

ODD SQUAD

"Puppet Show"

Written by

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Logline : Olive and Otto have to crack a case where a group of people (including themselves) have been turned into puppets.

Curriculum: Numbers / Measurement / Time: Putting the events of the day in order; telling time using a digital clock; learning difference between AM & PM, and applying it to a schedule.

FADE IN:

INT. ODD SQUAD HEADQUARTERS - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

CLOSE on a very stone-faced MS. O.

MS. O

Listen up, Puppet Master. I know
you turned 6 people into puppets.

REVEAL THE PUPPET MASTER, a villain who looks a little like
Rasputin, arms folded, sitting at an interrogation table.

THE PUPPET MASTER

Oh yeah? You can't prove anything!

Ms. O looks quizzical.

MS. O

Of course I can! Two of them were
my agents!

WIDEN to REVEAL PUPPET OLIVE and PUPPET OTTO on either side
of Ms. O. They're puppets. And they're mad. (Note: they're
fuzzy felt puppets, and their voices are Olive and Otto's.)

PUPPET OLIVE

You've got a lot of nerve, Puppet
Master.

PUPPET OTTO

Look at me! Look at these arms!

Puppet Otto flails his arms around.

PUPPET OTTO (CONT'D)

How am I supposed to work like
this?

MS. O

Easy, agents. I'll handle this.
(leans in)

We also have your Gadget... which
for some strange reason looks like
a giant dog bone.

Ms. O holds up a GADGET that looks like a comical dog bone.

THE PUPPET MASTER

(offended)

It looks nothing like a dog bone!

PUPPET OLIVE / PUPPET OTTO
 Uh, yeah? / Pretty much does.

THE PUPPET MASTER
 Wellllll. You *could* turn everyone
 back with it, if you wanted to. But
 you'd need all 6 puppets in the
 same room, at the same time, lined
 up in the order they were zapped,
 from earliest in the day to latest.
 Good luck finding the other 4!

MS. O
 Thanks for all that. Because
 finding them shouldn't be a
 problem.

THE PUPPET MASTER
 Why do I always explain how it
 works? In any case, you'd better
 hurry. If you don't fix this by
 sundown you'll stay puppets
 FOREVER!

The Puppet Master produces a sock puppet that LAUGHS
 maniacally. Ms. O snatches the puppet off his hand.

MS. O
 Give me that. Agents, outside, now.

Ms. O leaves the room. The puppets glare at The Puppet Master
 as they leave, but they're just too cute to look tough.

INT. ODD SQUAD HEADQUARTERS - JUST OUTSIDE INTERROGATION ROOM

Outside, Ms. O gives the two puppet agents a stern look.

MS. O
 Puppets. I mean, Agents. I'm taking
 you both off this case. Sorry, but,
 well. You're puppets!

PUPPET OLIVE
 Ms. O, *please*.

PUPPET OTTO
 This one's... PERSONAL.

MS. O
 Alright, you've convinced me. You
 two work the field. I'll be in my
 office working the phones.

PUPPET OTTO

Great idea! You can find out if there's been any puppet sightings in town!

Ms. O looks confused. Then:

MS. O

No! I was talking about making calls about an 'official Odd Squad pet' I want to get for the office.

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto look at each other with confused Kermit-the-frog style faces. Is she serious?

MS. O (CONT'D)

Well? What are you waiting for?!
GO!

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto comically scramble off.

INT. BULLPEN/HALLWAY - SECONDS LATER

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto walk the bullpen and halls, trying to look serious despite all the shocked reactions from fellow AGENTS. Jaws drop, fingers point, people whisper.

PUPPET OTTO

(as they walk)

Aw, man. This is embarrassing!

PUPPET OLIVE

(to other agents)

YEAH. We're puppets. Get over it.

(while walking)

Ok. I've created a timeline so we can place everyone in the proper order as soon as we find them.

