

Mary Poppins
Character information

LEAD ROLES (Group A)

Please see the attached sections of script, which need to be learned for the auditions. If you think you would like to audition for more than one of these roles, please see Mrs Bentley.

MARY POPPINS is Jane and Michael Banks's new nanny. She is extraordinary and strange, neat and tidy, delightfully vain yet very particular, and sometimes a little frightening, but always exciting. She is practically perfect in every way and always means what she says.

BERT, the narrator of the story, is a good friend to Mary Poppins. An everyman, Bert has many occupations, including hurdy-gurdy player, sidewalk artist, and chimney sweep. Bert watches over the children as well as the goings on in Cherry Tree Lane.

WINIFRED BANKS is George's wife and Jane and Michael's mother. A former actress, she is a loving and distracted homemaker who is busy trying to live up to her husband's desire to only associate with "the best people" as well as be a model wife and mother. She suffers from the conflicting feelings that she's not up to the job of "being Mrs. Banks," yet she is, and more.

GEORGE BANKS, father to Jane and Michael Banks, is a banker to the very fiber of his being. Demanding "precision and order" in his household, he is a pipe-and-slippers man who doesn't have much to do with his children and believes that he had the perfect upbringing by his nanny, the cruel Miss Andrew. His emotional armor, however, conceals a sensitive soul.

MICHAEL BANKS is the cute and cheeky son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks. Excitable and naughty, he adores his father and tries to be like him.
Both he and Jane misbehave in order to get the attention of their parents.

JANE BANKS, the high-spirited daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Banks, is bright and precocious but can be willful and inclined to snobbishness.

MRS. BRILL is the housekeeper and cook for the Banks family. Overworked and harassed, she's always complaining that the house is understaffed. Her intimidating exterior is a cover for the warmth underneath. Mrs. Brill doesn't have a high opinion of nannies in general and Mary Poppins in particular.

ROBERTSON AY is the houseboy to the Banks family. Lazy, sleepy, and grumbling, he never gets things right and believes himself to be useless.

MISS ANDREW is George's overbearing and scary nanny. With her bottle of nasty-tasting brimstone and treacle to keep naughty children in line, she is a bully who only knows one way of doing things – her way.
Please note that we may consider casting a male in the role of Miss Andrew for added comic effect

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OTHER SIGNIFICANT ROLES (Group B)

You **DO NOT** need to learn sections of dialogue for any of these roles. At the auditions, if you have expressed interest in any of these roles, you will be asked to read from a number of sections of script.

NELEUS is the statue of a young boy posed with a dolphin in the park. Neleus was separated from his father, Poseidon, and misses him very much. A small and lonely being, he is very happy to befriend Jane and Michael.

Neleus will need to be a strong dancer, and as such the audition for Neleus will take place with the auditions for the Specialist Dance Troupes.

ADMIRAL BOOM is a retired Royal Navy man and neighbor of the Banks family. A physically large man with a loud and booming voice, he speaks in Navy jargon and has a soft spot for his neighbor, Miss Lark.

MISS LARK is the haughty next-door neighbor of the Banks family who treats her dog, Willoughby, as if he were her child.

VON HUSSLER is a businessman seeking a loan from the bank for a shady business deal.

JOHN NORTHBROOK is an honest businessman seeking a loan to build a factory for his community.

BANK CHAIRMAN, the head of the bank where Mr. Banks is employed, is an Edwardian stuffed-shirt.

BIRD WOMAN is covered in a patchwork of old shawls, and her pockets are stuffed with bags of crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs to passersby, who ignore her as if she doesn't exist.

The Bird Woman does not have any dialogue, but does sing the poignant song "Feed The Birds".

SMALLER ROLES (Group C)

There are no separate auditions for these roles. As the rehearsals get underway, the Director and Associate Director will select members of the Chorus to undertake these roles.

KATIE NANNA is Jane and Michael's nanny at the beginning of the show. Overwhelmed and upset, she has absolutely had her fill of the Banks children.

PARK KEEPER. Uniformed and officious, he makes sure no one breaks park regulations. His life is defined by rules, but he secretly hankers after his childhood.

POLICEMAN is a neighborhood fixture who is respected by and observant of the households on his beat.

QUEEN VICTORIA is a statue in the park.

VALENTINE is a stuffed boy doll belonging to Jane.

TEDDY BEAR, MR. PUNCH, and DOLL are toys belonging to Jane and Michael.

MRS. CORRY owns a magical gingerbread shop. She is a mysterious woman of great age.

ANNIE and FANNIE are Mrs. Corry's daughters.

MISS SMYTHE is the Bank Chairman's humorless secretary.