

Sample Episode

by Steve James



FABLE ISLAND

Fable Island

Concept, Music, Lyrics and Script by Steve James ©2023

Outline

Fable Island

Featuring catchy original tunes, Fable Island introduces an enchanted storyteller named Snap, his sidekick Feather and loveable creatures who discover life lessons through music, games and a magical Book of Musifables.

Show Description

Targeting an early elementary audience, Fable Island is an irresistible animated show filled with catchy original tunes, a magic storyteller named Snap, his sidekick Feather and other enchanted creatures who sing and play. When Snap reads from his Book of Musifables, the pages transform into animated vignettes that introduce children viewers to a musical world where loveable characters discover life lessons and develop social-emotional skills.

Fable Island Location

Fable Island is a magical world beyond imagination, where animals, enchanted creatures, trees, plants, clouds, the sun and moon are all personified and interact with each other. Experiencing the wonder of all four seasons, the colorful terrain is filled with friendly forests, mystical mountains, meadows, streams and tropical beaches.

Snap

Narrator/Musical Storyteller

Fable Island's caretaker is a magic storyteller named Snap, whose power comes from the "snap" of his fingers. He is an enchanted, loveable, friendly creature with human characteristics of a minstrel and endearing traits of an elf. He wears peasant pants, a baggy shirt with a vest and a slightly puffy hat with a magic feather in it. He carries around with him a knap-sack that contains his magical Book of Musifables. He's not too thin and not too fat, not too tall and not too short. He's entertaining, huggable, and trusting – almost like a pet, but he is not part animal. He has the innocence and endearment of a Hobbit and the charm of a leprechaun. He is funny, expressive, caring and energetic, which makes him intriguing to kids. He finds joy in caring for and strolling around Fable Island, looking for opportunities to help others.

Feather *Snap's Sidekick*

Feather is Snap's bright yellow side-kick, who lives in his hat. While she does not speak, she communicates through musical sounds and occasional operatic high notes whenever she sees someone who needs help. She bends, moves, flies, writes and sings Ooos and Ahhs. During each episode, Feather flies out of Snap's hat and writes a simple message in the air as she sings with a lilting voice. Her message is the central theme for each show.

Enchanted Characters*Inhabitants of Fable Island*

Fable Island Characters consist of all those who live on or above the island, including enchanted creatures, animals, trees, plants, flowers, clouds, the sun and moon.

Book of Musifables

The Book of Musifables is a magical book protected by Snap, the caretaker and storyteller of Fable Island. As Snap opens the Book of Musifables and reads, the pages transform into animated vignettes that introduce viewers to a musical world where loveable characters discover life lessons. Fable Island enchanted characters, as well as the television audience, will get to know musical stories about a frog who befriends a toad, a thumb who learns not to finger fight, a little bush who finds self-worth standing next to a tall tree and many more. These charming tales are magically brought to life through irresistible melodies and wiggly rhythms.

Fable Island Show Structure *(with Associated Songs)*

- **Opening Segment with Credits**
Fable Island Song
- **Snap's Welcome**
It's a Snap Happy Day Song
- **What Can I Do Game**
What Can I Do Song
Snap and audience chooses one of 3 scenarios where someone needs help
- **Feather's Message**
Feather Song
Feather writes the message, which is the theme of each episode
- **Book of Musifables**
Each episode features a different song from the Book of Musifables.
- **Lesson Review**
What Can I Do abbreviated version sung by Snap and cast
- **Goodbye**
Goodbye song sung by Snap and cast, going into Fable Island Instrumental
- **Closing Segment with Credits**

Fable Island Episode 1

“Be a Friend”

The opening animated segment for every episode showcases the Fable Island theme song featuring Snap’s voice. The segment shows a closeup of Snap sitting down, reading from his Book of Musifables. Then, Feather looks at the television audience and leave’s Snap’s hat, lifting into the air. During the opening song, Feather flies around, showing viewers different parts of the island where animated characters seem to gather for something. Finally feather returns to the place where everyone is gathering around Snap and his book. Feather then writes “Fable Island” in the air and returns to Snap’s hat. The opening song ends with a closeup of Snap closing his book and looking up at the television audience.

Fable Island Theme Song

There’s a land of magical stories
And tales for young and old
With enchanted tunes and tales to sing
Where Musifables are told... Fable Island

Snap Well, hello there! I’m glad you could join us on Fable Island where every day’s a new day... and that makes me snap happy! (*Snap snaps 2 times and music begins*) I can’t wait to see what magic today will bring!

