



Class play: The Mystery of the Diamond Ring

1 Look at the pictures. What are the characters doing?

2 Practise the play with your friends.

Scene 1: The Newspaper Article

Narrator The children are in the school playground.

Joe Hi, everybody. Have you seen this story in the local newspaper?

(Joe shows them an article in a newspaper.)

Anna Not yet. What's it about?

Joe Do you know Mrs Jones?

Tom She's the lady who lives in Rose Cottage, isn't she?

Joe That's right. Well, she's lost her diamond ring.

Kate Has it been stolen?

Joe Nobody knows! Mrs Jones says she took off her ring when she was washing up in the kitchen. She left it on the window ledge. Then she forgot about it.

Anna So it was stolen from the window!

Tom Yes, but who stole it?

Kate I've got an idea! We should do some detective work.

Anna And, if we solve the mystery, we can write about it for the school magazine!



Scene 2: On the Way to Rose Cottage

Joe Look! *(Joe points.)* Here comes the postman. He might know something.

(The postman is walking towards them.)

Kate Let's ask him.

Tom Excuse me. We're from the local school and we're investigating the mystery of the diamond ring.

Anna We're going to write about it in our school magazine.

Postman That sounds interesting.

Joe The thing is ... Mrs Jones lost her ring on Tuesday morning.

Kate And we were wondering ... Well, you deliver letters to Rose Cottage, don't you?

Postman That's right. And, on Tuesday, I delivered a parcel, too. I knocked on the door and Mrs Jones answered it.

Tom What time was it?

Postman It was nine o'clock. I looked at my watch because I was late.

Anna Did you see anyone else?

Postman Well ... yes. While I was standing outside, I saw someone walking round to the back of the house.

Joe What did he look like?

Postman I'm afraid I didn't look at him closely. I would have done, if I'd known it was important.

Kate Well, thank you. That's very helpful.

Postman Don't mention it. Good luck with the investigation.

(The postman walks away whistling.)



Scene 3: At Rose Cottage

Narrator The children are at Rose Cottage.

(Kate knocks on the door. After a moment, Mrs Jones appears.)

Kate Hello, Mrs Jones. We're working for our school magazine. We'd like to solve the mystery of your missing diamond ring.

Mrs Jones That's wonderful! Come in.

(The children follow her into the kitchen. Mrs Jones walks over to the window.)

Joe Can you tell us what happened?

Mrs Jones Well, I put my ring here and then I left the room. When I came back, it was gone.

Tom Was the window open?

Mrs Jones Yes, it was. Oh dear! If I hadn't left it open, the ring wouldn't have disappeared!

Anna Can we go outside?

Mrs Jones Yes, of course. My grandchildren are there and so is the gardener. He was here on Tuesday, too.

(The children follow Mrs Jones outside. The gardener is digging up a flower bed. Mrs Jones's grandchildren are playing under a tree.)

Mrs Jones Hello, Bob. These children have been investigating the mystery of my diamond ring.

(The gardener stops digging.)

Joe Hello. Mrs Jones said you were here last Tuesday. We were wondering ... did you see the ring?

Gardener Yes, I did. I was walking past the kitchen at 9 a.m. and I saw the ring. It was sparkling in the sunshine.

Kate Did you see it there later?

Gardener At 9.15, I went to my van to get some tools. The ring was there. While I was getting my tools, my wife phoned me on my mobile. I talked for five minutes. When I went back to the garden, the ring had gone.

(Mrs Jones walks over to talk to their grandchildren. Bob is digging again.)

Tom Hmm. What do you think happened? *(There's the noise of a bird. The children look up.)*

Kate I've got it! I know what happened! *(Kate looks excited.)*

Scene 4: The Mystery is Solved

Narrator The children explain the mystery.

Kate Listen everybody! We've solved the mystery of the diamond ring.

(Everybody gathers round.)

Mrs Jones That's wonderful! What happened?

Tom The postman said he saw someone walking round the back of the house, but that was the gardener.

Joe And the gardener wasn't the thief because ...

Anna He's too nice! *(The gardener looks pleased.)*

Mrs Jones So where's my ring?

Kate Look up at the tree. Can you see that bird? It's a magpie. Magpies love stealing shiny things.

Mrs Jones Ah! You think the ring's in the magpie's nest, don't you?

Gardener Let's find out! I'll get a ladder.

(The gardener leaves and comes back with an imaginary ladder. He pretends to climb up to look in the nest.)

Gardener Here it is! I've found some other things too! There's a spoon and a bracelet as well.

(The gardener holds up a diamond ring, a bracelet and a spoon.)

Mrs Jones Oh, thank you! That's wonderful! And thank you, children. You've solved the mystery of the diamond ring. Would you like some cake to celebrate?

Kate Yes, please! And then we must go and write our story!

