

PROTECTORS OF THE PLAYGROUND

Based on the Children's Book

"The Misadventures of Katty Kat and Foo Foo Fat"  
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FADE IN

EXT. MORRISVILLE CITY PARK - DAY - ANIMATION

Children play on swing sets, chase each other on the grass, and shoot baskets in this tranquil outdoor setting.

But across the street, a dark shadowy figure lurks outside the First National Bank.

EXT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK - CONTINUOUS

The evil DOGGIE HAT, a short, pudgy bulldog wearing a baggy overcoat and top hat looks left. Then right. Then pulls out a remote control and presses a button.

His top hat transforms into his "Ultrahat of Super-Gadgets", as a larger than possible silver cannon pops out of the top and takes aim at the bank wall.

Doggie Hat breaks the 'fourth wall' and CHUCKLES.

DOGGIE HAT

With my UltraHat at full strength, it won't take long to blast into the safe and get to those diamonds.

EXT. MORRISVILLE CITY PARK - CONTINUOUS

Across the park, two figures JUMP into action.

KATTY KAT, a sleek, masked cat dressed head to toe in jet black pounces parkour-style from tree limb to tree limb as she talks into her headset.

KATTY KAT

Foo Foo, do you read me?

Below her, a bulge of dirt snakes its way across the park.

INT. UNDERGROUND TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

FOO FOO FAT, a chubby gopher bedecked in hi-tech gadgets and Katty Kat's crime-fighting partner, burrows quickly underground as he activates his headset.

FOO FOO FAT

Roger that, Katty Kat. Advancing as planned.

INTERCUT BETWEEN KATTY KAT AND FOO FOO FAT

Katty Kat swings from branch to branch, never missing a beat.

KATTY KAT

Rendez-vous behind the large oak tree  
in five seconds.

FOO FOO FAT

Copy that, Katty Kat.

Foo Foo Fat pops out of the ground and lands on his feet,  
then shakes off the dirt from head to toe.

Katty Kat leaps from the tree, flips in mid-air and lands on  
her feet, superhero-style, right next to Foo Foo Fat.

She points over at Doggie Hat and whispers.

KATTY KAT

Take out your Spycrophone and tell me  
what Doggie Hat's saying?

Foo Foo Fat pulls out a tiny, ultra-sonic listening device  
and points it toward the sinister villain.

FOO FOO FAT

Sounds like he's going to blast right  
through the wall and into the safe.

Katty Kat points across the street.

KATTY KAT

Drat. Armpit is on lookout again.

ARMPIT, a grotesque four-eyed mutant with large flabby arms  
folded across its over-sized body stands watch as green  
clouds of gas BELCH from underneath his sweaty armpits.

KATTY KAT (cont'd)

We'll have to cut across the park  
without him seeing us. You ready?

FOO FOO FAT

Ready as spaghetti!

Katty Kat gives him the secret hand signal and they burst  
across the park at hypersonic speed and take cover behind a  
large bush.

KATTY KAT

Nice work, Foo Foo. Now, let's get  
that Doggie Hat and put him back in  
the pound where he belongs.

The two superheroes run straight for Doggie Hat, dodging  
innocent bystanders along the way.

EXT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK - LATER

Doggie Hat aims the laser cannon at the wall and presses a button on the remote control. The beam hits the wall and the bricks start to melt like butter in the hot sun.

DOGGIE HAT

Only a couple more minutes then  
nothing can stop me.

KATTY KAT (O.S.)

Wanna bet, Dog Breath?

Katty Kat jumps out from behind the alleyway, with Foo Foo Fat standing beside her, hands on hips.

DOGGIE HAT

You're too late, Katty Kat! With these  
diamonds, I'll have everything I need  
for my greatest, most evil plan ever!

FOO FOO FAT

You'll never get away with this!

Katty Kat and Foo Foo Fat run at hypersonic speed as they zero in on Doggie Hat.

The laser beam melts through the brick wall and hits the outer shell of the metal bank vault.

Doggie Hat bursts into diabolical laughter.

DOGGIE HAT

Bwuhahahaha!

The bank alarm RINGS and Katty Kat and Foo Foo Fat stop, suspended in mid-air, eyes affixed on the CLANGING bell.

END ANIMATION

CUT TO:

EXT. MORRISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY -  
CONTINUOUS - LIVE ACTION

The cartoon bank alarm morphs into an actual recess bell as it CLANGS on the side of the school wall. Dozens of kids stop what they're doing and head back inside.

