2011–2012 Season

PLAYGUIDE

The Story

“Pooh’s Outdoor Song Which Has to be Sung in the Open Air”

The more it snows (Tiddely Pom)
The more it goes (Tiddely Pom)
The more it goes (Tiddely Pom)
on snowing.

And nobody knows (Tiddely Pom)
How cold my toes (Tiddely Pom)
How cold my toes (Tiddely Pom)
Are growing.

It's winter in the Hundred Acre Wood, and not only is there a strange, striped, bouncy Tigger bounding here and there in the forest, but Christopher Robin has called for an important emergency meeting. What important news is he going to tell his friends? And what on earth do hungry Tiggers like to eat? Also, how is Eeyore to keep warm when it gets cold enough to snow? Pooh, Piglet, Rabbit, and their friends have a lot of mysteries to solve. In the meantime, there's breakfast to be eaten, songs to be sung, and new friends to be made.
Alan Alexander Milne (1882-1956) grew up in London, England, and attended Cambridge University where he studied mathematics. It wasn’t until he graduated from college that he began writing. Milne wrote more than 90 books, plays, and essays, but only a few of them are for children. It is these, however, that he is best known for. His stories about Winnie the Pooh are among the most famous children’s stories of all time. Mr. Milne’s son was named Christopher Robin, and most of the characters in the Winnie the Pooh stories are based on toys that Christopher Robin played with as a child.

Milne’s Pooh stories have been translated into many languages. They have been recorded for books on tape, adapted for movies and television, and performed on stage. The popularity of Winnie the Pooh and his friends gained a great deal in the 1960s, when Walt Disney purchased the film rights to the Pooh stories from Daphne Milne, A.A. Milne’s wife. The first film, *Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree*, appeared in 1966 as a 26 minute short film. Mrs. Milne seemed pleased with the film, but E.H. Shepard, illustrator of the Pooh books, called the film a ‘complete travesty.’

Like his father, Christopher Milne studied mathematics only to turn to writing. His works include *The Enchanted Places* (1974), a book about his childhood and his family. He died in 1996. The original Pooh, Eeyore, Kanga, and Tigger now live in a public library in New York City. Piglet was lost in an orchard when Christopher Robin was still a boy.

Did you know…

Winnie the Pooh was named in part after Christopher Milne’s favorite bear at the London Zoo—Winnie.

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**Reading Recommendations**

- *When We Were Very Young* (1924)
- *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926)
- *Now We Are Six* (1927)
- *The House on Pooh Corner* (1928)

Looking for good Pooh sites on the web?
Here’s a great one: www.lavasurfer.com/pooh-guide.html

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**Curriculum Connections**

You can use this Playguide and your visit to CATCO-Phoenix to help your students meet the curriculum standards required in schools by the Ohio Department of Education. Look throughout our Playguide for the icon

**Curriculum Connection**

and you will find academic standards that correspond with the different activities listed.
Here are some sentences from Winnie the Pooh. How many of these words do you know? Look up any words you don’t know, and think of a way to use them in a sentence of your own.

**English Language Arts: Acquisition of Vocabulary**

**Benchmark A:** Use context clues to determine the meaning of new vocabulary (K–3)

Oh, mine aren’t important—that is, to anybody but me. It’s just that standing out in a cold windy **pasture**, I sometimes get to thinking about a house.

Not important. Standing in the rain and **sleet** at three o’clock in the morning everyday. That’s what’s important. Not that it matters to anyone else.

It’s when something **dreadful** has happened and it’s going to get worse unless you do something fast.

The first thing we need to do is appoint a **committee**. I’ll be the **chairman**.

Oh, the South Pole is very beautiful. Christopher Robin says it’s an **enchanted** place.

I am completely **exhausted**.

Pooh’s Corner! That sounds very **elegant**.

In this very **unforeseen** Mergency, I have brained out a plan.

A fat, **jolly** animal never hurts anyone.

Roo, dear, there has to be a **discussion**…

After a few days at the North Pole, Tigger should be a very **humble** Tigger.

