




WIND IN THE WILLOWS

PERFORMANCE GUIDE



THE PARAMOUNT THEATER

ARTS EDUCATION



Courtesy of Paramount Theatre in Austin, TX



215 East Main Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902

This page has been intentionally left blank.

THEATRE HEROES PRESENTS



KENNETH GRAHAME'S
WIND IN
THE
WILLOWS

PARAMOUNT
EDUCATION



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?

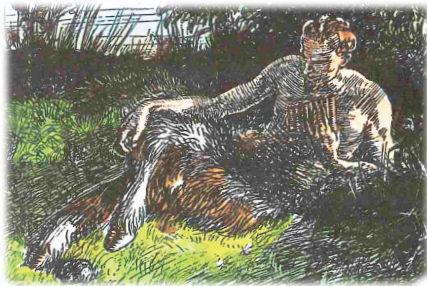
SEE

TOUCH

TASTE

HEAR

SMELL

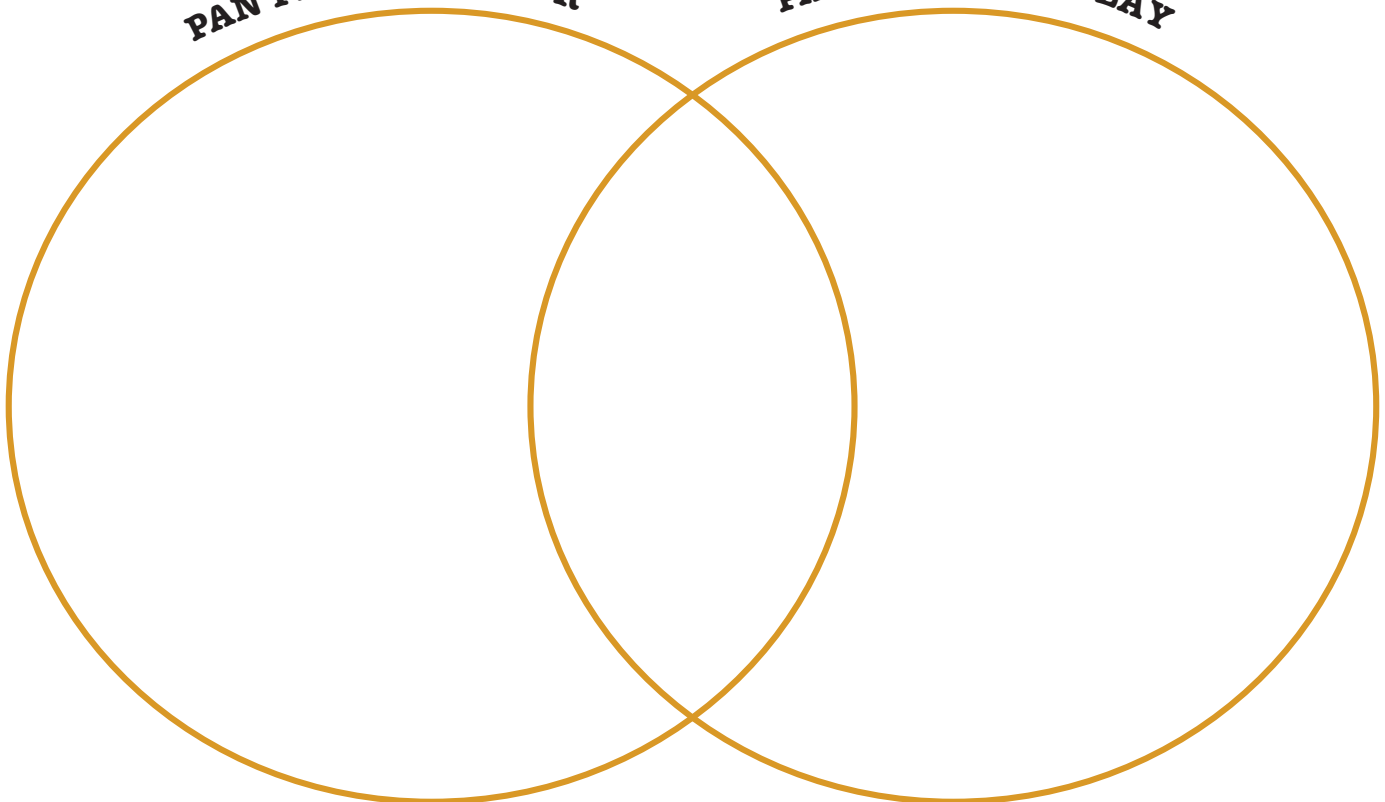


READING THE BOOK VS. SEEING THE PLAY

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.

