



Wild Ginger. Photo by J.E. McGow, CC 2.0
www.flickr.com/photos/16484155@N08/

The Weed Monsters

a play by Alice

CHARACTERS

WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE, WILD GINGER, PRIVET, WANDERING WILLIE, GARDENERS 1-4, WEEDS

SCENE 1: Four weeds are arguing over who is the best.

WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE: Oh, look at my large, soft leaves and lilac flowers! Oh, aren't they beautiful! I'm definitely the best weed around!

WILD GINGER: Best weed around, eh? I don't think so.... Looking good has absolutely nothing to do with being the best weed around!

WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE: Well, at least I don't have yellow flowers! Yellow flowers! That is SO out of fashion. Bleugh! Plus, what can you do?

WILD GINGER: Actually, I'm bigger and stronger than all of you! I can even make things slip down into water or off cliffs!

PRIVET: Well, I think I'm the best. I can swell people's eyes up and make them all big and puffy! As well as making them sneeze! And after all that, if it's not enough, they find big red spots on their arms! Achoo! See? I'm so powerful, I can make myself sneeze!

WANDERING WILLIE: Think that's bad? You should see how many plants I've smothered! [Counts on fingers.] I think that's... 41,963,528. Want me to do it to you?

ALL WEEDS: Noooooo!

WANDERING WILLIE: [Laughs.]

SCENE 2: Gardeners make an entrance.

WILD GINGER: Who are those guys?!

PRIVET: [Giggles] They have googly things on their eyes!

[Weeds crack up laughing.]

WANDERING WILLIE: Look at their funny bright orange jackets! [Laughs.]

WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE: Orange? Bleugh. Who wears those things?

WILD GINGER: And their weird hat thingies!

PRIVET: And the yucky mowed grass on their pants! [Pulls face.]

All **Weeds:** Eewww!

WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE: And... is that a – spade?!

All **WEEDS:** Ahhhhh!!!! [Look and sound terrified]

GARDENER 1: Woolly Nightshade?

GARDENER 2: Wild Ginger?

GARDENER 3: Privet?

GARDENER 4: Wandering Willie?

GARDENERS: This is a nightmare!

[All gardeners squash weeds with spades.]

All **WEEDS:** HELP!

SCENE 3: Gardeners address audience

GARDENER 1: These weeds are monsters! It almost seems like they're taking over New Zealand.

GARDENER 2: They are killing our native plants and animals!

GARDENER 3: We need your help to try and defeat them.

GARDENER 4: So remember...

All **GARDENERS** [in unison]:
Don't stand still! KILL!

Alice, age 10, from
Northshore KCC