Snap sings “Snap Happy Day” as he roams and interacts.

Note: At this point in each episode the second line of the song describes the weather of that day. For example, “The sun is shining bright”, as listed below. Other episodes can be “The clouds are in the sky”, “The rain is falling down”, “ Fall is in the air”, “The snow is all around”, “Spring is everywhere”, etc.

Snap It’s a snap happy day (*snap snap*)
The sun is shining bright
I got this feelin
I’m gonna be ok
‘Cause it’s a snap happy day, hey!
It’s a snap happy day (*snap snap*)

Snap walks around and whistles, looking at his surroundings. He then looks up to the sky.

Note: At this point in each episode, Snap reacts to the weather and talks to a personified element of nature (for example, the sun, clouds, sky, trees, flowers etc.) During this episode, Snap talks to the sun.

Snap You know, I just love sunny days! Think about it, Feather... Isn't it amazing how the sun can brighten up the sky? *(Feather nods with a musical chime sound)* I wish I could look at the sun, but he's too bright for my eyes! I think I'll just call out to him.

(Feather again reacts and Snap calls out)

Snap Hey, Mr. Sun... thanks for brightening up the sky!

Close-up on the sun's face who looks down at Snap, winks and stretches forth even more rays. Back to Snap who smiles in the increased light as Feather moves back and forth.

Snap Did you feel that, Feather? I just got a little bit warmer! Thanks, sun! Today's gonna be a snap happy day. *(Snap looks all around.)* Hey feather, so tell me, what makes you happy? *(Feather chimes an answer and Snap responds.)* Me too! *(Snap then looks at the television audience.)* You know, Feather and I are happy whenever we help someone. How about you? *(Feather makes an excited musical sound. Snap responds.)* That's a great idea, Feather. Let's play "What Can I Do"! *(Snap looks at the television audience again.)* Do you know how to play "What Can I Do"? It's easy and fun too! *(Snap explains to the audience.)* We simply walk around and look for someone who needs our help. When we see someone who needs us, Feather will sing! It's that easy! Come on... let's play!

Feather bends up and down. Snap begins to look around at different scenarios that are going on while he sings. Each episode features the three scenarios that Snap and Feather will choose from. He interacts with characters from those scenarios as he moves along and sings. That way the audience is familiar with the characters featured in that episode.

Snap snaps and music begins as he sings "What Can I Do"

Snap What can I do
 What can I do
 How can I be of help to you
 What can I do
 What can I do
 How can I be of help
 I look around to see
 If someone needs me
 And when I find that someone
 My feather sings to me

Feather Aaaaah!

Snap What can I do *(Feather continues to Aaaaah in reply)*
 What can I do

How can I be of help to you
 What can I do
 What can I do
 How can I be of help

Snap Do you see anyone who needs our help?

Snap and Feather look at the three different scenarios that are going on around them.

Note: Each episode presents three scenarios that Snap, Feather and the television audience will choose from. Two of the scenarios in each episode will have a comedic theme or reference to a popular public domain fable or story line that is entertaining for any adults/parents who watch the show with their children. For example, this episode will feature Robin Hood and The Tortoise and the Hare. This approach will add humor and keep the interest of the adults as well as the child.

Scenario #1

Some trees are playing, mocking sword fights with their branches. Cut away to dialogue between the playing trees and their scenario.

Tree #1 I may be going out on a limb... but you seem to be a thief!

Tree #2 Yes, I am Robin of Locksleaf
Close up of a robin in the tree with a frantic look, being shaken around in her nest.

Tree #1 And I am the Sherriff of Knottingwood! You should fear me.

Tree #2 I do not fear you. Your bark is far worse than your bite! On guard, tall tree!

The trees continue to sword fight with their branches. Snap turns to feather...

Snap How about those trees, Feather.... Hmmmmm. Let's look around some more.

Snap turns from the trees and sees a young bunny and a tortoise playing. Cut away to dialogue between animals: the bunny and the tortoise.

Scenario #2

A bunny is trying to teach the tortoise how to hop.

Bunny So all you do is push off from your legs like this. *(Bunny pushes off and hops.)*

Tortoise Wow! *(The tortoise tries to jump, but can't because of his short legs and shell).*
 I guess I'm not built for hopping... but look what I can do!

