



THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

By Kenneth Graham
Year 1 and 2 English



Day 1: Read challenges 1, 2 and 3 before you start.

This half term we will be studying 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Graham.

Challenge 1:

What is a willow?

Task one: Can you find a willow in the village? (Hint: There is one on the recreation ground.)

Stand near or, even better, under it.

Listen, Smell, Feel, Touch, Look

If you can take a picture of you there and send it in to us.

Challenge 2

In your books, note down any words the 'Willow' made you think of. If you can't get to see one, go to the Willingham Youtube Channel for Year 1 and 2 and find Willows <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7XJ6Am7-Tdmnb6Vsn4vb9A/>

Use some of your senses



smell



hear



touch

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see



feel

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Challenge 3

- What do you think the story will be about based on the title?

Complete these sentences to show your thoughts.

I think.....

I wonder.....

I hope.....

Day 2 Warm up

Find the adjectives in these sentences.

Visit here for a reminder of what an adjective is.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/av/supermovers/42674934>



He found himself rolling in the warm grass of a great meadow.

He had whitewash all over his black fur.

The Mole had been working all morning spring cleaning his little home.

Day 2 Warm up **ANSWERS**

Find the adjectives in these sentences.

He found himself rolling in the **warm** grass of a **great** meadow.

He had whitewash all over his **black** fur.

The Mole had been working all morning **spring** cleaning his **little** home.

Day 2: Listen to the first 3 minutes of the story read by Richard Briers (text below)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oANsN5AnVEs>

- The Mole had been working very hard all the morning, spring-cleaning his little home. First with brooms, then with dusters; then on ladders and steps and chairs, with a brush and a pail of whitewash; till he had dust in his throat and eyes, and splashes of whitewash all over his black fur, and an aching back and weary arms. Spring was moving in the air above and in the earth below and around him, penetrating even his dark and lowly little house with its spirit of divine discontent and longing. It was small wonder, then, that he suddenly flung down his brush on the floor, said, "Bother!" and "O blow!" and also "Hang spring-cleaning!" and bolted out of the house without even waiting to put on his coat. Something up above was calling him imperiously, and he made for the steep little tunnel which answered in his case to the gravelled carriage-drive owned by animals whose residences are nearer to the sun and air. So he scraped and scratched and scabbled and scrooged, and then he scrooged again and scabbled and scratched and scraped, working busily with his little paws and muttering to himself, "Up we go! Up we go!" till at last, pop! his snout came out into the sunlight and he found himself rolling in the warm grass of a great meadow.
- "This is fine!" he said to himself. "This is better than whitewashing!" The sunshine struck hot on his fur, soft breezes caressed his heated brow, and after the seclusion of the cellarage he had lived in so long the carol of happy birds fell on his dulled hearing almost like a shout. Jumping off all his four legs at once, in the joy of living and the delight of spring without its cleaning, he pursued his way across the meadow till he reached the hedge on the further side.
- "Hold up!" said an elderly rabbit at the gap. "Sixpence for the privilege of passing by the private road!" He was bowled over in an instant by the impatient and contemptuous Mole, who trotted along the side of the hedge chaffing the other rabbits as they peeped hurriedly from their holes to see what the row was about. "Onion-sauce! Onion-sauce!" he remarked jeeringly, and was gone before they could think of a thoroughly satisfactory reply. Then they all started grumbling at each other. "How *stupid* you are! Why didn't you tell him—" "Well, why didn't *you* say—" "You might have reminded him—" and so on, in the usual way; but, of course, it was then much too late, as is always the case.
- It all seemed too good to be true. Hither and thither through the meadows he rambled busily, along the hedgerows, across the copses, finding everywhere birds building, flowers budding, leaves thrusting—everything happy, and progressive, and occupied. And instead of having an uneasy conscience pricking him and whispering "whitewash!" he somehow could only feel how jolly it was to be the only idle dog among all these busy citizens. After all, the best part of a holiday is perhaps not so much to be resting yourself, as to see all the other fellows busy working.



Day 2 Challenge

Year 1 answer these questions.

Year 2 answer these questions in full sentences. (answers next page)

1. Who is the first character we meet?
2. What time of year is it? How do you know?
3. How does Mole feel about what he is doing? Explain your answer.
4. Describe how Mole feels once he is outside.
5. Which word tells you Mole left his home in a hurry?

Year 2 Extra Challenge: Write 2 questions of your own that can be answered by this passage.

Day 2

ANSWERS



1. Who is the first character we meet?

The first character we meet is Mole.

2. What time of year is it? How do you know?

It is spring in the story because it says mole is spring-cleaning and that spring is in the air.

