



T H E A T E R

EDUCATION GUIDE

Wind in the Willows



Tuesday, November 18, 2025
9:30 AM & 12:30 PM

Recommended for Grades 3-5
Tickets: \$7.00 per person

Jane Wallace ABT Student Matinee Series

ABT Education Partner



Alberta Bair Theater for the Performing Arts
2801 Third Avenue North • Billings, Montana 59101
406.294.5206 or 406.256.8915
www.AlbertaBairTheater.Org

THEATRE HEROES PRESENTS



KENNETH GRAHAME'S
WIND IN
THE
WILLOWS

PARAMOUNT
EDUCATION

OCTOBER 20-22, 2024



THEATRE HEROES

Theatre Heroes is a theatre company based out of Austin, TX that creates high quality touring performances for young audiences and those young at heart. They bring classic stories and adventures to life to promote creativity, inspire innovation and enliven multi-sensory learning experiences - empowering youth to be their own hero. They also believe in inspiring the next generation of theatre makers through workshops, talkbacks, and residencies.



NOEL GAULIN

Noel Gaulin is a four-time winner of Best Actor from the Austin Critics' Table and Austin Revolution Film Festival. He has toured performances to over 140 cities for 125,000 young people across the country. He is also revered as an arts educator for his commitment to excellence and kindness.



KENNETH GRAHAME

Kenneth Grahame was a British author, and The Wind in the Willows was one of his most famous books. It began as a series of bedtime stories for Grahame's son, and it's now considered a classic of children's literature.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Book Written by Kenneth Grahame

Adapted by Greg Romero

Performed by Noel Gaulin

Projections by Chris Owen

Illustrated by Annie Bradley McCall

Sound by K. Eliot Haynes

Costume by Kelli Bland

Lighting by Stephen Pruitt

Music by Mike Vernusky

Movement Consultation by Kelly Hasandras & Olivia O'Hare

Siku Pan Flute by Adrienne Inglis

Tongue Drum by Carolyn Trowbridge

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who was your favorite character in the story? Why?
2. What sights, sounds, and smells do Mole and Rat experience during their journey to find Portly, the lost baby otter? Why do you think Mole and Rat wanted to help find Portly?
3. There was only one actor playing multiple characters throughout the show. What did the actor have to do with their voice and body to accomplish this?
4. What makes a good bedtime story? What bedtime stories do you read?
5. Why do you think this story is titled *Wind in the Willows*?



SENSES IN THE WOODS

Both the book and the show use **imagery** to immerse you into the story's world by detailing the mood or atmosphere. Think about the Willows and how the show brought it to life. How did the Willows stimulate each of your five senses? What can you smell, hear, taste, touch, and see from the Willows?

