

Wind in the Willows

Unit Study

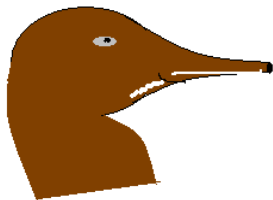
This Unit Study is for 2nd through 5th Grade, and is based on the book *The Wind In The Willows* by Kenneth Grahame. Each daily lesson is based on one of the twelve chapters of the book.

Chapter One: The River Bank

Before you read:

This is a book about talking animals. Is it fiction or non-fiction?

You meet two main characters: Mole and Rat. Write three adjectives to describe each:



Extra: Draw a map of the land Mole and Rat live in. Show where these areas are mentioned in the story:

Meadows River River Bank Lake Wildwood

What animals live in each area? You may want to add other animals to your map as you meet them.

Chapter Two: The Open Road

Before You Read:

Do you know what it means to be "fickle?" It describes someone who changes their mind frequently. In this chapter you will meet a new character who is quite fickle.

Toad is quite fickle and keeps changing his interests. In the spaces below draw or write the three different passions of Toad's that are mentioned in the chapter. You can also use construction paper to make the shapes of these objects.

MATCHING

Match the following animals to the facts about them in the next column.

Mark

M for mole

R for rat

T for toad

_____ A rodent from the genus Rattus

_____ Have small, furry, cylinder shaped bodies

_____ Live underground

_____ A member of the amphibian family

_____ Have very long tails

_____ Has dry, leathery skin

Dramatic Reading: Read the 22nd paragraph out loud as dramatically as Toad would have spoken it. This is the paragraph that starts with, "There you are."

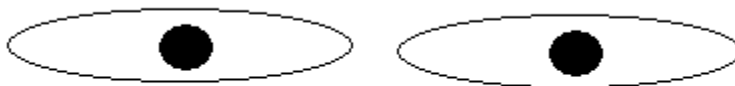
Chapter Three: The Wild Wood

Pre-activity: Have you ever gone out at night when it was scary outside? Describe how you felt.

In this chapter, Mole went into the Wild Wood alone at night. Things scared him. He was afraid of "THEM."

Who do you think "them" might be?

Art: Get black construction paper and white chalk or white paint. Make white eyes staring out of the dark.



Grammar:

Subject		Predicate
They	→	Them
He	→	_____
She	→	_____
We	→	_____
You	→	_____
I	→	_____

Chapter Four: Mr. Badger

Write a description:

What would be the most comfortable home on a snowy winter night:

Write 3 adjectives that describe Badger.



Choose one of these activities:

- A. Do three facts for each of these animals:
 - 1. Badger
 - 2. Otter
 - 3. Hedgehog

- B. Some animals hibernate in the winter. Do an internet search to find about another animal that hibernates through the winter months.

- C. Draw a sketch of Badger's home. Include at least four details from the chapter.

Chapter Five: Dulce Domum

Dulce Domum is the name of this chapter and comes from Latin:

Dulce = sweet

Domum = home

Have you ever seen a sign like the one below?



Make your own sign. Write the words in English or in Latin.

Badger, Mole and Toad had grand homes. Describe Mole's home.

Think of a familiar object or familiar place to you. What is it? Why is it comforting?

Reread the last two sentences of the chapter out loud to someone else.

Chapter Six: Mr. Toad

The plot is the series of events or action in a story. There are a lot of events in this chapter.



List the events in this chapter:

Vocabulary: A "gaoler" is an old term for jailer. Do they sound alike?

Act it out:

The 3rd paragraph from the end of this chapter is long. Have an adult read this paragraph, and act out each part as if you were Toad. Have fun!

Read the last paragraph of the chapter again. Do you feel sorry for Toad? Why or why not?

Chapter Seven: The Piper at the Gates of Dawn

Vocabulary

Piper: A person who plays on a pipe. In some ancient stories pipers were sometimes considered to have mystical powers.

Weir: A dam to raise the level of water in a river.

This chapter is almost like a dream. Do you think the animals are dreaming?

Poetry: The last few paragraphs have a poem that is mixed with words describing what is happening as nature whispers the poem. Read it out loud.