3. How does mole feel about what he is doing? Explain your answer.

Mole has had enough of spring cleaning. I know this because he throws everything on the floor and leaves.

4. Describe how Mole feels once outside. Mole feels happy and excited and full of joy.

5. Which word tells you Mole left his home in a hurry? The word bolted tells us that mole left his home in a hurry.

Year 2 Extra Challenge: Write 2 questions of your own that can be answered by this passage.

Day 3

Warm up: Find the verbs



He flung down his brush on the floor.



He made for the steep little tunnel.



He scraped and scratched and scabbled and scrooged.



Challenge question: Which tense is the story in?

Day 3

Warm up: Find the verbs

ANSWERS



He **flung** down his brush on the floor.



He **made** for the steep little tunnel.



He **scraped** and **scratched** and **scrabbled** and **scrooged**.



Challenge question: Which tense is the story in?

Day 3: Listen to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oANsN5AnVEs>

The wind in the willows read by Richard Briers from 3 mins – 4.14

As he sat on the grass and looked across the river, a dark hole in the bank opposite, just above the water's edge, caught his eye, and dreamily he fell to considering what a nice, snug dwelling-place it would make for an animal with few wants and fond of a bijou riverside residence, above flood level and remote from noise and dust. As he gazed, something bright and small seemed to twinkle down in the heart of it, vanished, then twinkled once more like a tiny star. But it could hardly be a star in such an unlikely situation; and it was too glittering and small for a glow-worm. Then, as he looked, it winked at him, and so declared itself to be an eye; and a small face began gradually to grow up round it, like a frame round a picture.

English Day 3 Challenge

Mole has never seen a river before.

Using the information in this part of the story, draw a picture of Mole at the riverbank.

Try to include as much detail from the description as possible like:

- Where Mole is
- What he is seeing
- The snug dwelling (this means small house/home)

Day 4: Warm up

Year 1	Year 2
mole	river
said	mole
water	water
house	dwelling
friend	wild

Read these words out loud.

How many can you write down from memory without looking?

Day 4 Listen to the story

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oANsN5AnVEs>
- The Wind in the Willows, read by Richard Briers.

Listen from where we left off 4:14 to 8:31

Mole meets Ratty.

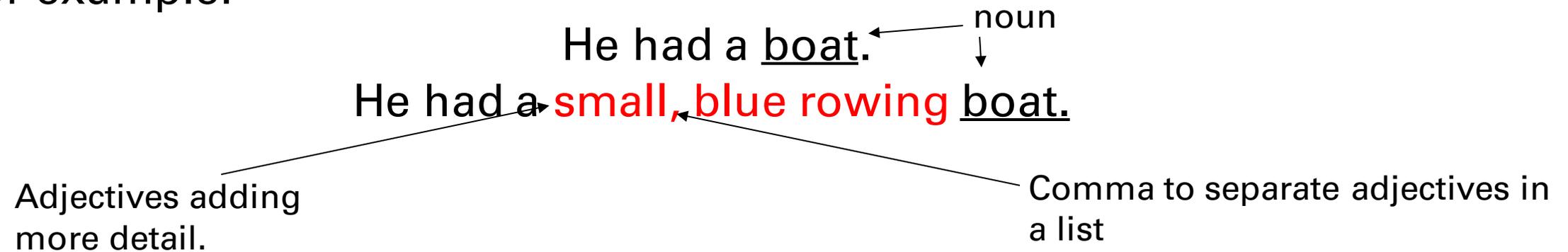


Day 4: Challenge: Expanded Noun Phrases



Improve the dull sentences about the river.
'Up-level' them by adding an expanded noun phrase.

For example:



Year 2: Extra challenge: Add some more detail. Try saying where something is with prepositions (eg in the corner). Or you could use and, but or so. Or even add some of your own sentences.

Day 4 challenge sentences

Improve these dull sentences about the river:

There were trees.

A path followed beside the river.

The ducks sat amongst the reeds.

A kingfisher.....

Beneath the water.....



English Day 5: Warm up

Spot the missing letters from the alphabet.

What word do the missing letters spell?

C D E F G H I J K L M

N P Q R S U V W X Y Z

Day 5: Listen to the story

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oANsN5AnVEs>
- The Wind in the Willows, read by Richard Briers.

Listen from where we left off at 8:31 to 11:02

How many different animals do you hear mentioned?

Keep a tally!



English Day 5: Year 1 Challenge

L.O: To punctuate sentences correctly and show understanding.

Re-order these words to make sentences.

Write them out with the correct punctuation.

For example

rat friends mole became and

Rat and Mole became friends.