Katty Kat and Foo Foo Fat transform from cartoon characters into KATHY ADDAMS, 10, and FREDDIE FUNG, 10. They are frozen and posed just as the cartoon crime-fighters were, wearing bright orange Junior Safety Patrol sashes.

Doggie Hat transforms into DOUG SIMMONS, 10, who looks at Kathy and Freddie standing there in 'frozen running mode', shakes his head and walks away.

Kathy, aka Katty Kat, and Freddie, aka Foo Foo Fat, look at the bell and MOAN in unison.

KATHY

We almost had Doggie Hat that time.

FREDDIE

Yeah, he was saved by the bell again.

KATHY

C'mon, let's get to work.

Outfitted in their bright orange sashes, they race across the playground toward the school door.

As Kathy approaches, we enter her colorful imagination...

KATHY (V.O.)

Life as a Junior Safety Patrol is hard work. Don't get me wrong, I love my job. And someday I'll make it to the big leagues.

CUT TO:

BEGIN MONTAGE

- EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Kathy stands in the center of the playground, hands on hips, bright orange sash across her chest, brass badge glimmering in the sunlight. A big flag waves in the background.

KATHY (V.O.)

Senior Patrollers go to Washington D.C. and meet the President in his big round office. They get to do all the cool stuff.

- INT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

As Kathy shakes the PRESIDENT'S hand he looks both ways, then bends down and whispers in Kathy's ear. Kathy squinches her eyes and nods, then give the President a thumbs-up.

KATHY (V.O.)

Then, only the super best Safety Patrols get selected for advanced spy training. That's where I'm headed.

- INT. SPY TRAINING CENTER - NIGHT

Kathy is one among a select few dressed in black ninja-style outfits with bright orange sashes. The leader barks a command, and they all strike a karate pose.

KATHY (V.O.)

But first, I need to cut my teeth at the Junior Level. That's okay. There's evil everywhere, you just gotta know where to look.

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

INT. MORRISVILLE ELEMENTARY HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Kathy rushes to her designated hallway intersection, while Freddie stops a bit further down helping to control hallway traffic.

KATHY (V.O.)

There are runners.

RUNNER bolts down the hallway at breakneck speed, crashes into another kid and knocks them both down while papers fly everywhere.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)

There are chewers and blowers.

CHEWER walks by chewing a big wad of bubble gum, while his friend BLOWS a huge bubble that pops in his face and hair.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)

There are pickers.

PICKER ambles by with his index finger two knuckles deep up his nose.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)

And then there is pure, outright evil.

Doug Simmons, an athletic-looking fourth-grade boy, passes by wearing his favorite baseball cap.

KATHY

Caps off while inside school, Doug.

Doug gives her a 'make me' look.

Kathy smirks then taps her safety patrol badge.

Doug glares back and sticks out his tongue.

DOUG  
Yeah, right.

KATHY  
Well, then...I'm telling!

Doug walks on by while Kathy stews.

KATHY (V.O.)  
And then there's my crime-fighting partner, Freddie. We've been best friends since forever.

Another KID rushes by as Freddie tries to get his attention.

FREDDIE  
Have fun, but don't run!

Another playground straggler passes by Kathy.

KATHY  
Stay vigilant!

The STUDENT stops.

STUDENT  
Say what?

KATHY  
Not say, stay. Stay vigilant. It means keep your eyes open!

Kathy smiles wide-eyed, proud and protective. The student rolls her eyes and walks off.

STUDENT  
Whatever.

As the last kids find their classrooms, the cartoon four-eyed mutant walks down the hallway looking this way and that. Kathy watches it transform into-

PRINCIPAL HIGGINS (58, overweight, bad comb-over, and thick-framed glasses) with so much sweat stains soaked through his tight collared shirt it looks as though he showered in it.

He walks up to Kathy and looks down over his glasses.

PRINCIPAL HIGGINS  
Kathy, we're not going to have any trouble, are we?

Kathy peers up at him with wide innocent eyes.

KATHY

Trouble? No sir. Not while I'm on patrol.

Principal Higgins stares down at her, bulging arms crossed.

PRINCIPAL HIGGINS

You being on patrol is precisely what I'm afraid of. I'm keeping my eyes on you, young lady.

He walks past her, and Kathy squints her eyes toward him.

KATHY

(softly)

And I've got my eyes on you, Armpit.

The second recess bell RINGS, and Kathy and Freddie shuffle down the hallway to their classroom, SLAMMING the door behind them.

