

SCREENPLAY TERMS

Scene headings (Slug lines)

- **EXT.:** Denotes an outdoor location.
- **INT.:** Denotes an indoor location.
- **INT./EXT.:** Used for scenes that take place both inside and outside, like a character in a car or bus.
- **CONTINUOUS:** Placed after the location and time of day to show the scene is happening immediately after the previous one.

Action and Sound

- **SFX:** An abbreviation for "sound effects" used to flag any non-dialogue sound that needs to be added later.
- **SOUND:** Can be used to emphasize a specific sound effect.
- **O.S. (Off-Screen):** Indicates a character is speaking from within the scene's location but is not visible on camera. The character could be in the next room or just out of the current camera's view.
- **V.O. (Voice-Over):** Indicates a character's dialogue that is not part of the physical scene, such as a narrator or a flashback.

EXT. PLAYGROUND – DAY

SFX: KIDS LAUGHING. GAME BALL THUMPING. LIGHT BREEZE RUSTLES AN UMBRELLA.

MARSHMALLOW (soft, worried)

Watching is fine. I'm so small. What if I mess up?

MARSHMALLOW (tiny cringe, playful)

And... mud. My paws prefer sparkle, not splatter.

SFX: GAME CHEERS IN THE DISTANCE. A BEAT OF SILENCE UNDER THE UMBRELLA.

MARSHMALLOW (scared whisper)

I'm missing all the fun. What if they laugh? My tummy's doing flip-flops...

N'JERI (O.S., warm, close)

You're tiny but MIGHTY! That makes you a Warrior princess, too.

MARSHMALLOW (whispered prayer, hopeful)

Dear God, help me be brave—just a little.

MARSHMALLOW (breath in, rallying)

Okay. Tiny but mighty. Sparkly paws, don't fail me.

MARSHMALLOW (calling out, brighter)

K'noot, scoot—I'm in!

SFX: QUICK PAWS DASHING... SPLAT IN MUD.

MARSHMALLOW (startled, then giggly)

Ewww! Mud. Oh—wait... it's squishy. Kind of fun?

SFX: BALL BOUNCE NEARBY. SHE DARTS.

MARSHMALLOW (calling, brighter)

I'm open—Princess power, pass it here!

SFX: WHOOSH. SOFT CATCH.

MARSHMALLOW (surprised, thrilled)

I got it! Tiny paws, big play!

MARSHMALLOW (building confidence)

Left paw, right paw—spin, hop, wag!

MARSHMALLOW (quick wobble, nervous)

Whoa—big kid, big shadow—okay... breathe.

MARSHMALLOW (playful bravado)

Game on—Warrior Princess in play!

SFX: FRIENDLY CHEERS. LITTLE TAP-PASS.

MARSHMALLOW (joyful)

Pass back- teamwork- SCORE!

SFX: A SMALL BELL RINGS IN THE DISTANCE.

MARSHMALLOW (proud, warm)

I'm a child of God... with muddy toes.

MARSHMALLOW (laughing, triumphant)

Thanks, N'Jeri! Bravery fits. Umbrella, hold my crown!