Puppet Olive pulls out a tablet. The border and case is felt but the screen is real. CLOSE on a time-line that goes from left to right, with times marked. Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto icons are at 12:00 PM.

PUPPET OTTO

Hey, that's us!

PUPPET OLIVE

Yep. So far - just us. And we were zapped at 12:00 PM. See?

(MORE)

PUPPET OLIVE (CONT'D)

The hour, 12, goes 1st - before the 2 dots - and the minutes, in this case 0, go after the dots. Then a 'PM'.

PUPPET OTTO

What's the PM part?

PUPPET OLIVE

PM basically means afternoon and nighttime. When it says AM, that means it happens in the morning. PM starts after 12 o'clock, also known as noon. In the PM people do *afternoon* things like eat lunch, come home from school, and go to sleep. AM is *before* noon, when we do things like wake up, eat breakfast, go to work, and school.

PUPPET OTTO

Great. So, what are we waiting for? Let's go find us some puppets.

Puppet Otto walks right into the electronic door that leads to the Tube Lobby, the sliding doors failing to open. OOF!

PUPPET OLIVE

Aw, man! We must be too small for the door's sensor to see us!

Puppet Otto and Puppet Olive jump up and down, waving their arms. Still nothing.

PUPPET OTTO

Ugh! Hate being a puppet!

A HUMAN AGENT, casually [WHISTLING], approaches and walks right through, doors sliding open no problem. Puppet Otto and Puppet Olive exchange a *'this is gonna be a loong day'* look.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE / MS. O'S OFFICE - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto talk to JIMMY THE PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER (another Guy Smiley-esque puppet just like them). He waves a cardboard hammer around uselessly.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER

So this villain looking guy comes up to me, holding something that looks like a dog bone?

(MORE)

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER (CONT'D)
 Anyways, KA-POW! Next thing I know
 I'm a puppet. Can you believe it?

PUPPET OTTO
 Unfortunately, yes.

PUPPET OLIVE
 We can help you, Jimmy, but we need
 to know one thing. What time were
 you turned into a puppet?

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER
 Gee, I don't remember.

PUPPET OTTO
 What were you doing at the time?

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER
 Oh, I was eating breakfast, right
 here. And I was eating really fast
 too because the bell was just about
 to ring to start work!

PUPPET OTTO
 Ok. We're getting somewhere. What
 time do you start work?

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER
 9 o'clock. Hey, you just figured it
 out. How'd you do that?

PUPPET OTTO
 We're professionals, sir. It's what
 we do.

PUPPET OLIVE
 So you were eating breakfast, and
 it was in the morning, so that
 would make it around 9:00 AM.

Jimmy the Puppet Construction Worker nods.

PUPPET OLIVE (CONT'D)
 And, that's before noon. And since
 we were 12:00 PM - AT noon - Jimmy
 was zapped into a puppet FIRST.

Olive pulls out the time-line. CLOSE: a Jimmy Puppet Icon
 pops above a 9:00 AM digital clock on the very far left.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER
 Is that supposed to make me feel
 better? I'm still a puppet.
 (MORE)

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER (CONT'D)
 The boys are busting my chops
 around here!

ANGLE ON THREE (HUMAN) CONSTRUCTION WORKERS. They laugh and giggle and point.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER (CONT'D)
 Ah, who can blame 'em? Look at me.
 This hammer is ridiculous!

He tries to hammer the wall beside him. The hammer smushes.

PUPPET OLIVE
 Don't worry. We can fix this. But
 we need you to come with us.

ANGLE ON THREE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #1
 Oh suuuure, Jimmy gets to leave
 work *early* 'cause he's a *puppet*.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #2
 Tony never gets to leave, and he's
 a robot.

WHIP PAN to a ROBOT in a construction hat - as he shrugs.

WHIP PAN BACK to Puppet Olive, making a call on her badge phone. It's felt now, so she's making the call *awkwardly*.