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - ANIMATION

Doggie Hat sits in the middle of a dark room, except for one bright light shining directly over him. His paws tied behind him as he stares straight ahead.

DOGGIE HAT

I'll never talk.

Katty Kat's voice penetrates the darkness.

KATTY KAT (O.S.)

We'll see about that, Mutt-Mouth.

DOGGIE HAT

You ain't got nothin' on me, Katty Kat. Nothin' but bad ideas.

Katty Kat's face enters the cone of light above Doggie Hat, the grin on her face smiling wide like a Cheshire Cat.

KATTY KAT

Oh, I got ideas all right. Like, what's with the diamonds? Who are you working with? Who's funding your operation?

Doggie Hat CHUCKLES.



Kathy stares out the window, a soft smile on her face. Freddie glances over at her. Soon the entire class is staring at her.

MISS WALKER (cont'd)  
Kathy? Hello, Earth to Kathy...

Through the ether, Kathy hears a distant voice. The voice gets louder until she finally snaps out of her trance.

KATHY  
Ideas!

The classroom GIGGLES. Doug shakes his head in front of her.

MISS WALKER  
Now that we have your attention...

The classroom GIGGLES some more.

MISS WALKER (cont'd)  
...about the story: why is it so important to believe in yourself?

Kathy smiles wide and sits up straight.

KATHY  
It's important to believe in yourself because no one else will if you don't do it first.

Miss Walker is genuinely surprised that she got the answer correct. And that Kathy was so sure of herself in saying it.

MISS WALKER  
Yes, Kathy, that's very true.

KATHY  
And anyway, super-villains can always smell weakness.

The classroom BURSTS into laughter. Miss Walker's look of surprise transforms to dismay.

MISS WALKER  
I'm not sure about that last part.

Doug turns around toward Kathy.

DOUG  
I know something that smells in here.

The classroom GIGGLES more.

MISS WALKER  
That's enough of that, Mr. Simmons.

Kathy gives Doug an 'I'll show you' look.

The bell RINGS and the classroom bursts into activity.

MISS WALKER (cont'd)  
Now remember to bring your colored pencils tomorrow for our project. And don't forget, there will be a big announcement in the morning. Have a good rest of your day!

Kathy and Freddie put their Safety Patrol sashes on, strap on their backpacks, and head toward the door.

KATHY  
Bye Miss Walker! Stay vigilant!

Miss Walker smiles at her.

MISS WALKER  
You too.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Kathy and Freddie leave the classroom and hit their posts.

KATHY  
Hey there...you, in the blue top! Stop running!

Kathy shakes her head then looks down the hall at Freddie.

He stands at his post waving his finger back and forth.

FREDDIE  
No need to fuss - you won't miss the bus!

Everyone ignores them...as usual.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL BUS - DAY

Kathy and Freddie sit together on a crowded school bus, surrounded by screaming kids.

KATHY (V.O.)  
I'm not exactly sure when riding the school bus became a full-contact sport, but it's a jungle in here.

All of a sudden, a wadded piece of paper soars overhead. Kathy turns in her seat to face the insanity.

KATHY

I saw that!

Another paper ball flies by, this time right over her head. Kathy turns back around in her seat toward Freddie.

KATHY (cont'd)

They're animals, I tell you.

FREDDIE

You got that right. Umm...hey Kathy?

KATHY

Yeah?

FREDDIE

About class today. I thought we weren't supposed to talk about super villains and stuff in public. We gotta keep our secret identities secret and all, right?

KATHY

Yeah, I know. But I needed Doug to know that I know about what he already thinks he knows...you know?

Freddie pauses to think about this.

FREDDIE

Uhh...no.

KATHY

We gotta keep a close eye on Doug. His alter-ego is always up to no good. You saw him on the playground. One more minute and he would have gotten away with the bank heist. So, I wanted him to know that I was onto him.

Freddie smiles and nods.

FREDDIE

Oh, I get it. You're so smart.

Kathy smiles and looks at him.

KATHY

Not as smart as you, buddy. We still on for later?

FREDDIE

Sure. My mom will probably make me clean my room first, but I'll meet you at the...

Freddie looks both ways then leans in close.

FREDDIE (cont'd)

...Secret Hideout after.

The bus comes to a stop in a quiet suburban neighborhood and Kathy stands up.

KATHY

See you then, partner.

Kathy follows Doug off the bus, between their two yards.

EXT. KATHY'S YARD - CONTINUOUS

Doug walks off to the left toward his house, while Kathy peels off to the right toward hers.

