The Snowman

Part1

(#001) One wintry morning just before Christmas, James wakes up in his nice warm bed and wonders what today will bring. He (#002) turns over to look out of the window and can't believe his eyes — is it snowing? He jumps out of bed and (#003) runs across to the window to see if it's true and it is — it's snowing! Yippee! He can't wait to get outside and (#004) quickly puts on his clothes. He runs downstairs and, accidently, (#005) bumps into Dad in the hallway. Ooops! Sorry Dad! He (#006) rushes into the kitchen to collect his wellingtons and (#007) sits on the front doorstep and hurries to pull them on. Then, he's all ready to go out and (#008) explore the big white world in front of him — the snow is still falling and everything, yes everything, is covered with snow.

First, he explores the snow on the ground (#009) by taking b-i-g b-i-g g-i-a-n-t steps. James decides that he wants to build a snowman and (#010) starts rolling the snow into a ball to make the snowman's body. He (#011) uses a spade to make the snowman bigger and finally he (#012) finishes building the snowman's body.

Just then, (#013) his Mum calls him into the house for tea. James goes in and (#014) watches the snowman wistfully as he eats his tea.

After tea, he rushes out again and (#015) makes another ball of snow to make the snowman's head and then he climbs on a stool to place it on top of his body. He (#016) stands back and admires his handiwork and looks to see what else he can do to make his snowman look more snowman-like.

He realizes what the snowman needs and runs into the house and (#018) asks his Mum if there's an old hat and a scarf that he can use. He takes them and rushes outside to put them on the snowman. First, he ties the scarf around the snowman's neck and then adds the hat (#020).

Then he runs back to the house and (#021) looks in the fruit bowl to see if he can find what he's looking for. And he does – he's found a tangerine! He (#022) pushes the tangerine into the snowman's face to give him a bright orange nose!

James wants to add something else to his snowman and (#023) runs off to the coal bunker to collect five pieces of coal. He (#024) uses the first three pieces to give him buttons then (#024a) adds the last two pieces to give his snowman eyes. He (#025) draws a smile on the snowman's face which makes him look like he might be a happy and kindly snowman.

James (#026) stands back and admires all his work. But, it's growing dark now and (#027) his Mum calls him inside because it is getting late. He (#029) kneels on the stool in the living room so he can keep looking at his snowman. Then (#030) Dad tells him it's time to go to bed. So, he goes up stairs, puts on his pyjamas and climbs into bed and (#031) his Mum comes to say goodnight to him. She (#032) turns off the light and James lies awaking thinking of all the fun he'll have tomorrow with his snowman. He tries to sleep but he can't because he's sooo excited. He (#033) gets out of bed to look at the snowman once more and sees the snowman is standing safe and sound in the garden. He shivers as he looks out of the window because it's so cold and so he (#033a) climbs back into his lovely warm bed.

But, he still can't sleep so he puts on his dressing gown and (#034) creeps downstairs, (#034a) across the hall to the front door and (#035) stares at the snowman through the glass. Suddenly the (#036) big grandfather clock strikes midnight. James (#037) opens the front door and is amazed. The snowman has come to life and is (#038) turning round to face him! The snowman then (#039) takes off his hat and bows to him.

James decides (#041) to invite the snowman into his house and (#042) takes him into the living room. The snowman (#043) is fascinated by the cat who is sitting quietly by the fire with her eyes closed. The snowman gently strokes the cat but suddenly the cat opens her eyes, sees the snowman and is (#044) so frightened that all her fur stands up on end and she dashes out of the living room. James (#045) turns on the lights on the Christmas tree and the snowman looks on in wonder. The snowman then (#047) sits down in the armchair next to the fire but he doesn't like it because it's too hot!

James takes the snowman into the kitchen and the snowman (#048) sees the bowl of fruit sitting on the table. He (#049) bends down over the fruit bowl and when he (#050) stands up he's swapped his tangerine nose for a 'banana' nose – he looks very silly! Then the snowman swaps his 'banana' nose for a (#050a) 'pineapple' nose and looks even sillier! (#051) James laughs. The snowman takes off the 'pineapple' nose and puts his own tangerine nose back on again. James decides to show the snowman (#053) the fridge by opening the door. The snowman really, really likes the cold air that comes out of the fridge!

The snowman then (#054) beckons James to come over to the window and the next thing James knows is that the snowman has (#056) grabbed his hand, run out of the house and they start running. James doesn't know what's happening as they (#057) run down to the bottom of the garden. Then, suddenly, (#057a) they are flying up and up over the fields and the house grows smaller and smaller as they fly higher and higher.

THE SONG (Walking in the Air) (#057b - video)

Part 2

(#058) They land. (#058a) James is pleased that they have arrived and the snowman is delighted to be back in Lapland again. The snowman (#059) takes James by the hand and they walk into the forest.

After walking for a while they come to the edge of the forest and the snowman (#060) pushes back the branches of the trees so James can see what's going on and he is amazed at what he sees. There are (#067) lots and lots of snowmen from all over the world having a party to celebrate Christmas. There are lanterns hanging all around and some snowmen are wearing party hats and carrying drinks around for their friends. They're (#068) eating the delicious food that's been put out for them to enjoy.

On one side, some snowmen are (#069) playing the piano, and other instruments, while others listen and drink their beer and cocktails. It's such a jolly atmosphere. Then two snowmen start (#070) playing their flutes and the snowmen begin to dance.

THE DANCE

Part 3

After all the dancing and eating and drinking, James (#075) finally gets to meet Santa Claus. Santa Claus (#075a) shows James the stables where the reindeer are kept. He opens the doors of the stables and (#075b) shows James the reindeer and Santa's sleigh which is piled high with presents. James (#076) moves closer to the reindeer so he can stroke their noses. They're very friendly. Then Santa Claus goes searching in his sleigh for (#077) the present that has James' name on it and (#078) gives it to James.

James (#079) opens his present to find (#080) a lovely blue scarf with snowmen all over it! It's a lovely, lovely present and James is delighted.

The snowman then (#081) tells James that it's time to go home. James feels very sad to have to leave the party but (#082) Santa Claus gives him a big hug before they leave.

James and the snowman (#083) set off flying on their long journey back home. After they've landed in James' back garden, James (#084) reluctantly heads back into the house and the snowman waves goodnight. The snowman (#085) turns round to stand back in his place in the garden.

After James (#086) gets back to his bedroom, he looks out at the showman to give him last look before he climbs back into his bed. He is feeling very tired but so, so happy as he falls asleep.

The next morning James (#088) wakes up feeling excited because he's going to go out and play with his snowman again today. He (#089) runs downstairs enthusiastically and (#090) throws open the front door so he can see his snowman.

But, instead of being overjoyed at seeing his snowman again, he's disappointed at what he finds. He (#091) runs out into the garden in his dressing gown and slippers so he can look more closely. James can't believe it. His friend the snowman is no longer there! He (#092) has melted and all that is left on the ground is his hat and scarf.

James begins to doubt that he ever flew to Lapland with his friend the snowman. Perhaps it was all in his imagination. Finally, he remembers that in (#094) the pocket of his dressing gown, is the scarf that Santa Claus gave him. Then he knows for sure that it was not just a dream and that it actually did happen. James can't wait to tell his Mum and Dad all about his adventure with the snowman and the scarf that Santa Claus gave him when he flew to the snowmen's party in Lapland.