Well, if you really promise Tigger—if you’ll be quiet and **refined**…
Before the Show

1. Read *The House on Pooh Corner* out loud. Can you do different voices for each of the characters? Identify some of the made-up words in the story. Do you like the way the made-up words sound? Make up some words on your own, and create meanings for them.

**Drama Standard: Creative Expression and Communication**

**Benchmark A:** Sustain characters with consistency in classroom dramatizations.

**Indicator 1:** Imitate movements, voices, and feelings of people, animals, and objects through dramatic play. (K–4)

2. Pooh likes to make up ‘hums’ and sing them to himself as he walks along. Make up your own hum to sing.

3. Do you have a favorite stuffed animal? Write a story about your animal friend. Is she brave or timid? Clever or fluff-brained? Loud or quiet? Illustrate your story with pictures of your animal having an adventure.

**English Language Arts: Writing Process**

**Benchmark A:** Generate ideas for written compositions. (K–2)

4. Have you ever seen the Winnie the Pooh movies? How are they different from the books? How do you think the play might be different from the books and the movies?

**Drama Standard: Historical, Cultural and Social Contexts**

**Benchmark C:** Explain the role of writers in creating live theatre, film/video, and broadcast media.

**Indicator 4:** Discuss how a written adaptation of a story varies between media forms including theatre, film/video, and broadcast media.
After the Show

1. Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga, Roo, Rabbit, and Tigger are all very different from one another. Each is special in his or her own way. Write a letter to your favorite character and write about what makes him or her special.

**English Language Arts: Writing Applications**

**Benchmark C:** Write friendly letters and invitations complete with date, salutation, body, closing and signature. (K–2)

2. Which of Christopher Robin’s friends are just like you? Are you a ‘very small animal’ like Piglet? Bouncy like Tigger? Gloomy like Eeyore? A silly old bear like Pooh? Research the animal that you are like most. Where does it live? What does it eat? What does it look like? What does your animal need to survive?

**Science Standards: Life Sciences**

**Benchmark B:** Analyze plant and animal structures and functions needed for survival and describe the flow of energy through a system that all organisms use to survive.

3. Christopher Robin and Pooh are friends. What does it mean to be a friend? What makes a ‘best friend?’ Do you have a best friend?

4. Christopher Robin and his friends attempt to run away to the North or South Pole. Think of a place you would like to visit. Research the animals that live there. What is the climate like? Research the place you want to visit and share it with your friends or family.

**English Language Arts: Research**

**Benchmark A:** Generate questions for investigation and gather information from a variety of sources (K–2)
Tigger’s Bouncing Game

Tiggers love to bounce! Help Tigger by circling all of the things that bounce below!

Rabbits          Horses          Balls          Rocks
Fish             Grasshoppers    Frogs          Jumping Beans
Apples           Springs         Milk           Slugs
Kangaroos        Telephones      Trampolines    Children

Tigger’s Fabulous Fun with Food: A Matching Game

Pooh and Tigger visit many of Pooh’s friends before they finally figure out what it is that Tiggers like to eat. Can you match each of the animals with their favorite food?

Pooh              Thistles
Piglet            Strengthening medicine
Eeyore            Acorns
Tigger            Honey

Christopher Robin’s Word Activity

Here is a fun game to try that uses the letters from big words to make smaller words. How many words can you make using letters in each of these words?

Piglet · Rabbit · Eeyore

For a real challenge try these two:

Christopher Robin · Hundred Acre Wood
Rabbit’s Wall Hanging Craft

What you will need:
- 2 paper towel rolls
- 1 large sheet of paper or cloth
- 36" piece of string
- 1 push pin
- paste
- crayons or markers

What to Do:
1. Measure off the paper or cloth to the same width of the paper towel rolls. Make it as long as you wish leaving enough extra to wrap around the paper towel rolls.
2. Draw a faint line along the paper where it wraps around each roll.
3. Draw your Pooh picture between the two lines.
4. Using the paste, glue the ends of the paper to the rolls.
5. Thread the string through the top roll then tie the ends together.
6. Hang the picture using the pushpin.

Drawing for Eeyore

In the frame on the right, draw a house for Eeyore so he can stay warm when it snows. Don’t forget to sign your artwork!