DOUG

Bye jerk-head.

KATHY

See you later, smell-o-gator.

Kathy skips up the brick walkway to the front door and stops. She follows Doug with her eyes as he walks up the sidewalk to the neighboring house and hustles inside.

KATHY (V.O.)

Living next door to the enemy is kind of tricky.

CUT TO:

INT. KATHY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Kathy steps into the entry way and sprints upstairs toward her bedroom.

KATHY (V.O.)

On the one hand, there is a constant threat level that something bad can happen at any moment.

KATHY

Mom, I'm home!

MOM (O.S.)  
 Hey butterbean. I've got snacks in the  
 kitchen.

KATHY  
 Be right down!

Kathy reaches the top of the stairs and gets to her bedroom door, which is riddled with signs that read "TOP SECRET HEADQUARTERS", "ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK", and "RADIOACTIVE".

INT. KATHY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kathy steps inside, slings her backpack onto the bed, and rushes to the window to peek outside into Doug's backyard.

KATHY (V.O.)  
 On the other hand, you can maintain  
 constant surveillance.

Kathy watches as Doug steps into the backyard with a baseball bat and swings at a batting practice pivot ball.

KATHY  
 You'll never get the drop on me,  
 Doggie Hat. No way, no how.

Satisfied that the situation is safe, she sprints out the bedroom, out into the-

HALLWAY

-and down the stairs.

KATHY (V.O.)  
 The second bestest time after school  
 is snack time. Mom always makes the  
 coolest ones.

Kathy pirouettes at the bottom step, turning a simple one-eighty around the staircase into a work of ballerina art, then bounds into the-

KITCHEN

-where her MOM (late 30's, short brown hair, athletic) is finishing up a snack masterpiece.

MOM  
 There you are. How was school?

Kathy perches herself up on a kitchen stool next to her brother, KEVIN (4, blonde hair) and watches Mom finish up.

KATHY

Another safe day at school, thanks to me. Wow, those are so cool!

Mom finishes up her snack art, a collage of fruit on a plate consisting of apples, oranges, grapes and raisins in the shape of butterflies and pinwheels.

KEVIN

Butterflies!

MOM

That's right! Now eat 'em up!

Kathy and Kevin smile wide and dig in, while Mom smiles back nibbling on an orange slice herself.

KATHY

After snacks, I'm gonna change and go play with Freddie, okay Mom?

MOM

That's fine, but remember to stay in OUR neighborhood this time.

Kathy tilts her head back, over dramatic, grimacing.

KATHY

Aww, Mom. We like to go exploring.

MOM

There is plenty to explore in OUR neighborhood. Deal?

Kathy grabs a handful of orange slices, jumps off the stool, and runs out of the kitchen.

KATHY (O.S.)

Deal for real!

Mom shakes her head, while Kevin shakes his head mimicking her. The front door SLAMS shut.

EXT. KATHY'S NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS

Kathy looks both ways as she crosses the street then bolts between her neighbor's yard along the tall hedge.

KATHY (V.O.)

Exploring my own neighborhood is SO boring, I'm totally snoring. Freddie and I know every nook and cranny of this place. We know where to dodge...

Kathy slips between two worn out hedges and pops up behind another house, skillfully changing direction as a yard dog stuck on a leash lunges toward her barking.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)  
Where to duck...

Then she stops and peeks around the edge of a house to see an ornery-looking woman in a housecoat watering a small bed of already dead plants.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)  
And where to dive for cover.

As soon as the woman turns, Kathy bolts across the lawn and dives behind another neighbor's fence line. Kathy gets up and turns to make sure she wasn't spotted and is off again.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)  
But the best part of my neighborhood  
is that Freddie is in it.

Kathy stops along the fence where there is a faded, white-painted 'X' on one of the slats. She slides that slat over creating a space to shimmy through.

On the other side of the street is a large framed light-blue house.

KATHY (V.O.) (cont'd)  
And we do everything together.

Kathy looks both ways before crossing the street, bolts up to the front door, and rings the bell.

Freddie's voice muffles through the door.

FREDDIE (O.S.)  
Meet you out back!

KATHY  
Copy that!

Kathy rushes around the side of the house and meets Freddie as he jumps down off the back porch and crosses the yard toward a large shed.

CUT TO:

EXT. FREDDIE'S BACKYARD - DAY

They approach the shed, look both ways, then open the door and slip inside. This is no ordinary work shed, this is their Secret Hideout, the Fortress of Fun.