

Booktalk!

Moby Shinobi: Ninja in the Kitchen Script

For this Book Talk you will need

- 4 actors (Moby Shinobi, Papa Peppy, Jeff the Chef)
- Moby: black or blue pants, long-sleeved shirt, gloves, ninja headband/bandana & shoes, black ninja belt
- Papa Peppy: black pants, red shirt, green scarf/bandana, white apron
- Jeff the Chef: blue pants, white shirt, red scarf/bandana, green apron, chef's hat
- Waitress Wanda: blue pants, red shirt, green scarf/bandana, green apron, pad, pen, tray of fake food
- Additional props: recycling bin, paper cup, stack of foam bricks, 3 chairs, small plush cat, small garbage can with lid, 2 tables, 5 or 6 balls of white Playdoh (simulating pizza dough), toy pizza slicer, 2 fake pizzas (paper, felt or fabric) already cut into slices, copy of *Moby Shinobi: Ninja in the Kitchen*



Moby: *(running onstage, doing a ninja kick and hand movements; facing audience & speaking in upbeat rhythm)*

Hi-yah! Hey! Welcome to my street!

My ninja moves canNOT be beat!

Moby: *(grabbing paper cup off floor and tossing it in recycling bin, kicking stack of bricks on floor, then continuing to make movements that correspond to his rap)*

Toss! Hop! Twist! I can kick through brick!

Swish! Slice! Flip! Watch my ninja trick!

Moby: *(looking then dashing to side of stage where plush cat is perched precariously on chair, grabbing garbage lid & catching the cat on the lid)*

Zoom! Leap! Catch! Help is always near!

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Run! Zip! (pausing briefly) Wait – what is that I hear? (holding hand to ear)

Moby: *(running over to Papa Peppy who has come onstage holding hands to his head in dismay, looking frantic)*

Papa Peppy, I heard your shout.

My ninja skills can help you out. *(doing a kick and hand chop in the air for emphasis)*

Papa Peppy: *(walking to middle of stage toward table with balls of ‘pizza dough’ on it)*

My pizza won the Golden Slice!

Now extra hands would be quite nice!

Papa Peppy: *(gesturing to pizza dough as he speaks)*

Throw the dough up in the air.

Then spin it fast, but *please* take care.

Moby: *(smiling enthusiastically as he grabs 3 balls of dough)*

Without a doubt I sure can throw.

Whether it’s ninja stars or pizza dough!

Moby: *(making appropriate actions as he speaks, tossing & dropping the dough as he goes)*

Twist! *(twisting the ‘dough’)* Squish! *(squeezing ‘dough’)* Toss! *(tossing ‘dough’ in air)* Splat! *(‘dough’ falling on floor)*

Papa: *(grabbing 1 or 2 of the balls of dough from the floor and looking dismayed)*

Oh my goodness! What did you do?

Let’s find a job that’s right for you.

Papa: *(gesturing toward Jeff Chef who is across on other side of stage standing at other table & wiping his forehead with the back of his hand)*

Jeff the Chef needs a little rest.

His many skills make us the best.

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(Papa leading Moby over to Chef Jeff then exiting the stage; handing pizza slicer to Moby & showing him pizzas)

Jeff: Cut the pizzas up, nice and neat.
Hurry before they lose their heat!

Moby: *(taking the slicer from Jeff and holding it as if it were a sword)*
I am handy with a sword!
Watch me leap to the cutting board!

Moby: *(making appropriate actions as he speaks, jumping about & making a complete mess of the pizza)*

Swish! *(pausing)* Slice! *(pausing)* Crash! *(pausing)* Plop! *(pausing)*

Jeff: *(speaking excitedly with hands in the air)*
Eek! Oh, no! What did you do?
Let's find a different job for you.

(Jeff leading Moby over to Waitress Wanda who is walking onto other side of stage with tray full of food, looking exhausted)

Jeff: *(motioning to Wanda)*
Waitress Wanda could use a break.
She works so hard that her poor feet ache.

Wanda: *(sitting down on one chair, picking up a book (a copy of Moby Shinobi: Ninja in the Kitchen) from the other chair, putting her feet up & relaxing; Moby handing Wanda a mug)*

Please take the orders from the pile.
Then serve the people with a smile.

Papa: *(running onto the stage in a hurry, looking somewhat concerned; holding up one hand to stop Moby from moving)* Wait one minute! You do mean well...

Jeff: *(running onto stage and speaking to Wanda)* There's something important we have to tell!

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Wanda: *(holding up book and showing it to audience; speaking to Moby) Moby Shinobi – this book on the chair...*

Moby: *(spreading arms & smiling at audience) It's selling right here, at your Scholastic Book Fair!*