INT. MS. O'S OFFICE - INTERCUT

Ms. O picks up the phone. She's with OSCAR. There are VISUALS on the MONITOR of a pterodactyl and various birds.

MS. O (INTO PHONE)
 Hello? Agents?? What's wrong with
 this connection?

PUPPET OLIVE (ON BADGE PHONE)
 Well my badge phone's made of felt
 now so there's that. We just wanted
 to tell you that we've found
 another puppet.

MS. O (INTO PHONE)
 I could use some good news. I still
 haven't found the right office pet.
 Good work, Agents. Keep it up.

Ms. O hangs up.

MS. O (CONT'D)

(to Oscar)

Dinosaurs are extinct, birds give me a headache. We're getting nowhere here, Oscar. Seriously. What animal best says 'me'?

OSCAR

Gee, I don't know. I've never actually thought about it? I-

MS. O

Well? Do you have an answer?

Oscar looks nervous, feeling the pressure.

OSCAR

IIIIIIII...

MS. O

Are you scared of something?

He shakes his head too many times.

MS. O (CONT'D)

Because there is no wrong answer. Unless you give me a wrong answer.

OFF Oscar looking comically terrified.

EXT. STREET - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Puppet Olive, Puppet Otto, and Puppet Jimmy listen to ANNE THE CROSSING GUARD PUPPET, a Molly Shannon type in crooked glasses, her tattered uniform now covered in tire tracks.

PUPPET CROSSING GUARD

So this guy comes up to me with a... dog bone? Then a bright light. Then... [SIGH] I couldn't do my job anymore.

She tries to lift the heavy stop sign and just crumples onto the road under it. O.S. HONKS.

DRIVER (O.S.)

Hey, I'm driving here!

The other 3 puppets help her up and get her off the road.

PUPPET OLIVE

Don't worry, we're here to help.
What time were you zapped?

PUPPET CROSSING GUARD

Right before work - 7 AM.

PUPPET OTTO

That's AM, so it's in the morning.
But Jimmy got zapped in the morning
too, at 9 AM. How do we know which
one goes first?

PUPPET OLIVE

If they're both in the morning, the
smaller the number, the earlier it
is. Because 7 is smaller than 9.

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto give each other a floppy high-five. Puppet Olive pulls out her tablet. CLOSE: a Puppet Crossing Guard Icon pops up at a 7 AM clock at the left of the time-line. The rest shifts so Jimmy is now in the middle.

PUPPET OTTO

We've only got 2 more puppets to
find, but we need to stay together
if we all want to get turned back.

Puppet Jimmy waves his floppy hammer around.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER

I sure hope my ridiculous hammer
gets turned back, too!
(to hammer)
Come on, Thunder Bolt. *Hang in
there.*

INT. MS. O'S OFFICE - MEANWHILE

Oscar shows a PICTURE of a lizard on the MONITOR.

MS. O

Too green.

Picture of a tarantula.

MS. O (CONT'D)

Ew. Way too many legs.

Picture of a goldfish.

MS. O (CONT'D)
 Hmm. Too few legs?

Picture of a cat.

MS. O (CONT'D)
 You know I hate the way whiskers tickle my face! Why haven't you suggested even ONE practical animal yet, like a horse?

OSCAR
 Because we can't afford all the hay. And also, it takes shovels to clean up after them. *Shovels.*

MS. O
 Ok. Good point. But now what? There's got to be something that says, 'official office pet'. You know - Odd Squad's best friend.

Oscar looks over at Ms. O., one eyebrow raised.

OSCAR
 I've got an idea.

EXT. PARK - ICE CREAM STAND - A FEW MINUTES LATER

JENNY THE ICE CREAM SALES LADY PUPPET, behind an ice cream cart, tries in vain to put ice cream on a cone. It's a mess.

PUPPET ICE CREAM LADY
 It's been like this all day.

PUPPET OTTO
 So much wasted ice cream.

PUPPET OLIVE
 What time did you turn?