Tortoise then retracts into his shell and talks with an echo.

What do you think about that?

Bunny Amazing!

Tortoise comes back out of his shell and looks up at Bunny.

Tortoise I can't hop, but I love to walk... slow and steady.

Tortoise starts to walk away. Without Tortoise looking, Bunny tries to shrivel up as if going into a shell, but is unable to. He shrugs his arms and then catches up to Tortoise.

Bunny And I love to hop... quick and jumpy! You know... maybe someday we can have a race! I can hop and you can run!

Tortoise That sounds like a fun idea!

Tortoise and Bunny keep on playing.

Snap What about Bunny and Tortoise? *(Feather shrugs)*
Alright, let's keep looking.

Snap walks further and sees two squirrels laughing at an opossum who is hanging upside down in a tree. Cut away to dialogue between squirrels and opossum and their scenario.

Opossum Hey, wanna hang out with me. I'll show you how to wrap your tail around the branch and swing!

Squirrel 1 We can't hang with you...
Both squirrels giggle and shake their heads.

Squirrel 2 Why would we want to. You're soooo upside down and different!

Squirrels giggle once more and then run up the big tree, leaving Opossum all alone. Snap notices Opossum who is sad, hanging upside down on a branch of the big tree.

Snap then looks at the television audience and then up at Feather.

Snap Ok everyone. Let's figure out who needs our help. We've seen our tree friends playing together. Do they need us?

Feather shakes back and forth as if saying "no" and Snap responds.

Snap How about Bunny and Tortoise?

Feather again shakes back and forth and Snap responds.

Snap *Well then, how about our friend Opossum?*

Feather nods and sings an opera high note! Snap smiles.

Snap I agree! Now, there is someone who needs us! It's opossum! Thanks Feather!

Feather bends with music as if to say thank you. Snap walks over to the opossum singing acapella.

Snap *What can I do? What can I do? How can I be of help to you?*

Snap walks over to Opossum with Feather in his hat.

Snap Hey there little friend. What are you doing?

Opossum (In a sad voice) Ohhhhh... Just hanging around.

Snap Sounds like you're not very happy today. Is there something I can do?

Opossum Nooooo... it's ok.

Snap Well can you tell me what's wrong?

Opossum Ohhhhhh... I'm just a little upside down today... and feeling a bit loooooonely.

Snap Lonely? *(Feather droops sadly)*

Opossum Ohhhhhh... Just a little loooooonely. No one wants to play with me.

Snap I'm sorry.

Feather shakes from Snap's hat with a harp-like sound as if she has an idea. Feather bends and wafts, signaling to Snap, trying to get his attention. Snap looks at the television audience.

Snap Look – Feather is trying to tell us something!

Snap looks up out of the corner of his eye toward his hat. Feather bends again and makes a musical sound communicating with Snap.

Snap I think Feather has a message for us! What do you think?

Snap looks at the television audience and then back at Feather. Feather nods with sound effects and then leaps from his hat. Snap snaps as music begins. Snap sings “Feather Song” to the television audience as feather moves to the music.

Snap Magical mystical feather fly
Write your message before my eyes
From out of my hat, into the air
Show me what you want to share

Music continues as feather flies out of Snap’s hat and dances in the air while singing “ahhh”. Like a flying quill, Feather magically writes the message in the air. Feather completes writing the message by the end of the song. The message then glistens with bell sounds. The squirrels run down the tree interested in what feather’s message is. The trees turn toward the message and a few other creatures gather, including the bunnies and the fox. Feather returns to Snap’s hat.

Snap What does the message say?

Opossum Ohhhhh I don’t know. I can’t read upside down.

Squirrel The message says “Be a friend”

Snap That’s right... “BE A FRIEND”.

Each word shimmers when Snap reads it. All the creatures respond and “ouuuuu” in wonder.

Snap *(Looking at the squirrels)*
So what does it mean to be a friend? *(Squirrels look at each other)*

Tortoise It means being kind to someone.

Bunny Yeah... like being nice and accepting them for who they are.

Tree 1 And making someone happy. *(Looking at the other tree, reaching out his branches)* Are you happy?

Tree 2 Yes, I’m happy. Thanks for branching out!

Snap Very good! We can all be a friend. Wait...
Snap looks at television audience with an expression signaling that he has an idea.

Snap You know what everyone?
I think it’s time to get out my Book of Musifables!

