

COWS *(as if laughing)* Moooo, hoo-hoo-hoo! Moooo, hoo-hoo-hoo!

SHEEP *(as if laughing)* Baaaa, ha-ha-ha! Baaaa, ha-ha-ha!

DONKEY *(as if laughing)* Heeee haw-haw-haw! Heeeee haw-haw-haw!

NARRATOR 1 *(covering ears)* STOP! You're giving us a headache!  
*(when it's quiet)* What a racket! Ben should have stayed to hear it!

NARRATOR 2 You wait and see, she'll be back at midnight on Christmas Eve – to find out if Grandma was right!

NARRATOR 1 Talking of grandparents... Donkey has an interesting thing to say.  
*[DONKEY walks to Downstage Centre.]*

DONKEY My *(counting on fingers)* great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great... *(runs out of fingers)* Oh, whatever! My very great grandfather carried Mary to Bethlehem!

ALL *(with mock enthusiasm)* Oooo!  
*[DONKEY returns to place.]*

NARRATOR 1 Donkey's very great grandfather was there in the stable the night Jesus was born.

ALL That's very special.

SHEEP 1 & 2 *(sighs)* I wish something special could happen in our stable ...

ALL SHEEP *(nodding)* Baa-aa!

NARRATOR 2 That would be nice, but it's getting late. It's time for sleep!  
*[All animals respond simultaneously, creating a noisy rabble.]*

COWS *(nodding and yawning)* Moo! Moo!

SHEEP *(nodding and yawning)* Baaaa! Baaaa!

MICE *(nodding and yawning)* Squeak! Squeak!

ROBINS *(nodding and yawning)* Tweet! Tweet!

DONKEY *(nodding and yawning)* Ee-orrrre.....

NARRATORS *(shouting loudly)* 1... 2... 3... *(clap hands)* SLEEP!  
*[Animals instantly 'go to sleep'.]*  
Peace at last!

NARRATOR 1 Aren't they lovely when they're asleep? And now... Time is passing!

NARRATOR 2 Through the magic of theatre, it's already Christmas Eve!  
*[SANTA and ELVES do a dance – see choreography on Page 5]*

**SANTA AND HIS ELVES – DANCE ( © Track 3 / 13 )**

NARRATORS (shouting) Wake up, animals!  
*[All ANIMALS wake up with a start, rub eyes, stretch, yawn, etc.]*

COW 2 (sleepily) What day is it?

SHEEP It's Christmas Eve!

ROBINS Time to sing 'Away in a manger!'  
*[ALL adopt 'singer' pose, hands clasped together, elbows out.]*

ALL (singing) 'Away in a manger, no crib for a bed...'

NARRATOR 1 Very tuneful...

NARRATOR 2 Look at Donkey! He's puzzled. He's been wondering what a way is.

DONKEY (hands on hips, puzzled) A way in a manger...  
 (scratches head, then holds hands open) What is a way?

ROBIN 1 Away means... (big pointing gesture with wing) far away!

NARRATOR 1 That's right, but a way can be something else too. It's how we get somewhere. When baby Jesus grew up he said he was the way.

DONKEY The way to what?

NARRATOR 2 The way to get to know God. Because God's invisible, it's hard to understand him otherwise.

COW 1 I thought God was an old man in the sky.

COW 2 (nodding) Moo! With a big white beard!

NARRATOR 2 No, that's not true. We don't know what God looks like. But we know who he is, because Jesus taught us about him.

DONKEY All I know is that God must be (opens out arms) HUGE!

## **BIGGER THAN THE BIGGEST MOUNTAIN**

( ☉ Track 4 / 14 )

|   |   |  |  |                         |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| Make mountain shape in air  | → | BIGGER THAN THE BIGGEST MOUNTAIN,<br>TALLER THAN THE TALLEST TREE. | ←  | Stretch up high         |
| Shield brow and look L. on 'East', R. on 'West'   | → | WIDER THAN THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST,<br>YET HE CARES FOR ME.      | ←  | Hands to chest          |
| HE'S THE DESERT AND THE SEA! (CLAP, CLAP)<br>HE'S THE TEMPEST AND THE BREEZE. (CLAP, CLAP)<br>HE'S THE LION AND THE LAMB, (CLAP, CLAP)<br>THERE SINCE TIME BEGAN. |   |  |  |                         |
| Make twinkly fingers in air   | ↘ | MAKER OF THE STARLIT HEAVENS,<br>MAKER OF THE WORLD WE SEE.        | ←  | Make world shape in air |
| Splay hands by face on 'Day' and put hands together under cheek on 'Night'  | → |  | MAKER OF THE DAY AND OF THE NIGHT,<br>YET HE CARES FOR ME. | ←                       |