilda started to come up with her plan. She was going to use her magic to help Miss Honey. She just didn't know how yet.

All students come on shouting and cheering. Mrs Trunchball is looking stern out front and Bruce Bogtrotter is centre stage with a big 'cake' in front of him. All the other kids are on either side of him.

Ms Trunchball: You will eat the WHOLE cake Bruce Bogtrotter and you will not leave until it is finished!

Bruce Bogtrotter: But, Mrs Trunchball, I'm not hungry! We've only just had lunch.

Mrs Trunchball: Are you talking back to me, Bruce?

Bruce Bogtrotter: No, I just... I mean... no.

Amanda Thripp: You can do it Bruce!

Lavender Glottlestop: We believe in your Bruce!! Just try your best!

Bruce starts 'eating' with encouragement.

Nigel: You can do it!

Eric: Not much left now Bruce!

Mrs Trunchball: ENOUGH! No more shouting out.

Bruce looks at Mrs Trunchball scared and continues to eat. He starts to wipe sweat and looks like he can't do any more.

Alice: *(Goes around and whispers to everyone) ...READY?!*

All: YOU CAN DO IT BRUCE! YOU CAN DO IT BRUCE! YOU CAN DO IT BRUCE!

Bruce Bogtrotter: I've finished it! I've finished the cake!

All: Yaaaayyy!!

Tommy: We knew you could do it Bruce!

Hortensia: Now you won't have to go into the choker!!

Mrs Trunchball: No? Won't he? Well... Let's see... I have another cake for you to finish..

. (Mrs Trunchball goes and gets another 'cake' and bring it to Bruce)

Narrator: This was the moment Matilda was waiting for. She knew she'd be able to use her powers to get Mrs Trunchball...

Matilda stands at the side of the stage and looks intensely on the cake. In slow motion the Narrator moves the 'cake' across stage towards Mrs Trunchball and the children react shocked in slow motion. The cake ends up all over Mrs Trunchball's face.

Mrs Trunchball: Nooooo!! *(exits crying)*

Play track - Entr'acte

All exit stage, Harry and Zianna Wormwood, Matilda and Mrs Honey are left onstage.

Harry Wormwood: Matilda, look, we have some news.

Zianna: Your father and I are leaving town and we won't be coming back.

Matilda goes and whispers in Miss Honey's ear.

Matilda: Okay. Do you mind if I stay here?

Harry Wormwood: Where will you live?!

Matilda: With my school teacher, Miss Honey?

Zianna: Very well then. Toodaloo!

All came on stage to sing the final song.

Narrator: I guess the moral of the story is.. Sometimes you have to stick up for yourself. Sometimes you have to make your own luck. Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty...

Play song track - Naughty

Whole cast sings, please allocate solos and duets where suitable for the actor and character.

Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.

So they say, their subsequent fall was inevitable.

They never stood a chance; they were written that way -

Innocent victims of their story.

Like Romeo and Juliet,

'Twas written in the stars before they even met

That love and fate (and a touch of stupidity)

Would rob them of their hope of living happily.

The endings are often a little bit gory.

I wonder why they didn't just change their story.

We're told we have to do what we're told, but surely

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty.

[Chorus:]

Just because you find that life's not fair, it
Doesn't mean that you just have to grin and bear it.

If you always take it on the chin and wear it,

Nothing will change.

Even if you're little you can do a lot, you

Mustn't let a little thing like 'little' stop you.

If you sit around and let them get on top, you

Might as well be saying you think that it's OK,

And that's not right.

Cinderella, in the cellar,

Didn't have to do much as far as I could tell.

Her Godmother was two thirds fairy.

Suddenly her lot was a lot less scary.

But what if you haven't got a fairy to fix it?

Sometimes you have to make a little bit of mischief.

[Repeat Chorus]

And if it's not right, you have to put it right.

In the slip of a bolt, there's a tiny revolt.

The seeds of a war in the creak of a floorboard.

A storm can begin with the flap of a wing.

The tiniest mite packs the mightiest sting.

Every day starts with the tick of a clock.

All escapes start with the click of a lock.

If you're stuck in your story and want to get out,

You don't have to cry; you don't have to shout.

'Cause if you're little, you can do a lot, you

Mustn't let a little thing like 'little' stop you.

If you sit around and let them get on top, you

Won't change a thing.

Just because you find that life's not fair, it

Doesn't mean that you just have to grin and bear it.

If you always take it on the chin and wear it,

You might as well be saying you think that it's OK.

And that's not right.

And if it's not right, you have to put it right.

But nobody else is gonna put it right for me.

Nobody but me is gonna change my story.

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty.

Script by Amber Thomason