

# Ferocious Wild Beasts

By Chris Wormell

Readers' Theater

<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	A bear was strolling in the forest one day...
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	...when he met a small JACK, sitting on a tree stump, looking rather sad.
<b>BEAR</b>	What's the matter?
<b>JACK</b>	I'm lost and I'm in terrible trouble.
<b>BEAR</b>	Dear me, why is that?
<b>JACK</b>	Because my mom said I must never go into the forest, but I did. And now I'm lost!
<b>BEAR</b>	Don't worry! I'll soon show you the way out. The forest isn't so bad, you know.
<b>JACK</b>	It is! My mom says the forest is full of <i>ferocious wild beasts</i> !
<b>BEAR</b>	Really? Is it? What are they like?
<b>JACK</b>	They're all hairy, and they hide in the shadows and then they pounce on you and gobble you up!
<b>BEAR</b>	Do they... er, do they gobble up bears too?
<b>JACK</b>	Of course. They gobble up everything!
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	The bear peered fearfully into the shadows between the trees.
<b>BEAR</b>	I think we'd better go.
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	They had not gone far when they met an elephant having a snack.
<b>ELEPHANT</b>	Would anyone like a banana?
<b>BEAR</b>	You'd better watch out, Elephant. This young man tells me there are <i>ferocious wild beasts</i> on the loose!
<b>ELEPHANT</b>	Oh dear! (drops hi banana) Are they <i>very</i> wild?
<b>JACK</b>	The wildest beasts ever! They're SO big they could step on you and squish you just like that!
<b>ELEPHANT</b>	But, er...they couldn't squish an elephant, could they?

<b>JACK</b>	Easily!
<b>ELEPHANT</b>	Oh crumbs! You don't mind if I tag along with you, do you?
<b>NARRATOR 2:</b>	And soon all three were creeping through the forest.
<b>NARRATOR 1:</b>	Before long they met a lion sunbathing on a rock.
<b>LION</b>	Sit down and enjoy the sun!
<b>BEAR</b>	Not likely! Don't you know there are <i>ferocious wild beasts</i> about?
<b>LION</b>	Are there? How ferocious?
<b>JACK</b>	The most ferocious type of all, and they have sharp claws and big teeth and can bite your head off in a second.
<b>LION</b>	Yikes! But they couldn't do that to a lion, could they?
<b>JACK</b>	I think they like eating lions best of all.
<b>LION</b>	Oh, help! You wouldn't mind if I came along with you, would you?
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	So off they went, tiptoeing through the forest.
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	And soon they met a crocodile...and a wolf...and a python.
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	Now the sun was sinking.
<b>JACK</b>	The nighttime is when the ferocious wild beasts come out to hunt.
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	Just then they heard a sound...
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	...like the sound of a terrible beast stomping through the undergrowth.
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	Then they saw a light flickering through the tree trunks like a great glowing eye...
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	And then they heard a wild roar echoing through the forest...
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	And they all ran for their lives!
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	Well, except for the small JACK, who was the bravest.
<b>NARRATOR 1</b>	He crept forward and saw that it wasn't ferocious wild beast at all – it was something <i>much</i> worse....
<b>NARRATOR 2</b>	It was a ferocious mom!

<b>MOM</b>	Jack! Jack! Where are you, you naughty JACK?
	There you are. Didn't I tell you never to go into the forest? Didn't I tell you about all the <i>ferocious wild beasts</i> ?
<b>JACK</b>	But, Mom, I didn't see any ferocious wild beasts.