Capital letter
To start a
sentence

Capital letter for
proper nouns

Full-stop at end

Day 5 Challenge Year 1 sentences

tell spring mole it could was

never mole seen had river before a

a ratty basket picnic brought

the beyond Wood Wild river lay the

Day 5 Challenge Year 1 **ANSWERS**

Mole could tell it was spring.

Mole had never seen a river before.

Ratty brought a picnic basket.

Beyond the river lay the Wild Wood.

Day 5 Challenge Year 2

There are 4 sentence types. What are they?

Q_____

S_____

C_____

E_____

Day 5 Challenge Year 2.

Write each of the sentence types for each picture.

Questions – need an answer and end with a ?

Statements – are a fact or an opinion and mostly end with a .

Commands – tell someone to do something

Exclamations – Start with **how** or **what**, end with the verb and !

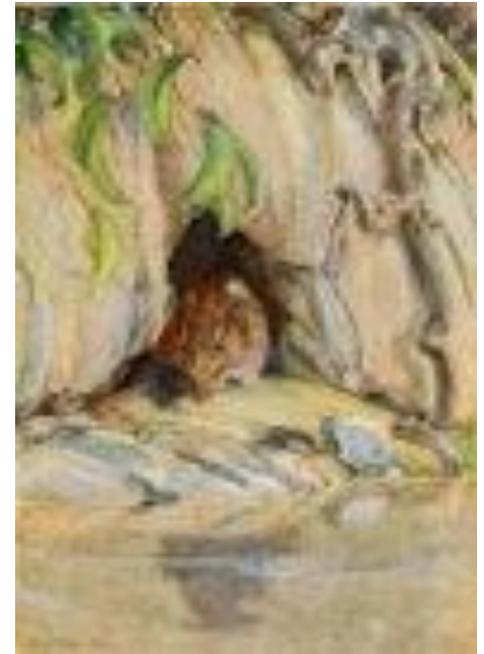
Write one of each of the 4 sentence types for this picture.

Question - Who was that?

Statement - The water Rat had a small, brown face.

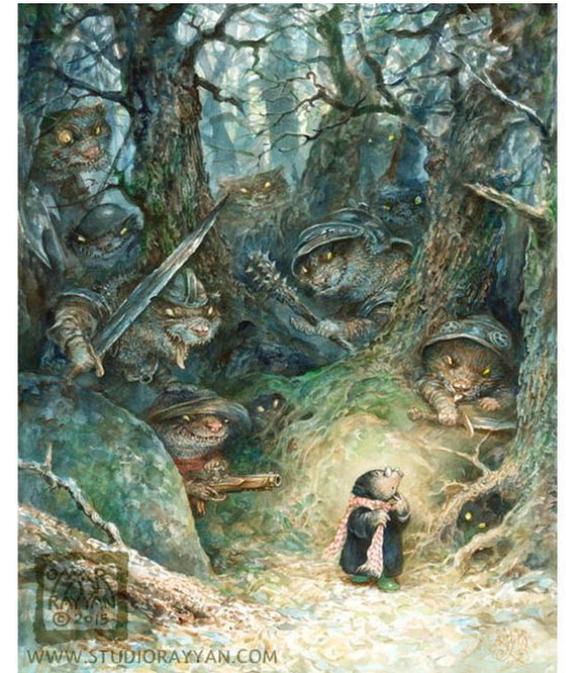
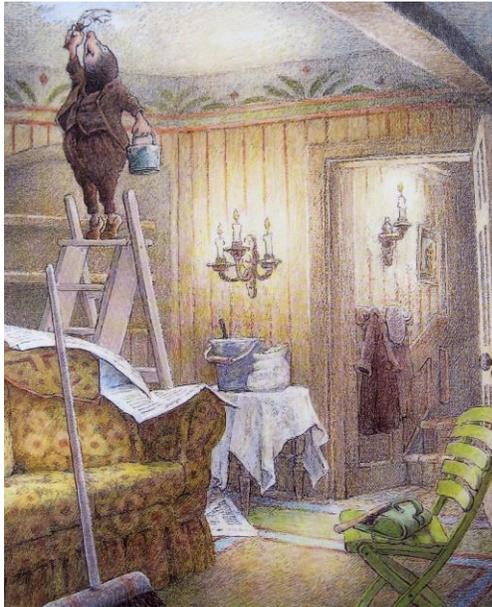
Command - Come and join me!

Exclamation - What a curious thing a river is!



English Day 5 Year 2 Challenge

- Here are 3 pictures from the start of the story. Write one of each of the four sentence types for each picture. Remember to use the correct punctuation!



Why not try.....

- If you have time you could watch some of the animated version of, 'The Wind in the Willows', by Kenneth Graham
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nVBbpb2mMM>