

T. A. Barron's Adventure for Young Readers

TREE GIRL

Chapter 9 — Questions and Activities

Art: Optical Illusions

In this story, there have been a few times when Anna thinks she sees something that turns out to be different than she originally thought. When something tricks the eye to appear to be something other than what it really is, it is called an optical illusion.

Illusions are fun to look at and fun to make! You can read more about optical illusions and look at a few here:

https://www.optics4kids.org/illusions. After you've learned about them, try making one of your own using one of the resources below:

- Drawing a Spiral Hole Anamorphic Trick Art Illusion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcN6Y61ktfw
- How to Draw a 3D Hand Trick Art Optical Illusion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naMb5b4_QaY
- How to Draw a 3D Ladder Trick Art for Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAq2X-0FbGM

Life Skills: Make a Net

Master Mellwyn makes fishing nets from vines. Do you know what a fishing net looks like? If not, you can look at this one: https://www.amazon.com/Fishing-Nets-Netting-Nautical-Decor/dp/B00870KNWA/. Can you imagine how long it would take to make a net by hand?

Take a look around your home and make your own net using things you have on hand. It doesn't need to be a fishing net, it can be for "netting" anything; bugs, butterflies or anything else!



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Science: Moss

Deep in the forest, Anna encounters moss hanging from the trees. Moss is a type of plant, but it does not have flowers. There are over 1,200 different types of moss! One of the most well-known types of moss in North America is Spanish Moss — if you've been to southern Georgia or Florida, there is a good chance that you've seen Spanish moss hanging from trees. Learn more about moss with these resources:

- Is Moss a plant? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0TthDps7Yc
- Life Cycle of Moss (Middle and High School): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u2zKxHnVWoU
- Water and Mosses Science Project: https://www.education.com/sciencefair/article/water-and-mosses/
- Make a Moss Terrarium: https://www.education.com/activity/article/moss-gardenterrarium/

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! Did you know there is a tree called the Cannonball tree? Learn more about this tree and add a new page to your book.

- Encyclopedia Britannica: Cannonball Tree:
 - https://www.britannica.com/plant/cannonball-tree
- Cannonball Tree Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5xwR0QtX8U

Social Studies: River Flow

Anna walked upstream in search of vines. When someone is talking about a stream or river and says "upstream," it means the opposite way the river is flowing. If you follow the river in the same direction it flows, it's called "downstream."

This animated video will tell you more about rivers and how they flow: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLCFejZOiBM. You can also try this water flow experiment: https://www.kiwico.com/diy/Science-Projects-for-Kids/3/project/Water-Flow-Experiment/854





Engineering: Pulleys

Whether she realized it or not, when Anna was trying to use a vine to help Sash out of the tree, she was actually creating a pulley system. You've probably seen a pulley system at work — or have even made one yourself and didn't even know it!

This website is full of information to help you learn more about pulley systems and make one of your own: https://carrotsareorange.com/how-to-make-a-pulley/.