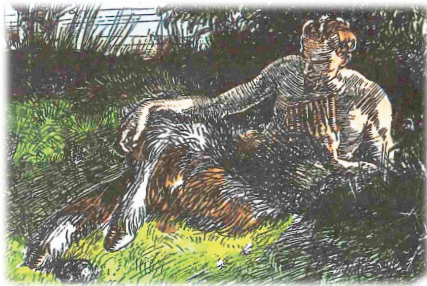
SEE

TOUCH

TASTE

HEAR

SMELL

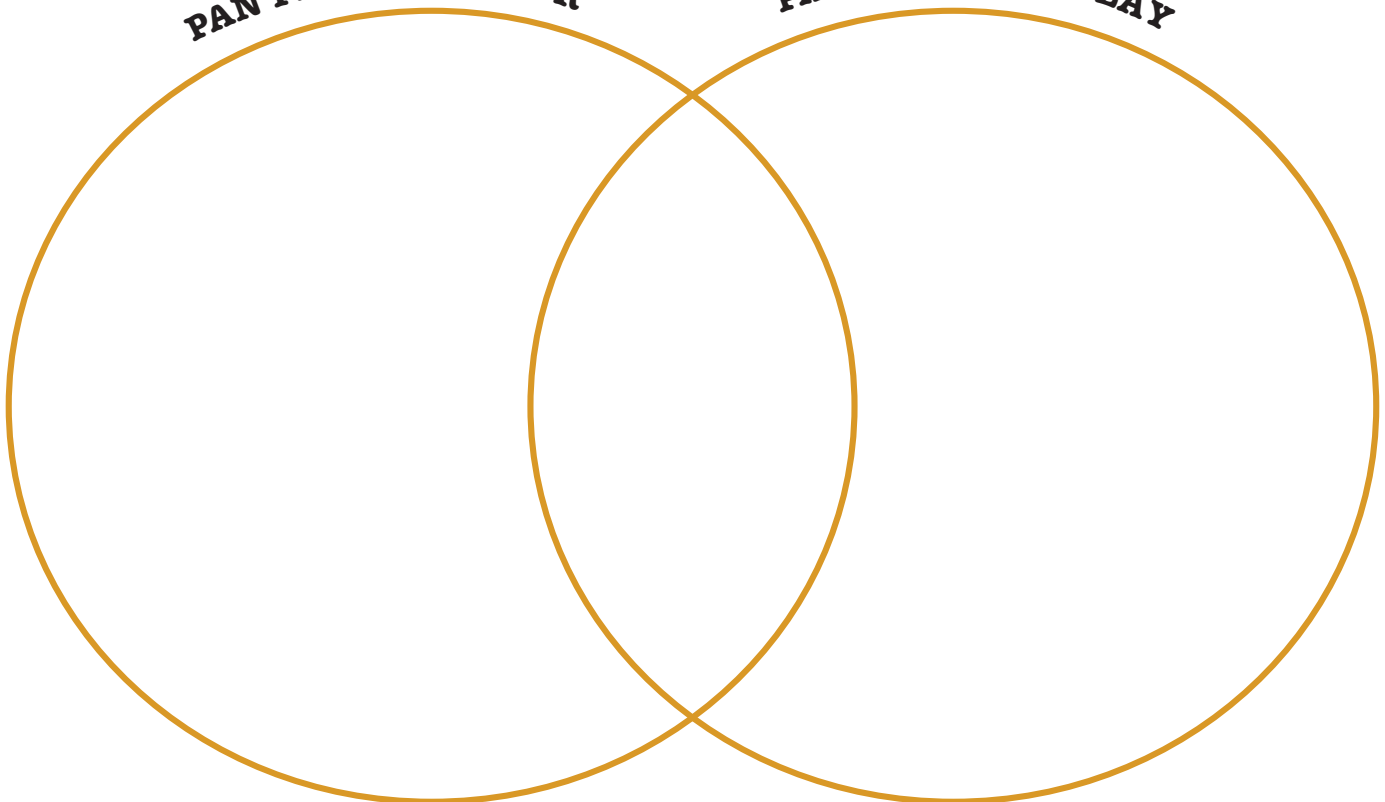


READING THE BOOK VS. SEEING THE PLAY

Think back to the show when Mole and Rat encounter Pan, the "god of the wild". Then look at this illustration of Pan from the original book. What do the two depictions of Pan have in common? What's different? Fill out the Venn diagram.