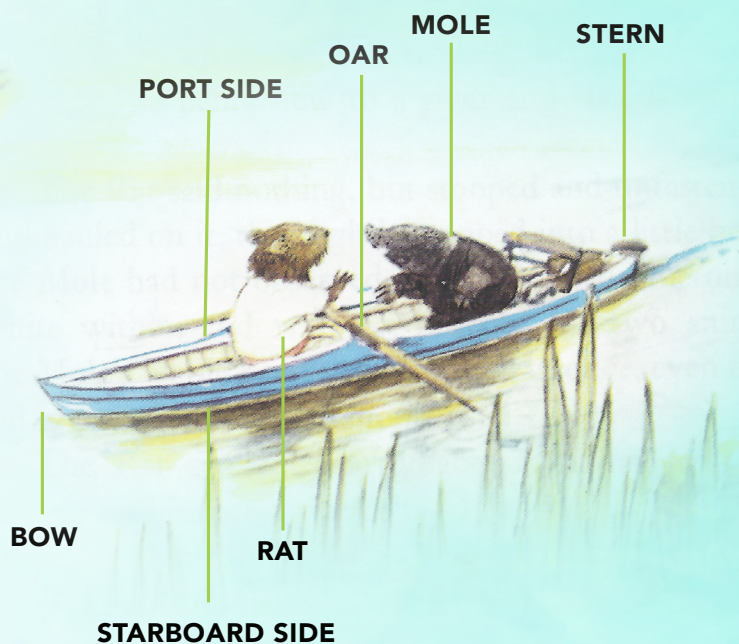
PAN FROM THE BOOK

PAN FROM THE PLAY



MOLE AND RAT'S BOAT

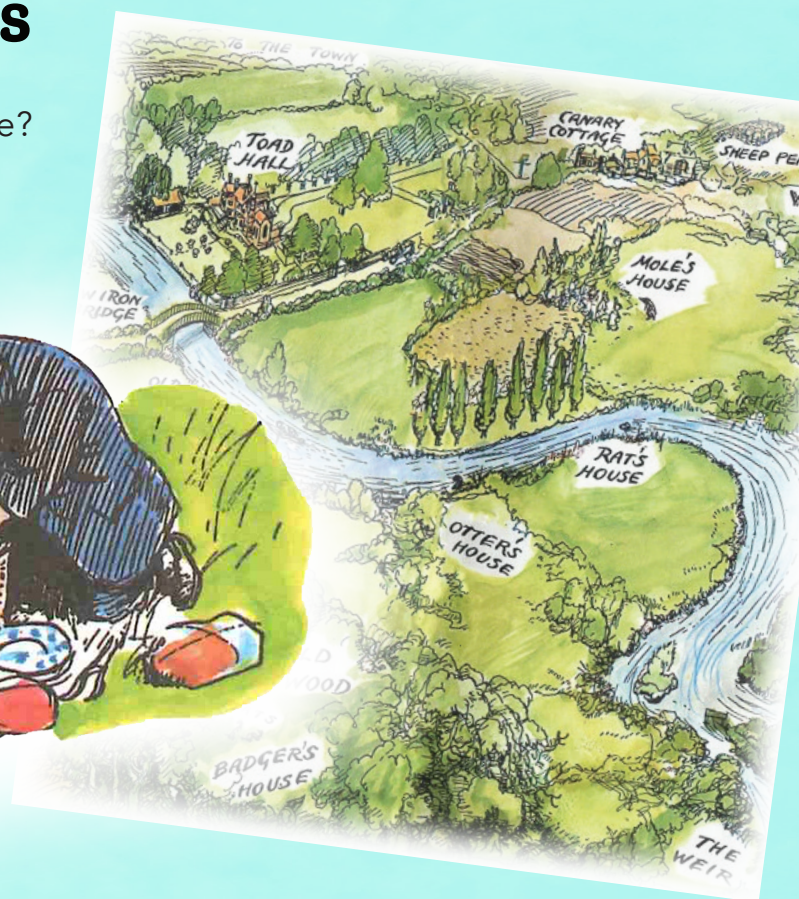
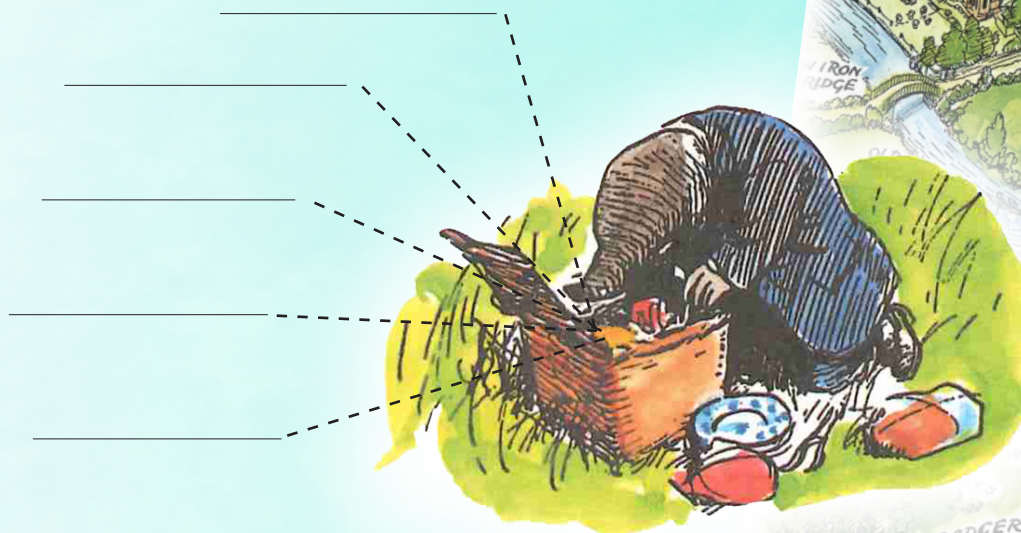
Rat and Mole use a boat to travel up and down the river. The parts of a boat are labeled in the picture. Search for those same words in the word search!



