

T. A. Barron's Adventure for Young Readers

TREE GIRL

Chapter 5 — Questions and Activities

Language Arts: Adjectives

Let's look at the first paragraph in this chapter. Read this section and skip the underlined words:

"Suddenly — a whole new world. Now Anna's feet didn't sink into sand: They bounced in a bed of fallen leaves. The briny smell of the sea faded into a zesty mix of resins, blossoms, and rich, wet soil. And the sounds of sloshing waves and screeching gulls died away, shushed by the whispers of branches."

Now, read it again, including the underlined words.

You can understand what author T. A. Barron is saying with or without those underlined words but those words certainly help us understand and imagine what's going on much more clearly.

Those underlined words are called "adjectives." Adjectives help add more detail to our sentences because we use them to describe different things about people, places, objects, or ideas (those are called "nouns," by the way). When we use adjectives, it is easier for the other person to picture what you are talking or writing about. Even if you haven't learned about adjectives in school yet, you use them every day. If you talk about a good book, round ball, cozy blanket or bright sun, you're using adjectives!

Think of a special object, place or person and make a list of words that help describe it. If you're having fun, don't stop there, think of more special things and describe them!



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Science: Baby Animals

In Chapter Five, we read about a doe and a fawn and cubs. You might have already guessed that a “fawn” is a baby deer and a “cub” is a baby bear. Learn more about baby animals with one of these fun activities:

- 🌳 Take a virtual trip to the zoo! This site lists all the zoos in the United States: <https://www.officialusa.com/stateguides/zoos/>
- 🌳 Baby Animal Matching Worksheet (for younger children): <https://www.homesciencetools.com/content/reference/BabyAnimals.pdf>
- 🌳 Read Kindle Books about baby animals: <https://amzn.to/2Vsca92>
- 🌳 Older children may want to explore different animal lifecycles: <https://www.education.com/slideshow/color-the-animal-life-cycles/>
- 🌳 Printable baby animal name match game: <https://www.mypartygames.com/free-printable-match-the-baby-animal-name-game/>
- 🌳 Mother and Baby Memory Game (online): <https://matchthememory.com/motherbaby>
- 🌳 Printable Baby Animal Preschool Pack: <http://www.1plus1plus1equals1.com/PreschoolPackBabyAnimals.html>

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

- 🌳 Hawthorn Tree: <https://kids.kiddle.co/Hawthorn>
- 🌳 Beech Tree: <https://kids.kiddle.co/Beech>



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Social Studies: Rough and Tumble

Anna watched as two bear cubs wrestled. From everything we read in the book, it sounds like they were having fun. This kind of play is sometimes called “roughhousing” or “rough and tumble play.” It’s a good way to burn off extra energy and excitement but only as long as everyone is having fun.

Sometimes, roughhousing can turn into hurt feelings and hurt bodies, so it’s important to know the signs of when roughhousing might be going too far. If your friends say they want to stop or say they are hurt, it’s important to listen to them and take a break. What are some signs that your friends want to stop playing rough?

There are lots of fun games to play that will help you burn off that extra energy without wrestling or roughhousing. You could play tag, hopscotch, jump rope, four corners, basketball and so much more. What are other games you could play when you feel like you just have to move around?

For parents: We realize that every family has different rules when it comes to play. Please use your own discretion in talking to children about roughhousing. Below, you’ll find links for additional reading on the benefits of “rough and tumble” play in childhood development:

- 🌳 <https://www.brighthubeducation.com/pre-k-and-k-lesson-plans/129275-rough-and-tumble-play/>
- 🌳 https://www.ucy.ac.cy/nursery/documents/Agrio_Pexnidi_sta_Nipia.pdf
- 🌳 <https://partnershipsforearlylearners.org/2019/05/09/rough-and-tumble-play/>
- 🌳 <http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2016/embracing-rough-and-tumble-play>
- 🌳 <https://bingschool.stanford.edu/news/observing-supporting-and-celebrating-rough-and-tumble-play-classroom>



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Life Skills (Engineering): Build a Fort

Anna found a cozy cavern in the trunk of a tree. The book tells us that Anna felt it was almost as cozy as being in her mother's arms. It's nice to have a special place to feel cozy. Do you have a special place? You can make your own cozy place any time by using blankets to create your own fort (just make sure you get permission first!).

Download these free activity sheets from Education.com for tips for younger children:

- <https://www.education.com/activity/article/blanket-fort/>
- <https://www.education.com/worksheet/article/how-to-build-a-fort/>

