

On the following pages is an example of how I write my scripts for 11PC. This comes from episode 42, and while it may not be the perfect example, it gives you the idea.

Please note:

- The font is Comic Sans, which is strangely easier for me to read than most other fonts, so I use it whenever possible, and the font size is 14. I keep the text color black, and I generally use 1.5 line spacing.
- I use abbreviations for sponsor, Trivia Time, Henson History, and Closing Clips so I can tell at a glance what they're about if I go looking through my scripts in the future, and so the scripts are clearly organized into logical sections.
- I highlight sound clips in blue, and correct answers to trivia questions in green. This makes it easier when I'm editing.
- I don't write in the script that I need to insert the 11PC opening theme, or the Henson History theme, or the Storytime theme. I'll always remember to edit those in.
- I don't always include what the closing clips will be if I can't decide on them until I'm already editing, but when I do decide on the closing clips in advance, I put them in a bulleted list after "CC:" and the topic of the clips.
- Sometimes I completely deviate from the usual format of the show, but most of the formatting of the text stays the same. (The abbreviation for Storytime is ST when I use that segment.)

S: Woodland Valley

Oh, hi there! Come on in, I promise not to sniff you. Welcome to Eleven Point Collar, a Muppet fan's podcast, and if you haven't already guessed, we're doing a show on Bear in the Big Blue House this week, so there'll be lots of fun, and Pip and Pop will probably show up in your bathroom at some point. I'm your host, J. D. Hansel and this is episode 42 of 11PC. The show's website is currently boobersblog.com, where you can find all episodes of the show, some articles, artwork, videos, and all kinds of fun. You can contact me at jd11pc@gmail.com, follow me on Twitter @jd11pc, and like the show on Facebook at facebook.com/jd11pc. That's J-D-1-1-P-C. Now, let's get on with the show.

TT: Pip and Pop were brown

Anyone listening to this show probably knows that Oscar the Grouch was not originally green, but he was actually orange at the beginning of *Sesame Street*. However, you may not know that Pip and Pop from *Bear in the Big Blue House* were not always purple. In the show's pilot, they appeared in which color:

- A. Blue
- B. Black
- C. Brown
- D. Gray
- E. One was pink, the other was plaid

If you answered E, you have been banned from the big blue house. If you answered C, you were right. They were brown in the pilot, and they were actually two of the four characters to appear in that pilot, the others being Bear and Tutter.

HH: Bear in the Big Blue House

Bear in the Big Blue House was a children's program on Playhouse Disney, which is now called Disney Junior, created by Mitchell Kriegman and the Jim Henson Company. It featured a large, light brown bear named, you guessed it, Bear, performed by Noel MacNeal. This full-bodied puppet greets the viewers at the beginning of each episode, sniffs them, and invites them into his big blue house, which is filled with fun little animals. There's Ojo, performed by Vicki Eibner, who is a little imaginative orange bear, and then there's Tutter, the little blue mouse in Bear's kitchen performed by Peter Linz. He tends to get very loud and dramatic, shouting names of cheeses as if they were profanity, and using the phrase, "Oh, Hickory Dickory!" Peter Linz also performed the purple otter Pip, whose nearly identical cousin Pop was performed by Tyler Bunch. These two always pop up together in random places in the house, and they are enthusiastic about everything. Tyler Bunch also performed Treelo, who was the very energetic, colorful lemur who enjoyed swinging from vines.

The show was designed to teach simple lessons to preschoolers, while also asking questions about why things are the way they are, and using a shadow puppet named shadow, voiced by Tara Mooney, to tell

stories. Her puppetry was also done by Linz, and so was that of Luna, the moon that bear would talk to each night.

To save time, I'll read a little bit about it from the Muppet Wiki now. "At the beginning of each episode, Bear welcomes viewers to his house and tells them that he thinks they smell good. After talking with one or more of the characters, he introduces the show theme, or "Word of the Day" and sometimes sings a song about it. This segment, in the first three seasons, is often followed by one in which real kids discuss the topic of the day. Afterwards, Bear usually explores the house or valley, talking with the kids and aiding/assisting them as necessary. He will also sometimes stop to find Shadow, who shares a story related to the theme of the day. At the end of each program, Bear heads to the attic of the house and talks with his friend Luna, the moon, about the day's events. The two sing "The Goodbye Song" and notable scenes from the episode are shown in brief. Bear then shares a final thought for the day.

"Sometimes, at the opening of the program, Bear will have a talk with Ray. In the fourth season of the program, Woodland Valley, the community at large, is featured much more heavily. Tutter the mouse is shown attending school, many new characters are introduced and Ray the sun and real-kids segments are no longer featured."

Okay, I'm done reading from the Wiki now, but just so you know, that's been the source of my information for this whole episode. Also, I'd like to mention that Disney bought this show from The Jim Henson

Company when they acquired the Muppets, and when that happened, they produced eight more episodes of the show, and then the spin-off series *Breakfast with Bear* in 2005. So, let's take a listen to some of the fun moments from *Bear in the Big Blue House* in the closing clips.

CC: *Bear in the Big Blue House*