

T. A. Barron's Adventure for Young Readers

TREE GIRL

Chapter 11 — Questions and Activities

Art: The Four Seasons

Spring has turned into summer in this chapter. Even though trees are at their most green and full during the summer, there is something special about trees in every season. In the winter, when there are no leaves, we can see all of the branches; in the spring, through tiny buds and leaves, we get to see trees start to come out of their deep sleep; and in the fall, we witness the glorious splendor of reds, oranges, and browns as nature prepares for colder months ahead.

If you like to sketch and draw, draw four versions of the same tree — one for each season. If you'd rather get crafty or color, you can use one of the resources below instead:

- 🌳 Four Seasons Tree Craft: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hexM3GaE2J4>
- 🌳 Funny 4 Seasons Tree: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWgMiYG492Y>
- 🌳 Four Seasons Drawing Templates: <https://www.twinkl.com/resource/t-t-9458-four-seasons-tree-drawing-template>
- 🌳 Tin Foil Embossed Trees: <https://thepinterestedparent.com/2017/07/tin-foil-embossed-trees-for-all-seasons/>
- 🌳 Four Seasons Agamograph: <https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/four-seasons-agamograph-template/>

Language Arts: Ghost Stories

Master Mellwyn has told Anna stories about spooky, shrieking ghouls living in the forest. Scary! Master Mellwyn tells Anna these stories so that she'll stay out of the forest, but many times, scary stories are told for fun. A good ghost story uses *setting* (where the story takes place) to set the mood, different *characters* — including villains, ghouls, or ghosts — and a suspenseful *plot* (the main events of the story).

Make up your own scary ghost story with an eerie setting, scary characters, and a thrilling plot. You can use this worksheet to help organize your story before you write it:

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson407/write-scary2.pdf.

Tell your story tonight, with the lights turned down low--or even in the dark!



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Science: Octopus Ink

In this chapter, author T. A. Barron describes the night sky "as dark as octopus ink." Have you ever seen octopus ink? Despite its name, octopus "ink" isn't used in pens for writing. It's actually a very powerful defense for them. You can learn more about octopus ink in this short video: <https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000153-e222-ded6-a3f3-faaaae1a0000>.

If you want to learn more about this fascinating creature, you can use any or all of the resources below:

- 🌳 Fun Octopus Facts for Kids (article):
<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals/octopus.html>
- 🌳 Ocean Animals: The Octopus (Video):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHRS3bD4yPM>
- 🌳 Octopus Reading Comprehension Worksheet:
<https://www.education.com/download/lesson-plan/all-about-mr-octopus/attachments/octopus-facts.pdf>
- 🌳 Printable Octopus Activity Pack:
<https://www.twinkl.com/resource/octopus-activity-pack-t-tp-2549669>
 - Note: this site requires free registration

Mini-Book: We haven't been introduced to any new trees in this chapter but that doesn't mean we can't keep learning about them! One unique tree you can add to your book is the Rainbow Eucalyptus. It's a beautiful tree. Learn more using these resources and add a page about the Rainbow Eucalyptus to your book.

- 🌳 Rainbow Eucalyptus Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwXSHKdDM7Y>
- 🌳 10 Random Facts about the Rainbow Eucalyptus: <http://tenrandomfacts.com/rainbow-eucalyptus/>
- 🌳 Can You Grow a Rainbow Eucalyptus?
<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/trees/eucalyptus/rainbow-eucalyptus-tree.htm>
- 🌳 Things You Probably Didn't Know About the Rainbow Eucalyptus:
<https://gardenerdy.com/things-you-probably-didnt-know-about-rainbow-eucalyptus>



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Math: Days, Weeks, Months and Years

To Anna, time is moving very slowly. The first line in this chapter says, "Days went by, days that felt like weeks to Anna." Sometimes, when we're waiting for a special day, or we're really bored, it can feel like time is taking longer than usual but, rest assured, time is moving at the same speed it always does.

There are always 24 hours in each day and always seven days in each week. Most months have 30 or 31 days in them. February is the only one that has fewer days.



- 🌳 You can watch this video to learn more about days, weeks, and months.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8ZQTsbJ55w>
- 🌳 Younger children might enjoy this one too:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NA6sCLgqkL4>
- 🌳 Upper elementary students might have fun with this worksheet:
<https://en.islcollective.com/english-esl-worksheets/vocabulary/dates/months-year/81675>.
- 🌳 This printable will tell you all about how each month got its name:
<https://en.islcollective.com/english-esl-worksheets/level/elementary-a1/origins-months-year/66549>

Make your own calendar using one of the ideas below or come up with your own. Be sure to mark all the special days coming up!

- 🌳 Printable Coloring Calendar: <https://www.woojr.com/printable-coloring-calendar/>
- 🌳 Pop-Up Book Calendar: <http://krokotak.com/2015/12/calendar-2016-pop-up-book/>
- 🌳 Paper Plate Wheel Calendar: <https://www.thejoysharing.com/2017/09/paper-plate-wheel-calendar.html>
- 🌳 DIY Desk Calendar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bgfL5Rlls>