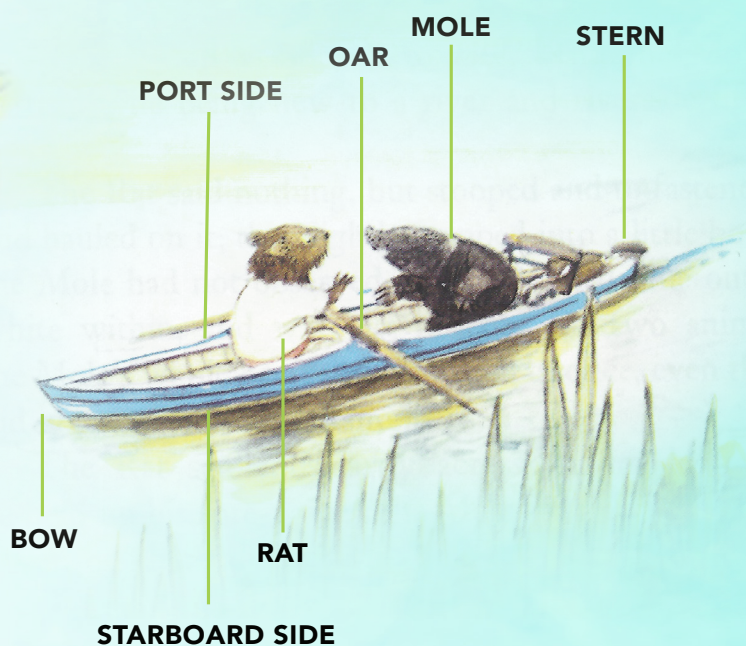
PAN FROM THE BOOK

PAN FROM THE PLAY



MOLE AND RAT'S BOAT

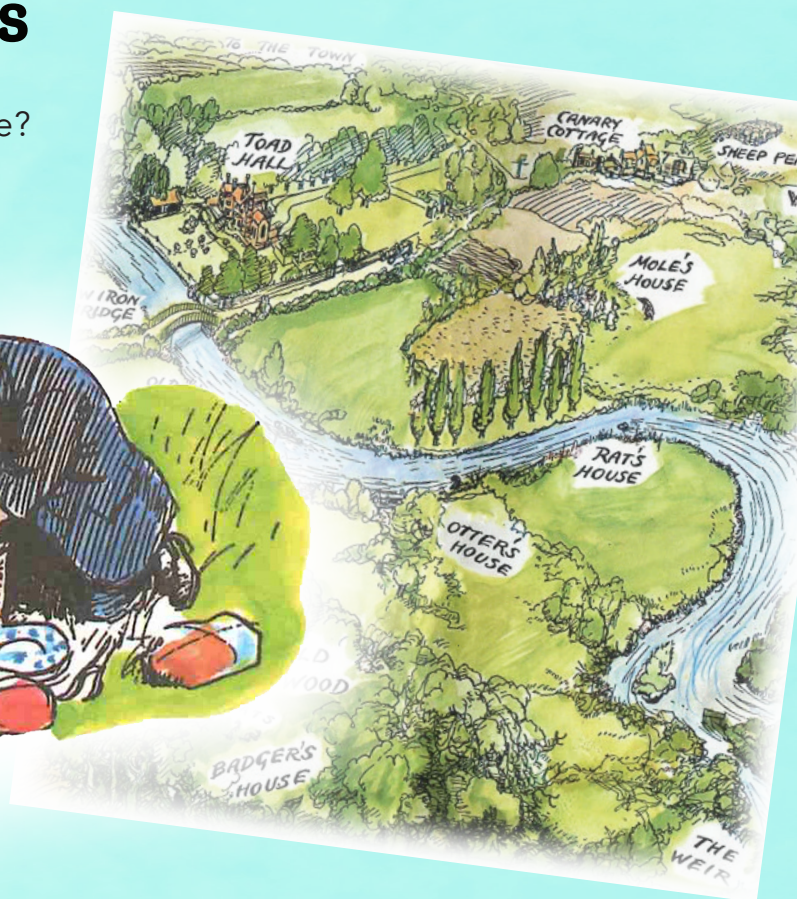
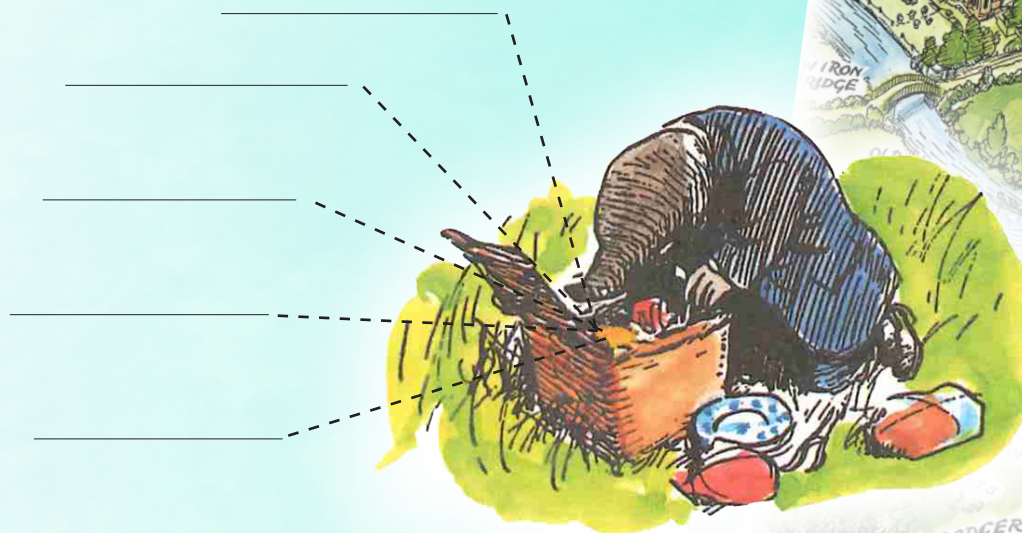
Rat and Mole use a boat to travel up and down the river. The parts of a boat are labeled in the picture. Search for those same words in the word search!