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

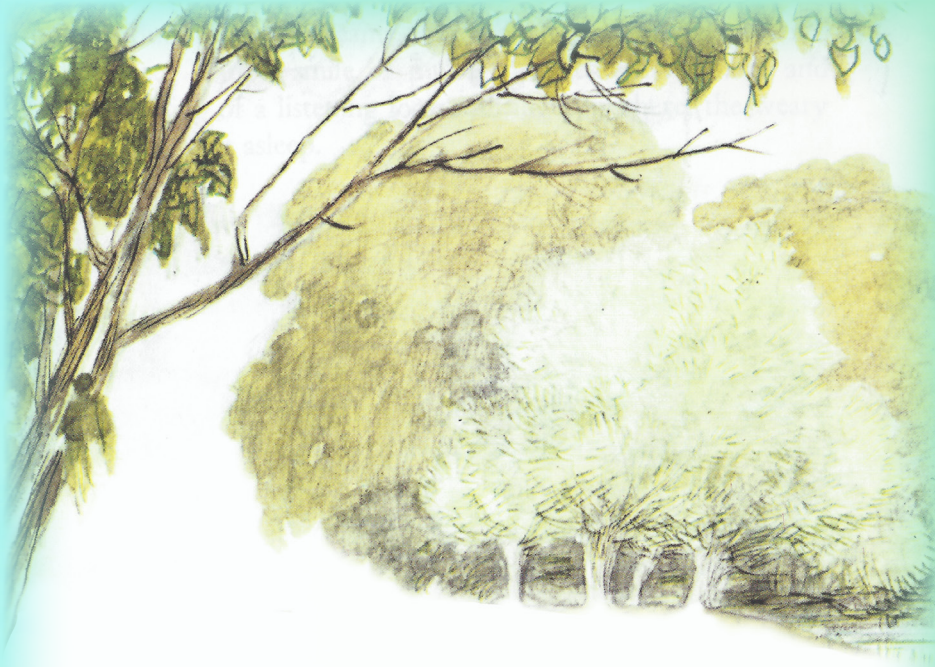
PACKING FOR THE WOODS

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!



THANK YOU TO OUR ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERS

Our Arts Education Partners have made it possible for over 241,950 students and teachers from all over Central Virginia to attend live performing arts at The Paramount Theater since 2004. The Paramount believes that performing arts are an essential part of every child's education, and we know that as students enter this historic Theater, for many it is their first exposure to live theater, a powerful human experience that can be life changing and one they all deserve to know.

To ensure ALL students are able to attend a performance, EVERY ticket is subsidized by the generosity of our Arts Education Partners.

Please consider joining us!

2025-26 ARTS EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mary Jae Abbitt & Sheldon Anderson, *Co-Chairs*
Lisa Cogswell • Ardee Dimberg • Julia Given • Amanda Jones
Sherry Kraft • Kathy Mallory-Watson • Betty Phelan • Karyl Reynolds
Cathy von Storch, *Staff Liaison*

PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE 2025-26 ARTS EDUCATION SEASON



2025-26 ARTS EDUCATION SEASON SPONSORS



MARGARET AND
CHRIS NOLAND

MARQUEE SPONSOR



PRODUCER MARQUEE
SPONSOR



PRODUCER SPONSOR



GRANT SUPPORT FROM