PUPPET ICE CREAM LADY
 [SIGH] I've been letting my customers down since around 10:00 AM.

PUPPET OLIVE

Well, AM is in the morning, which is before noon, but 10 is also a bigger number than 9, so that means it happened AFTER the crossing guard and the construction worker, but before us.

Puppet Olive pulls out the tablet. CLOSE: Ice Cream Puppet Icon at 10:00 AM between construction worker and our agents.

PUPPET OTTO

1 more to go! Come on puppet peeps!

They all turn and are confronted by a GROUP OF YOUNG KIDS.

GROUP OF KIDS

Woohoo! Puppet show!

PUPPET OTTO

Actually we're not a puppet show.

GROUP OF KIDS

Puppet show!!

PUPPET OTTO

No, for reals, we're just trying to-

GROUP OF KIDS

PUPPET SHOW!!!

PUPPET OLIVE

You're not gonna let us pass unless we put on a puppet show, are you?

The puppets all look at each other and give a big shrug.

TIME CUT: we're suddenly at the end of a dramatic scene where Puppet Jimmy carries Puppet Crossing Guard and Puppet Ice Cream Lady all the way up to the top of the ice cream cart.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER

We survived the hurricane. And all those horrible tornadoes! I guess we can survive... *anything!*

Puppet Olive and Puppet Otto jump up from at the top of the cart and help the others up.

PUPPET OTTO

And now that we have your magical ridiculous hammer back, the kingdom can finally be at peace.

Jimmy the Puppet waves his floppy hammer around.

KIDS

YAY!!!

They all do a quick soft shoe 'song and dance' finale as:

PUPPETS

(singing)

And that's... THE...

SHOOoooooOOOooooOOW!!!

Big finish. Deep bow. Everyone except Puppet Jimmy, who is suddenly burning his way through a tap dancing routine.

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Aw man, I am loving this! I don't
ever wanna stop! I can't believe I
went into construction.

Finally, Puppet Otto has to drag Puppet Jimmy away.

PUPPET OTTO

Ok, show's over. We still have 1
more puppet to find and time is
running out!

YOUNG KIDS

YAY!!!

WHIP PAN to a cab as it pulls up beside the puppet posse as they head out of the park. HONK! HONK! We don't see the driver but we hear him.

PUPPET CAB DRIVER (O.S.)

I hear you guys are looking for one
last puppet. I can drive you around
and help you look...

The puppet posse all look quizzically at the driver. Then:

PUPPET OLIVE

Hate to break it to you. We've
found him.

REVEAL the PUPPET CAB DRIVER just as he looks in the rear view and freaks!

PUPPET CAB DRIVER

AHHHHHH! AHHHHH!!!

PUPPET OTTO

Quick! Everyone back to the lab
before the sun sets!

INT. ODD SQUAD HEADQUARTERS - OSCAR'S LAB - MINUTES LATER

Puppet Olive and Oscar study a timeline on the lab monitor.

PUPPET OLIVE

So now that we've figured out that
the Cab Driver was zapped at 1
o'clock, it looks like everyone's
lined up.

Puppet Olive points to the puppets lined up against the wall
already: Puppet Cab Guy, Puppet Crossing Guard, Puppet
Construction Worker, Puppet Ice Cream Lady, and Puppet Otto.

OSCAR

Everyone but you, Olive. You better
get in there so we can do this!

Puppet Olive runs over to stand beside Otto at the far right.

Oscar holds up the giant dog bone looking device. It goes
ZAP! But... everyone is still a puppet.

PUPPET CROSSING GUARD

I better get back to work!

The Puppet Crossing Guard lifts her stop sign and steps
forward. It's still too heavy and she crumples to the ground.

OSCAR

I don't get it, you're all lined up
in the correct order. Aren't you?

PUPPET OLIVE

Hold on. The cab driver... didn't
you say you got zapped at 1?