All surrounding creatures turn toward Snap, reacting excited to hear the word, “Musifables”.

Snap snaps and music begins.

Snap *(Snap speaks in rhyme)*
 Calling creatures one and all
 Lift your ears and hear my call
 Gather round and sit a spell
 A Musifable I will tell

Creatures gather around Snap as he takes the magical Book of Musifables out of his bag. He opens the book as everyone stares spellbound, including the Trees, Robin, Bunny, Tortoise, Opossum and the Squirrels. Snap snaps his fingers and the pages of the book magically turn, finally stopping on a sketched picture of two frogs. Snap reads as the television audience sees a close-up of the pages.

Snap Once upon a sunny day in the land of Musifables, two frogs sat on Lilly’s Pad...
 Lilly herself and her husband, Gribbitt Green....

Close up on the hand-drawn picture, as it gradually transforms into clean lines, colorful background and then comes to life with complete animation.

Music begins “Lilly’s Pad” Musifable
 Lilly was a frog
 The wife of Gribbit Green
 They had the biggest Lilly’s pad
 That any frog had seen
 They hopped around the pond
 And ate a lot of flies
 And sat upon their Lilly’s pad
 The one so large in size

 One sunny day a toad
 Came hopping by the pond
 And saw the funny frogs
 And the pad they sat upon.

 When Gribbit turned around
 He saw the toad and froze
 Because he was so different
 With a wart upon his nose

 The toad called with a croak
 “Will you be friends with me

I'd love to sit upon your pad
It's very big I see"

But Gribbit turned away
And said, "We have no space"
He stuck his tongue out, caught a fly
and slurped it to his face

Then Lilly said , "How rude
We can't leave Toad alone
He might not have a friend
In fact, he might not have a home"

So Gribbit said, "You're right
And I was oh so wrong."
Then Gribbit turned around and said
"Toad, will you come along

You can be our friend
Though different as can be
Come hop upon our Lilly's pad
We'll find the space for three"

The animated story begins to blur, fade and transform back into the visual of Snap reading from the book. Snap closes the book and then speaks to everyone, including the television audience.

Snap Now that's a happy ending!

Snap puts his fingers up to his chin while thinking.

Snap Hmmm. So how does this story tie into Feather's message, "Be a friend"?

Tree We branch out to help people... and let them know we care.
(Tree reaches out his branches.)

Bunny We don't want anyone to be left out...

Tortoise ... even if they're different.

Squirrels turn toward each other with expressions of feeling sorry.

Squirrel 1 I feel so bad with how we treated Opossum!

Squirrel 2 Me too.

Both squirrels turn to Opossum

Squirrel 1 We're sooooo sorry!

Squirrel 2 Will you please forgive us?

Opossum It's ok. I did feel sad, but now I feel better!

Squirrels Will you play with us?

Opossum Sure...

Snap See.. that's the spirit! Even if someone is different than we are, we can still be their friend!

Opossum I'm feeling right side up now!

All the creatures cheer

Snap Good job everyone!

Snap looks around at all the creatures and then at the television audience.

Snap Today we learned how important it is to... *(Feather chimes with music.)*

Everyone BE A FRIEND!

Snap Isn't that right, Feather?

Feather reacts musically and bends in reply. Snap then looks at the television audience.

Snap You can look around and see if someone is being left out. If that happens, you can go over to them and be a friend. That's a great way to be of help!

Snap snaps and music begins. Snap sings "What Can I Do 2" with everyone.

All What can I do
 What can I do
 How can I be of help to you
 What can I do
 What can I do
 How can I be of help

Feather sings a happy note

Snap That's right, Feather. I'm snap happy too!

Snap looks at the television audience.

Snap Well, it's getting late and it's time for us to go.

All the creatures say "Awww" in disappointment

Snap But we'll be back soon to share another snap happy day on Fable Island!

Snap snaps and music begins, as he sings "Goodbye" with the cast of Creatures.

Snap Goodbye
 I'm glad you came my way
 We've had a happy day
 On Fable Island
 And though
 It's time for me to go
 I want you all to know in a snap
 We'll be together soon (snap, snap)
 For Musifiable Time
 And we will sing and rhyme again
 So I will see you then
 On Fable Island

Music transitions into theme song as Snap and the creatures turn around and go back to their lives. The squirrels turn to Opossum and motion for him to join them. Opossum smiles. Credits continue until last moment of the show.