

# 20. Save the Frogs!

CAST: (1M, 2F) KELSEY, CRYSTAL, DONNY

PROPS: Four boxes or trays, notepads, pens, trash can.

SETTING: Several small opened boxes or trays  
are set out on tables.

- 1       (At rise *KELSEY, CRYSTAL, and DONNY* are holding  
2       notepads and pens. In a single file, they approach the first  
3       box.)
- 4       KELSEY: (*Looks inside the box, makes a face, then writes down an*  
5       *answer. Turns to CRYSTAL.*) I think it's a kidney.
- 6       CRYSTAL: Ewww! I'll take your word for it. I'm not even  
7       looking! (*Writes in her notepad, then looks back at DONNY.*)  
8       Kelsey thinks it's a kidney.
- 9       DONNY: (*Looks into the first box.*) It's a liver. (*Writes.*) The liver  
10      extracts impurities from the blood so they can be  
11      eliminated from the body. It also converts food into  
12      nutrients by creating bile, an important chemical that  
13      digests food.
- 14      KELSEY and CRYSTAL: Oh! (*Erases answers and makes changes.*)
- 15      KELSEY: Let's move on. (*Looks inside second box, makes a face,*  
16      *then writes down answer. Turns to CRYSTAL.*) I think it's a  
17      spleen.
- 18      CRYSTAL: I trust you. I'm not looking. (*Writes down answer,*  
19      *then turns to DONNY.*) Kelsey thinks it's a spleen.  
20      Whatever that is.
- 21      DONNY: (*Looks into the second box.*) It's a kidney. (*Writes.*) The  
22      kidney is brownish in color and located in the lower part  
23      of the frog's abdomen.
- 24      KELSEY and CRYSTAL: Oh! (*Erases answers and makes changes.*)
- 25      CRYSTAL: Isn't this the stupidest science test ever?

- 1       KELSEY: Is stupidest a word?
- 2       CRYSTAL: I think so.
- 3       DONNY: It is.
- 4       KELSEY: Well, I agree, this is the stupidest science test! Naming  
5       body parts! Please!
- 6       CRYSTAL: And disgusting!
- 7       KELSEY: Crystal, you haven't even looked in any of the boxes.
- 8       CRYSTAL: I have a weak stomach. And since Mr. Carter put us  
9       in a group, I can rely on your expertise.
- 10      KELSEY: You mean rely on Donny's expertise. So far, I haven't  
11      got one right.
- 12      CRYSTAL: That's OK, Kelsey. You tried.
- 13      KELSEY: Well, maybe I'll get the next one. (*Looks inside the*  
14      *third box, studies it for a moment, then writes down answer.*  
15      *Turns to CRYSTAL.*) I think it's a lung.
- 16      CRYSTAL: Sounds good to me. (*Writes down answer, then turns*  
17      *to DONNY.*) Kelsey thinks it's a lung.
- 18      DONNY: (*Looks inside the third box.*) It's a stomach. (*Writes.*) The  
19      stomach is a storage sac for food. It digests food by  
20      breaking it into smaller particles.
- 21      CRYSTAL: Ewww ...
- 22      DONNY: The enzymes and acids mix with the particles and ...
- 23      KELSEY: That's OK, Donny! Really! (*Erases answer and makes*  
24      *changes.*)
- 25      CRYSTAL: (*Erases answer and makes changes.*) Thank you for  
26      your wisdom, Donny. We couldn't have passed this stupid  
27      test without you.
- 28      KELSEY: You know what this reminds me of?
- 29      CRYSTAL: What?
- 30      KELSEY: That game called Operation. Where you have all those  
31      little body parts and you have to figure out what they are  
32      and where they go.
- 33      CRYSTAL: Without getting buzzed! (*Grabs Kelsey's arm.*) Buzz!  
34      You lose!
- 35      KELSEY: (*Laughing*) Seriously, have you ever heard of a science

1 teacher giving a test like this? My brother always talked  
 2 about dissecting frogs, but he never did this!  
 3 CRYSTAL: Students, today our test is, "Guess the frog's body  
 4 parts!"  
 5 DONNY: Can we move on now?  
 6 KELSEY: Certainly. (*Looks inside the fourth box.*) Hey, I know  
 7 this one! It's a heart!  
 8 CRYSTAL: Ewww! Not that I don't trust you, Kelsey, but I'm  
 9 going to wait to write down my answer. Just to make sure.  
 10 KELSEY: I don't blame you. Donny ... it's all yours.  
 11 DONNY: (*Looks inside the fourth box.*) You are correct. Just like  
 12 the human heart, the frog's heart has arteries and valves  
 13 that move blood from chambers and organs. Arteries  
 14 carry blood from the heart and the veins return the blood  
 15 back to the heart.  
 16 KELSEY: And we thank you for that little science lesson, Donny.  
 17 (*Writes.*) Box number four is a heart.  
 18 CRYSTAL: (*Writes.*) I think we're going to get a hundred.  
 19 KELSEY: I think so, too.  
 20 CRYSTAL: But I wonder ...  
 21 KELSEY: What?  
 22 CRYSTAL: I wonder where the rest of it is.  
 23 KELSEY: The rest of what?  
 24 CRYSTAL: The rest of the frog! The rest of the body parts! The  
 25 actual body!  
 26 KELSEY: Maybe the trash? (*The girls lean over and carefully look*  
 27 *inside a nearby trash can.*)  
 28 DONNY: Probably in the refrigerator.  
 29 CRYSTAL: Ewww!  
 30 KELSEY: Do you think Mr. Carter is going to make us do that  
 31 operation thing tomorrow?  
 32 CRYSTAL: That'd be terrible! I couldn't put all the organs back  
 33 where they go!  
 34 KELSEY: Me neither!  
 35 DONNY: I could.

