The Big, Bad Wolf Meets the Blooms
A CHORAL READING TO REVIEW BLOOM'S TAXONOMY
BY NANCY MCMUNN, ADAPTED FROM BARBARA HISE'S CHORAL READING

Characters:	**LENNY:** (Wolf's psychologist-wearing glasses)
	Wolf: (Wolf ears)
	The Blooms: Recall, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation
	The Chorus: Rest of the participants; everyone gets a part

The play opens with the Wolf seated center front, alone with his head in his hands. The chorus can be seated in a semi-circle fashion around the Wolf.

Wolf: Why, oh why is it that I never do anything right? I have tried for years to destroy the Pig family and I can never succeed.

Chorus: Poor Wolf. He always does everything wrong.

(Enter Lenny)

Lenny: Hello Wolf. Did you blow down the brick house yet and get rid of the Three Little Pigs?

Wolf: Naw, I got mad when the 2nd Little Pig fled from the stick house. I didn't catch him...again....He keeps running to the brick house and I haven't figured out a way to blow that house down.

Chorus: Poor Wolf. He can't do anything right.

Wolf: Hey, cut that out (facing the chorus). I'm not in the mood for teasing! I've got problems.

Lenny: Come on and join the **Bloom Society**, Wolf. They'll teach you to think like the 3rd Little Pig.

Chorus: Go on, Wolf. Listen to Lenny.

Wolf: What society? Besides, I can't. I never succeed at anything I try.

Lenny: Of course, you can succeed. You aren't the Scarecrow character in *The Wizard of Oz*. You do have a brain. You just don't know how to use it!

Wolf: Well, I might as well be, because I know I've never been taught to use my brain. I sure don't seem to be able to solve my own problems. **Life used to be so simple**—that is, *before the Three Little Pigs*.

Chorus: Don't know how to use the brain you've got!

Lenny: Well, I know how to fix that. I'm going to introduce you to my *brain fixers*, the **Bloom quintuplets**! They always help me with my problems....

Chorus: The **Bloom quintuplets**?

Lenny: Hey, **Blooms**! Come on in! I have a friend that needs your help.

(Enter: the five Blooms, each clearly labeled with a sign around his/her neck.)

(As Lenny introduces each skill, they step forward and take a bow.)

Lenny: Wolf, I want you to meet my secret skills, the thinking skills: **Recall, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation**.

Wolf: What **good** are they going to do me? I don't even know what their names mean and what kinds of skills they are?

Recall: Then I'm the first skill you need. I'm **Recall**. I'm easy to use. You won't have to do much thinking at all, in fact, you're ready to take a test now. What material did the 3rd Little Pig use to build his house?

Wolf: **Recall**, that's easy! He used bricks. I don't understand, so what good are you?

Lenny: **Recall** will not help you much without the next step.

Application: And that's me. My name is **Application**. When you take something you have learned and put it to use, you are applying knowledge.

Wolf: Let's see. I learned that the Three Little Pigs built their houses out of straw, sticks, and bricks and that was my first level of thinking. I only used **Recall** of my knowledge. Now, I know your name is **Application**—but what can you do for me?

Application: I bet the 3rd Little Pig used **Application** when he built his house out of the pile of bricks.

Lenny: Well, yes, because if you think about it all the Little Pigs used **Application** when they constructed their houses. Or, you used **Application** when you demonstrated that you could blow down the straw house because you recalled that the house was constructed from straw and straw was easy to blow away.

Wolf: Oh, I think **Application** is smarter than **Recall**.

Chorus: Wolf, you're getting smarter already.

Wolf: This is fun. What's the next step?

Analysis: That's me. My name is **Analysis**. And if you think **Application** was smart, wait until you try me!

Wolf: What do I do when I analyze?

Chorus: What do you do when you analyze?

Analysis: You take things apart.

Chorus: You take things apart???? But, wolves tear things apart? Shhh!!!!

Wolf: I get it. If I know what all the different parts are, then maybe I'll understand the whole picture better. Am I analyzing if I examine the brick house closely so I could detect all its parts, and, just maybe, I'll find a weak spot? Maybe I'll find an open window or chimney large enough to enter? Or, maybe the bricks in the house are easy to break with a hammer?

Chorus: Ohoooo, a weak spot in the house. Wolf's getting the picture.

Wolf: Okay, I need to go back to the scene. See you later...

Lenny: Just wait one minute....Wolf....you have two more parts to consider. Besides, we need to make sure your brain is really working before you go back to the scene.

Wolf: Well, hurry up....What comes next?

Lenny: The most popular Thinking Skill of all, **Synthesis**.

Wolf: What is **Synthesis**?

Chorus: What is **Synthesis**?

Synthesis: I'm Synthesis, sometimes called **Creativity**. And I'm **much** more complicated than some people think and **much** easier than other people think.

Wolf: **Gee**....You sound more like a riddle.

Chorus: **Synthesis** sounds like a riddle.

Wolf: Gee...that Chorus is giving me a headache. Get rid of them!

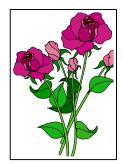**(The Chorus members quickly hide their faces.)**

Synthesis: **Synthesis** puts things together in a new or different way.

Wolf: You mean I analyze....

Chorus: Take apart.

Wolf: ....so I can synthesize by putting things back together?

Lenny: That's right!

Chorus: What's so hard about synthesizing?

Lenny: Wolf, sometimes it's hard to see a new way of doing things.

Wolf: That doesn't sound very easy to me. But let me try. If I look at all the parts to the whole picture then I can rearrange those parts. Like if I look at the different parts to the third Little Pig's House and then figure out how it's made then maybe I can create **something to use** to help me get into the house or down the chimney?

Chorus: Right....it's figuring out a new way in....to get to the Three Little Pigs...

Lenny: Well, maybe, but then if we synthesize correctly it will lead us to **Evaluation** and maybe to a **different solution** to your problem.

Chorus: A better solution......let's see...

Evaluation: Well, I thought you would never call my name.

Chorus: What will Wolf do when he evaluates?

Evaluation:	He will have to make decisions...sometimes very difficult ones.
Wolf:	But, I do that all the time...besides...**hurry up**...I'm getting hungry.
Evaluation:	Wolf, you may make decisions all the time...but do you ever stop to consider **WHY** you make those decisions or judgments?
Chorus:	Why? Why? Why?
Lenny:	And the hardest part is knowing when you need to go back and start over again.
Wolf:	You're confusing me. What do you mean?
Chorus:	What do you mean?
Lenny:	Well, when you are trying to synthesize...
Chorus:	Put things together.
Lenny:	....it's not always easy to know if the **new way** is better or worse.
Chorus:	But time will tell.
Wolf:	Boy, it's sure going to take time for me to learn all this.
Lenny:	Wolf, do you think you might need to make a new judgment on **WHY** you want to destroy the Little Pigs?
Chorus:	**Destroy the Three Little Pigs?**
Wolf:	Well, I don't really know, I have plenty of food to eat. Besides, I really don't like **pig meat!**
Chorus:	He doesn't even like **pig meat!**
Lenny:	Wolf, maybe you need to exert your energy by trying to help the other Pigs build brick houses instead of trying to figure out how to blow them down. **Just think** what you could accomplish. Maybe the Pigs would even help you build a new brick home for your grandmother; she needs more space.

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Wolf: Hey, that's really a good idea, I think I like the Blooms! Do you think the Blooms will help work with my cousin? He is hiding in the woods—**waiting for Red Riding Hood**, you know, the cute kid, walking to Grandma's House!

Chorus: Why not? All you need to do is **recall, apply, analyze, synthesize,** and **evaluate**.