*Lest the awe should dwell and turn your frolic to fret
You should look on my power at the helping hour
But then you shall forget!*

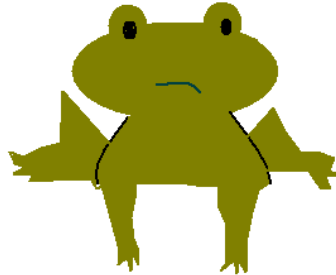
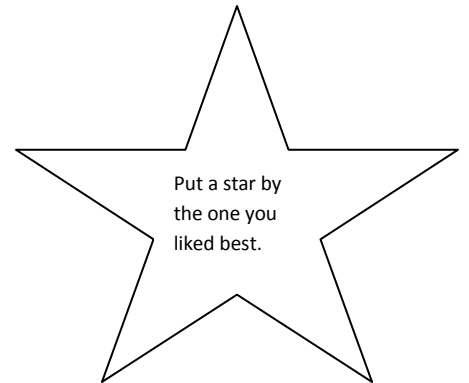
*Lest limbs be reddened and rent, I spring the trap that is set
As I loose the snare you may glimpse me there
For surely you shall forget!*

*Helper and healer, I cheer small waifs in the woodland wet
Strays I find in it, Wounds I bind in it
Bidding them all forget!*

Chapter Eight: Toad's Adventures

Toad has three different adventures in this chapter. Name them:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Now, you make up your own adventure.

Write a story,

Draw,

or **Act** out a skit

telling how you would escape if you were captured.

Chapter Nine: Wayfarers All

Vocabulary: Wayfarers are travelers. Have you ever been a wayfarer? CIRCLE ONE Y or N

The animals are restless. What do they want to do?

Which of these animals migrate every year?

Geese

Whales

Snakes

Seals

The Sea Rat described his life going from port to port. Can you describe the life of an animal that migrates? Write the story for the animal's point of view.

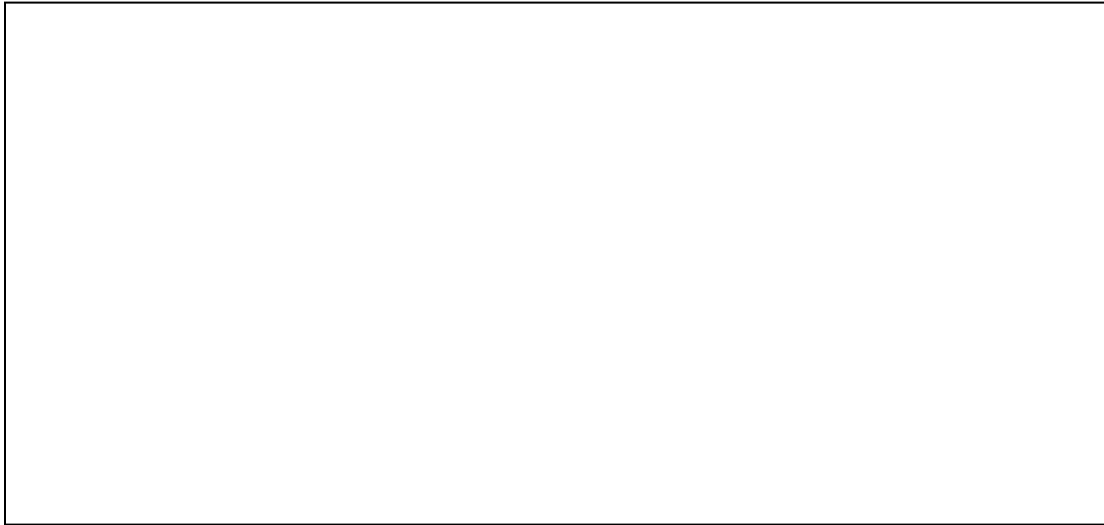
Opinion Question:

Is it easier to write Fiction or Non-fiction? Which story of a traveling animal would you rather write?

Chapter Ten: The Further Adventures of Toad

Toad continues to have more adventures. He also is very proud of himself.

Vocabulary: Pride is a high opinion of one's importance or superiority.



Make a chart of Toad's pride

Toad is often proud of himself. Should he be? _____

Toad thinks a lot of himself. Is he thinking about what he does to others? How would the other people in this chapter describe Toad?

Chapter Eleven: Like Summer Tempests Came his Tears

What does Toad find has happened to his home.

Let's Vote:

- Toad deserved it.
- I feel sorry for Toad.
- Other _____

Vocabulary: A tempest is a storm.

Summer storms often come quickly. What does this chapter title mean?

Choose one of these three animals that are antagonists in this chapter:

- Ferrets
- Weasels
- Stoats

Find 5 facts about the animal you chose.

Why did the author chose these animals as the antagonists?

Extra: Make a puppet from a paper plate of your animal. Let your puppet tell the story of what happened at Toad Hall.

Chapter Twelve: The Return of Ulysses

Toad wanted to make a speech but his friends would not let him. Perhaps you could make his speech for him.



My dear friends and neighbors who have come to be with me on this very important ...

Ulysses was a hero from Ancient Greece. He was gone from home for twenty years, then returned in triumph and defeated his enemies. Why do you think this chapter is titled, "The Return of Ulysses."

YOUR OPINION PLEASE

Did Toad change? _____

Did Mole change? _____

My favorite character was: Mole Rat Toad Badger