

T. A. Barron's Adventure for Young Readers

# TREE GIRL

## Chapter 4 — Questions and Activities

### Language Arts: Mystery

Chapter Four is filled with mysterious things happening. A “mystery” is something that is difficult or impossible to explain. For Anna, the mystery included things like an upside down basket, rowan leaves, and drawings in the sand.

There are some books and TV shows about mysteries to be solved. Have you ever had something mysterious happen or had to solve a mystery? Make up a story about mysterious things. You can write it down, say it out loud, or act it out.



### Art and Life Skills: Make a Bonnet

Anna had a sunbonnet. A “bonnet” is usually a type of cloth hat for a woman or child that is tied under the chin. A “sunbonnet” is worn to protect your face from the sun. If you’ve ever watched Little House on the Prairie, you’ve probably seen a sunbonnet. (If you haven’t seen this show, you can watch this short clip and you’ll notice a sunbonnet:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HikMKdl6Rnc>

Try making your own bonnet using one of the resources below:

- 🌿 No-Sew Bonnet 1: <https://sayyes.com/2014/11/diy-felt-pilgrim-hat-no-sew>
- 🌿 No-Sew Bonnet 2: <http://sevensistersinchrist.blogspot.com/2010/11/giving-thanks-girls-pilgrim-bonnet.html>
- 🌿 Newspaper Bonnet: <https://www.instructables.com/id/Newspaper-Sun-Bonnet/>



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## Science: Sand

Have you ever been to the beach or played with sand and noticed how it's different from regular soil (dirt)? In nature, you can find sand near large bodies of water and in places with a lot of rocks and wind but no trees. There's a reason for this.

Almost every grain of sand used to be a part of a big rock or shell. As rocks and shells are worn down by wind, water, and weather (called "erosion"), tiny pieces are worn off and each piece becomes a grain of sand. Can you imagine how many rocks and shells have been worn down to create a beach?!

You could try making your own sand by finding rocks and helping them with the erosion process but that would take a really long time. Most of the sand you see on beaches has taken thousands of years or even tens of thousands of years. Instead, make your own fun kinetic sand using ingredients you probably have at home. Here are a few recipes you can try:

- 🌱 Using flour and baby oil: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SPdLPGU5pM>
- 🌱 Using used coffee grounds, cornmeal, flour, and salt:  
<https://home.howstuffworks.com/green-living/make-your-own-sand.htm>
- 🌱 Using flour and vegetable oil: <https://lindsaylovinlife.wordpress.com/2017/09/28/how-to-make-two-ingredient-fake-sand-for-sensory-play/>

**Mini Book:** In this chapter, we read about Spruce, Rowan, and Elm trees. Use the resources below to add pages to your mini book about each tree.

- 🌱 Spruce Tree: <http://justfunfacts.com/interesting-facts-about-spruce-trees/>
- 🌱 Rowan Tree: <https://kids.kiddle.co/Rowan>
- 🌱 Elm Tree: <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/elm/353097>

