

Lion King JR. Cast Breakdown

Rafiki

A wise mandrill who acts as healer of the Pridelands and guides Simba on his journey home. Rafiki is an omniscient character, evincing an air of mystery. Rafiki has significant solos in "Circle of Life" and "He Lives in You," and leads the African chants throughout the show

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Mufasa

The strong, honorable, and wise lion who leads the Pridelands. Mufasa should command respect onstage and also show tenderness with his son, Simba.

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Sarabi

A featured lioness, Mufasa's mate, and Simba's mother. Sarabi has a few key speaking lines for an actor who can deliver the care and command of a queen.

Zazu

The anxious yet loyal assistant to Mufasa who is always busy trying to do his duty. Zazu's lyrics are spoken rather than sung.

Scar

The antagonist of the show, overcome with jealousy of his brother, Mufasa, and nephew, Simba. Coldhearted and wickedly intelligent, he will stop at nothing to become king of the Pridelands.

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Young Simba

The protagonist of the story, is an adventurous and endearing cub who can't wait to be king of the Pridelands. Simba is playful, energetic, and naive, but after his father Mufasa's death, Simba struggles with shame and his destiny.

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Simba

Grows from a cub to lion in "Hakuna Matata." Older Simba has more complex moments as he reunites with Nala, mourns his father, and returns to confront Scar,

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Lionesses

The fierce hunters of the Pridelands and featured in "The Lioness Hunt," "The Mourning," and "Shadowland."

Young Nala

A courageous lion and Young Simba's best friend. She is not afraid to speak her mind.

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Nala

Grows from a cub to a lioness before she confronts Scar

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Sarafina

A featured lioness and Nala's mother.

Shenzi

One of Scar's hyenas who plot to take over the Pridelands. She is the sassy one of the trio and is always looking out for herself. With Banzai and Ed, she should be able to laugh loudly and long, as well as be menacing to Young Simba and Young Nala.

Banzai

A slick yet childish hyena who works for Scar. He would be the leader of the group if hyenas weren't so lazy.

Ed

The third member of Scar's trio of lackeys. He has a loud, cackling laugh that is his only form of communication. Ed should be played by an actor who can laugh unabashedly and communicate through physicality and facial expressions rather than words.

Hyenas

Scar's army, helping carry out his evil plot to take over the Pridelands. Hyenas are mangy, mindless creatures who sing in "Be Prepared."

Timon

An outcast meerkat who lives in the jungle with Pumbaa. He is afraid of his own shadow, but pretends to be the confident, relaxed leader of the duo. Timon is one of the funniest characters in the show and should be played by a charismatic actor who understands comic timing.

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: B3

Pumbaa

A kindhearted, sensitive warthog who enjoys his simple life of grubs and relaxation. Character should portray this loveable and loyal friend to Timon and Simba with deadpan humor.

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: D4

Ensemble

The ensemble plays various inhabitants of the Pridelands, such as giraffes, elephants, antelopes, wildebeest, and other creatures. Dancers will be featured in "The Lioness Hunt" and "I Just Can't Wait to Be King."