

TREE GIRL

Chapter 6 — Questions and Activities

Science: Animal Tracks

Studying nature and animals is a lot of fun, but it's not always possible to see animals in nature. Many animals hide when they sense other animals or humans, but we can still understand what kind of animals were close by recently by looking for animal tracks. Just like Eagle left his tracks in the sand, animals (as well as humans!) leave tracks in soil, sand, and dust. Use one or more of the following resources to learn more about different types of animal tracks and get prepared for your next nature hike.



- 🌳 Animal Track Detective Video (lower elementary): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xz02S-CizAU>
- 🌳 Animal Tracking Book and Cards (Pre-k through Kindergarten): <https://www.prekinders.com/animal-tracks-book/>
- 🌳 Printable Animal Tracks Field Guide (all ages): <https://www.personalcreations.com/blog/animal-tracks>
- 🌳 Lost Art of Animal Tracking (reading resource for upper elementary and middle school): <https://www.parentingscience.com/animal-tracking-for-kids.html>
- 🌳 Printable Animal Tracks Matching Game: <https://www.adventure-in-a-box.com/animal-tracks-printable-matching-game-for-kids/>
- 🌳 Online Animal Tracking Game: <http://nwwoodsman.com/TrackingGame/TrackinGame.html>

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 interesting tree you can add to your book is the Mangrove. Learn more about this tree and add a new page to your book.

- 🌳 Mangroves: 11 Facts You Need to Know: <https://www.conservation.org/stories/11-facts-you-need-to-know-about-mangroves>
- 🌳 Into the Mangrove Forest Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mSDrAQp4dQ>



T. A. Barron's Adventure for Young Readers

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Health: Nutrition

It is said that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Anna and Master Mellwyn had a breakfast of smoked herring (a type of fish) and seaweed cakes. What did you have for breakfast this morning?

We all like to eat foods that taste yummy but it's important to eat foods that are good for our bodies, too. What we eat provides our bodies with what they need to help them work properly and help us feel good. Food contains vitamins, protein, fats, and more.

How do you know what to eat? Doctors and scientists have done a lot of research to figure out exactly what we should be eating every day and created something called a "food pyramid" to help make it easy for us to understand. You can learn more about food pyramids using the following resources:

- 🌱 Healthy Food for Kids (elementary): <https://easyscienceforkids.com/what-is-healthy-food-for-your-body/>
- 🌱 Healthy Eating: An Introduction for Children Aged 5-11: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMHVEFWNLMc>
- 🌱 Printable Food Guide Pyramid for Young Children (full color): https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/archived_projects/FGP4KidsSmallColor.pdf
- 🌱 Printable Food Pyramid (coloring book style): https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/archived_projects/FGP4KidsLine.pdf
- 🌱 Online Games: <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/browse-by-audience/view-all-audiences/children/kids/games>



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Science: Parts of a Boat

Anna was helping Master Mellwyn fix the hull of his boat. The hull is the main part of a boat. It's important to keep the main part of the boat in tip-top shape so it stays afloat. There are many other parts of the boat. Do you know them all? You can learn them with this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZ6O8IB0cII>.

You can print this cool worksheet for free to label all of the parts:

<https://www.nps.gov/sama/learn/kidsyouth/upload/partsship.pdf> and try making your own boat using one of the resources below:

- 🌳 Origami Boat: <https://www.origami-fun.com/support-files/origami-boat-print.pdf>
- 🌳 Cork Boat: <https://mamapapabubba.com/2013/06/25/cork-sail-boats-with-sparkly-sails/>
- 🌳 Sponge Boat: <https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/sponge-sailboat-craft-for-kids/>
- 🌳 Popsicle Stick Boat: <https://www.creativejewishmom.com/2015/08/popsicle-stick-sailboat-craft-for-kids.html>

Have you wondered how boats can float? You can learn here:

- 🌳 How Boats Float Video (early elementary): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32kbMMt-3-s>
- 🌳 Archimedes Principle (upper elementary): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQBQN1zUm24>
- 🌳 Ships and Boats (high school): <https://www.explainthatstuff.com/how-ships-work.html>



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Social Studies: Signs of Affection

Master Mellwyn is a pretty gruff person (“gruff” means that he is a little rough acting) and doesn’t always show how much he cares for Anna. When he gently squeezed her shoulder, that was his way of saying “I love you,” and it meant a lot to Anna. When someone gives a hug or makes another gesture to show they care, that is called a “sign of affection.” Moms, Dads, Grandmas, and Grandpas really love hugs! But, not everybody likes hugs, and sometimes hugs aren’t appropriate. In those situations, it might be better to use your words instead of your hands.

How can you show people you care? Make a list of people you care about and think of ways to show them, then do it!

Life Skills: Interior Decorating

Anna did a few special things to make her cottage a little nicer. She made a new pillow, changed the straw in the sleeping pallets, fixed chairs, and swept the hearth. These small changes helped lift her spirits and the mood of Master Mellwyn. Sometimes, when we’re feeling bored or a little blue, a few simple changes can help your space feel fresh and new. What can you do in your own room (with permission, of course) to make it feel fresh and new? Can you pick up your toys or have your furniture moved around? You might want to create new art for your walls or change the blanket on your bed. It doesn’t take too much and you don’t need to spend a lot of money — in fact it can be a lot of fun finding new uses for the things you already have!

If you want, you can make a new pillow from an old t-shirt using these no-sew instructions: <https://www.diynetwork.com/how-to/make-and-decorate/decorating/how-to-make-a-no-sew-pillow-from-an-upcycled-t-shirt>

