MARY POPPINS CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Bert

Gender / Age: Male 30   Vocal range top: F#4   Vocal range bottom: B2

The narrator of the story and is a good friend to Mary Poppins. An everyman, Bert has many occupations, including hurdy-gurdy player, sidewalk artist and chimney sweep. Bert watches over the children as well as the goings on in Cherry Tree Lane. He has charm, speaks with a Cockney accent and is a song-and-dance man.

George Banks

Gender / Age: Male 40   Vocal range top: Eb4   Vocal range bottom: Bb2

The father to Jane and Michael Banks, is a banker to the very fiber of his being. Demanding "precision and order" in his household, he is a pipe-and-slippers man who doesn't have much to do with his children and believes that he had the perfect upbringing by his nanny, the cruel Miss Andrew. His emotional armor, however, conceals a sensitive soul. A baritone, George may speak-sing as necessary.

Winifred Banks

Gender / Age: Female 30   Vocal range top: D5   Vocal range bottom: A3

George's wife and Jane and Michael's mother. A former actress, she is loving and distracted homemaker who is busy trying to live up to her husband's desire to only associate with "the best people" as well as be the model wife and mother. She suffers from the conflicting feelings that she's not up to the job of "being Mrs. Banks," yet, she is, and more. She has great warmth and simplicity to her tone.

Jane Banks

Gender / Age: Female 11   Vocal range top: F#5   Vocal range bottom: A3

The high-spirited daughter of Mr. and Mr. Banks is bright and precocious but can be willful and inclined to snobbishness.

Michael Banks

Gender / Age: Male 9   Vocal range top: E5   Vocal range bottom: A3

The cute and cheeky son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks. Excitable and naughty, he adores his father and tries to be like him. Both he and Jane misbehave in order to get the attention of their parents.

Katie Nanna

Gender / Age: Female 30

Jane and Michael's nanny at the beginning of the show. Overwhelmed and upset, she has absolutely had her fill of the Banks children.

Policeman

Gender / Age: Male 30

A neighborhood fixture who is respected by and observant of households on his beat.

Miss Lark

Gender / Age: Female 30

The haughty next-door neighbor of the Banks family who treats her dog, Willoughby, as if he were her child.

MARY POPPINS CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Admiral Boom

Gender / Age: Male 50

A retired Royal Navy man and neighbor of the Banks family. A physically large man with a loud and booming voice, he speaks in Navy jargon and has a soft spot for his neighbor, Miss Lark. Can be any vocal range as needed. If Admiral Bloom doubles as the Bank Chairman, he can be a baritone.

Mrs. Brill

Gender / Age: Female 50   Vocal range top: D#5   Vocal range bottom: F#3

The housekeeper and cook for the Banks family. Overworked and harassed, she's always complaining that the house is understaffed. Her intimidating exterior is a cover for the warmth underneath. Mrs. Brill doesn't have a high opinion of nannies in general and Mary Poppins in particular. She does not have to be a strong singer.

Robertson Ay

Gender / Age: Male 20   Vocal range top: G#4   Vocal range bottom: F3

The houseboy to the Banks family. Lazy, sleepy and grumbling, he never gets things right and believes himself to be useless. He doesn't do a lot of singing, but his "Spoonful" solo can be a fun surprise.

Mary Poppins

Gender / Age: Female 20   Vocal range top: C6   Vocal range bottom: Gb3

Jane and Michael Banks' new nanny. She is extraordinary and strange, neat and tidy, delightfully vain yet particular, and sometimes a little frightening but always exciting. She is practically perfect in every way and always means what she says. A mezzo soprano with strong top notes, she should be able to move well. She can have a more traditional soprano sound, but precision and diction are the key.

Park Keeper

Gender / Age: Male 40

Uniformed and officious, he makes sure no one breaks park regulations. His life is defined by rules, but he secretly hankers after his childhood.

Neleus

Gender / Age: Male 16

The statue of a young boy posed with a dolphin in the park. Neleus was separated from his father, Poseidon, and misses him very much. A small and lonely being, he is very happy to befriend Jane and Michael. This role is a wonderful opportunity to feature one of the strong dancers in your ensemble.

Queen Victoria

Gender / Age: Female 40

A statue in the park.

MARY POPPINS CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Bank Chairman

Gender / Age: Male 50 to 60   Vocal range top: D4   Vocal range bottom: C3

The head of the bank where Mr. Banks is employed, is an Edwardian stuffed-shirt. He can speak/sing his lines if necessary.

Miss Smythe

Gender / Age: Female 40

The Bank Chairman's humorless secretary.

Von Hussler

Gender / Age: Male 30

A businessman seeking a loan from the bank for a shady business deal. He speaks with a German accent.

John Northbrook

Gender / Age: Male 30

An honest business man seeking a loan to build a factory for his community. He speaks with an accent from Northern England.

Bird Woman

Gender / Age: Female 50   Vocal range top: C5   Vocal range bottom: Gb3

Covered in a patchwork of old shawls, and her pockets are stuffed with bags of crumbs for the birds. She tries to sell her crumbs for the birds to passersby, who ignore her as if she doesn't exist. Sings "Feed the Birds." There can be a gruff, folksy quality to her voice that reflects the hardness of her life.

Mrs. Corry

Gender / Age: Female 40

Owns a magical gingerbread shop. She is a mysterious woman of great age who speaks with a Caribbean accent (or any accent that would make her seem exotic).

Miss Andrew

Gender / Age: Female 40   Vocal range top: F5   Vocal range bottom: Gb3

George's overbearing and scary nanny. With her bottle of nasty-tasting brimstone and treacle to keep naughty children in line, she is a bully who only knows one way of doing things - her way. A soprano with an alto belt, there can be some heaviness to her voice along with range.

Ensemble

Annie, Fannie, Valentine, Teddy Bear, Mr. Punch, Doll, Chimney Sweeps, Toys, Parkgoers.