1 KRYSTAL: And thank goodness you're on our team, Donny!  
 2 DONNY: But knowing Mr. Carter, that would be an individual  
 3 test.  
 4 CRYSTAL: If Mr. Carter made me do that, I'd throw up!  
 5 DONNY: First, we'd slip on the surgical gloves ...  
 6 CRYSTAL: Count me out!  
 7 DONNY: Then pick up the silver tweezers, and carefully, one by  
 8 one ...  
 9 KELSEY: Without getting buzzed. (*Grabs CRYSTAL and makes a*  
 10 *buzzing sound.*)  
 11 DONNY: (*Mimes.*) Then, carefully, insert the kidneys back into  
 12 their rightful place.  
 13 CRYSTAL: Stop it! Seriously, I'm going to puke! (*Holding her*  
 14 *hand over her mouth.*) My frog would be covered with  
 15 vomit.  
 16 DONNY: Then the liver ...  
 17 CRYSTAL: Ewww!  
 18 DONNY: The gall bladder, the stomach ...  
 19 KELSEY: Donny, we get the picture. Can this little lab  
 20 demonstration be over now?  
 21 CRYSTAL: (*Hand still over mouth.*) Please?  
 22 KELSEY: At least we should all get a hundred for this part of  
 23 our exam.  
 24 CRYSTAL: (*Hand still over mouth.*) Do you feel sorry for it?  
 25 KELSEY: For the frog?  
 26 DONNY: It's dead. It can't feel anything.  
 27 KELSEY: But it used to be alive, Donny. Just think, if Mr. Carter  
 28 hadn't killed it ...  
 29 CRYSTAL: It'd be basking in the sun on a lily pad right now.  
 30 DONNY: Mr. Carter didn't kill it.  
 31 KELSEY: Then who did? He had to cut it open to get its heart!  
 32 DONNY: They're already dead when they're sent to the school.  
 33 KELSEY: How do you know?  
 34 DONNY: I just know.  
 35 CRYSTAL: (*Hand still over mouth.*) How do they kill them?

1 DONNY: That I don't know.  
 2 CRYSTAL: Wow, there's actually something that you don't  
     know?  
 4 DONNY: But I do know that annually, three million frogs are  
     killed for the purpose of dissecting in the classroom.  
 6 However, there is now a new alternative.  
 7 KELSEY: What's that?  
 8 DONNY: Computer simulations.  
 9 CRYSTAL: I'd still throw up.  
 10 KELSEY: Mr. Carter needs to do that! Save the planet! Save the  
     animals! Save the frogs!  
 12 DONNY: Mr. Carter believes in hands-on experience.  
 13 KELSEY: How do you know?  
 14 DONNY: I heard him talking about it.  
 15 KELSEY: We should start a petition! Save the frogs!  
 16 DONNY: I disagree. Frogs are dumb. And we can learn from  
     them. (Goes to one of the boxes and reaches inside.) Take  
     this heart for instance.  
 19 CRYSTAL: What are you doing? Don't take it out!  
 20 DONNY: I just want to show you something.  
 21 KELSEY: Donny, you're not supposed to touch it!  
 22 DONNY: Just for a minute. I want to show you something! (Lifts  
     out his closed fist and moves toward CRYSTAL.)  
 24 CRYSTAL: (Jumps back.) Get away from me!  
 25 DONNY: (Moves closer to her.) If you'll look closely ...  
 26 CRYSTAL: No! I'm not looking at a dead frog's heart!  
 27 DONNY: But I want to show you something.  
 28 CRYSTAL: (Covers her mouth.) Do you want me to throw up on  
     your hand? Because that's what I'm going to do if you  
     show it to me!  
 31 KELSEY: Donny, don't.  
 32 DONNY: But look. (Opens his hand.) Look.  
 33 CRYSTAL: (Removes hand from mouth.) Where'd it go? Did you  
     drop it? (Jumps back, looking on floor.)  
 35 KELSEY: Not funny, Donny.

1 CRYSTAL: You were just teasing me?  
 2 DONNY: (Begins laughing.) I thought that was funny!  
 3 KELSEY: Come on, Crystal. Let's go turn our papers in to Mr.  
     Carter. And I want to talk to him about my Save the Frog  
     campaign. I'm really serious about it, too!  
 6 CRYSTAL: I'll sign your petition if you start one up.  
 7 KELSEY: Thanks. (KELSEY and CRYSTAL exit. DONNY moves  
     over to one of the boxes and stares inside it for a long time.  
 9 He looks up, glances around the room, reaches into the box,  
 10 then lifts out his closed fist.)  
 11 DONNY: (As he exits quickly.) Cool!