PUPPET CAB DRIVER

Yeah, 1. That's why I'm standing at
the beginning of the line.

PUPPET OLIVE

What were you doing at 1 again?

PUPPET CAB DRIVER

At 1 o'clock? That's lunchtime.

PUPPET OTTO

But if was lunchtime, it must have been 1 PM. And that means you're standing on the A.M. side. You need to be AFTER 12:00 noon, so that you're in the P.M.

PUPPET OLIVE

1 may be the smallest number, but that doesn't mean it's the earliest time! The cab driver got zapped at 1 PM!

OSCAR

Quick, everyone reshuffle - cab driver way over on the other side! We have to do this now!

The puppet cab driver moves down the line from left to right. Awkward puppet shuffling.

PUPPET CAB DRIVER

Excuse me, pardon me, excuse me...

Finally, they're all set. Oscar holds up the dog bone. Suddenly, Ms. O comes in the room. She holds a leash but the other end is outside the door.

MS. O

Good news everyone, I picked a pet!

A DOG comes in on the end of the leash. It takes one look at the dog bone looking device and snatches it. It runs out, the leash slipping through Ms. O's fingers.

MS. O (CONT'D)

Whoops! That's actually his name. Come back here this instant, Whoops!!!

OSCAR

FOLLOW THAT DOG!

INT. VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN ODD SQUAD HQ - MINI MONTAGE

VARIOUS SHOTS and ANGLES as the dog is chased all over HQ by Oscar and a gaggle of puppets.

As the montage ENDS, the dog passes the interrogation room.

Inside: The Puppet Master, wearing two sock puppets and entertaining himself, notices his Gadget as the dog runs by.

THE PUPPET MASTER

I guess it does kinda look like a dog bone.

INT. ODD SQUAD HQ BREAKROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Puppet Otto and Puppet Olive corner the dog. It doesn't want to drop the bone.

PUPPET OTTO

Olive, quick, we need to distract that dog with something.

PUPPET OLIVE

But what?

PUPPET OTTO

Me. Throw me.

PUPPET OLIVE

Really?

PUPPET OTTO

Really.

Puppet Olive 'throws' Puppet Otto as hard as she can. He flies across the room and hits a beverage machine, dislodging a juice box.

The dog drops the bone and ignores Puppet Otto as it happily goes for the juice box. Ms. O rushes in and looks touched at the dog's choice.

MS. O

Aww. Looks like I definitely made the right choice.

Puppet Olive helps Puppet Otto up. Oscar picks up the device.

OSCAR

Everyone back to the lab! Quick, before the sun actually does set!

The puppets all try to scramble out of the room at the same time. Puppet chaos.

INT. BACK IN OSCAR'S LAB - MOMENTS LATER

The puppets are all lined up again. Oscar holds up the dog bone.

OSCAR
Say cheese!

There's a giant FLASH OF LIGHT. ZAP! When it clears, the puppets are now all in HUMAN FORM. They look at each other with big smiles and all hug.

HUMAN CONSTRUCTION WORKER
We're back! Let's celebrate!

He tap dances. And... he's good! But his hammer slips out of his hand. O.S. CRASH. He looks off adoringly.

HUMAN CONSTRUCTION WORKER (CONT'D)
Welcome back, Thunder Bolt.

The Human Crossing Guard picks up her stop sign.

HUMAN CROSSING GUARD
I better get back to work!

She falls forward, the weight of the sign making her crumple.

HUMAN CROSSING GUARD (CONT'D)
That sign was always a little heavy.

They all laugh. Olive looks around and notices Otto is gone.

OLIVE
Otto?

INT. DOORS TO TUBE LOBBY - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Olive finds Otto in front of the tube lobby doors, waving the doors open, over and over. He turns and smiles.

OTTO
Sometimes it's the little things,
you know?

OLIVE
(smiling)
Tell me about it, partner.

Olive joins Otto and they wave the doors open together as we
FADE OUT.

THE END