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| U | U | P | C | M | I | D | E | J | C | K | W | N | F | S | H | Q |
| P | K | O | O | S | P | F | D | A | S | A | Y | N | Y | R | V | U |
| B | B | P | T | T | J | A | U | E | S | Z | R | O | K | T | U | E |
| O | D | R | M | V | D | E | L | M | B | Y | T | G | A | X | K | N |
| W | O | H | O | X | I | W | C | N | A | O | Z | P | D | F | G | O |
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| Z | N | K | O | F | Q | P | D | J | H | S | D | A | N | H | B | C |
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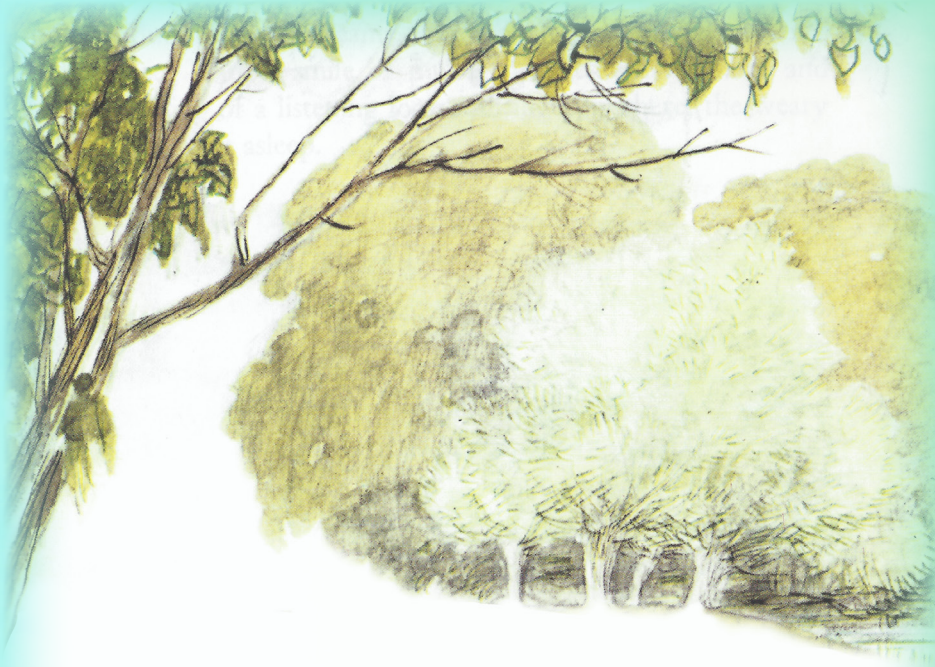
PACKING FOR THE WOODS

If you were going out into the woods, what would you pack to prepare for your adventure? Write your answers in the spaces below!



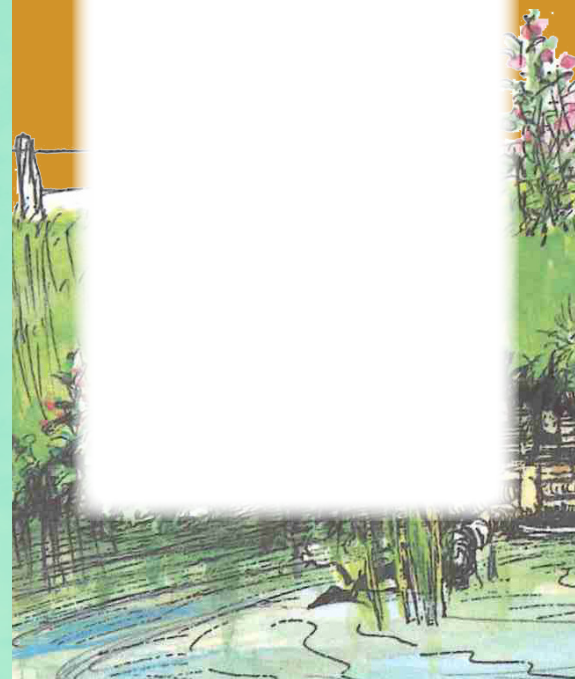
THE WILLOWS

In the Willows, the natural environment is alive and creating the world around the characters. Think about all the things you could find in the woods. What else could there be in the Willows that **was not** in the show? Draw your ideas to complete this picture!



NATURE'S MAGIC & MYSTERIES

As Mole and Rat journey into the Wild Wood, they encounter moments in nature that are mysterious or magical. Describe a time when you have seen or felt something **magical** or **mysterious** in nature. Then draw it!

[illegible]



The Paramount Theatre

was built 109 years ago in 1915. Back then, Congress Avenue was a dirt road and the automobile was a new invention. As one of the first examples of early theatre architecture, the Paramount has been bringing Austin families together for generations. When you visit the theatre, you enter a place that feels exciting and welcoming. From your seat, you can almost reach out and touch the performers on stage! Many famous people have performed at the Paramount. From magician Harry Houdini to the premier of the original Batman movie, the Paramount and its audiences have seen it all over the past 100 years...here's to the next century!



Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny

NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Paramount Education

We inspire the intellect and imagination of young people by providing opportunities to **experience, perform, and learn** through the arts. We can't wait to see you again at our theatre or in our school programs! Paramount Education programs are made possible through generous donations from our community. If you are interested in finding out more or want to make a contribution, please reach out to Krystal Parsons at kparsons@austintheatre.org. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-2025 EDUCATION PARTNERS

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This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-2025 THEATRE PARTNERS

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This project is supported in part by the City of Austin Economic Development Department and the National Endowment for the Arts.