



OUT OF THE WOODS

written by James Burke & Pickles Prod.



CLASSROOM PACK Teacher's notes

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Vocabulary exercises

PART A

1. When Jenny saw the spider she screamed. She was absolutely **terrified**.
2. "You're so **naïve** Luke! You'll believe anything!"
3. This is it! Everything is falling into place. This must be my **lucky break**.
4. She's a very **renowned** artist. Everyone knows her work.
5. You're holding the poster the wrong way around. It's **upside down**.
6. Chris, you really understand me and how I'm feeling. You have a lot of **empathy**.

PART B

Crossword

ACROSS

- 4 The specific term for a small prison room. **(cell)**
- 5 Less common word meaning believable or reasonable. Likely. **(plausible)**
- 7 Compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm. **(mercy)**
- 9 A royal symbol of power. A headpiece that Kings and Queens wear. **(crown)**
- 10 A place giving temporary protection from bad weather or danger. **(shelter)**

DOWN

- 1 A thing that represents or stands for something else, especially a material object representing something abstract. **(symbol)**
- 2 Reasons for why someone did or didn't do something. **(excuses)**
- 3 Specific term for a performer that does acrobatics/trapeze. **(acrobat)**
- 6 The feelings someone has. **(emotional)**
- 8 Breaking out of a place. **(excuses)**

PART C

Kahoot!



For extra exercises, log on www.kahoot.it and register and play the game. Ten extra questions have been added to the multiple-choice quiz available on www.kahoot.com. This exercise can be done online in class for an interactive experience or can be assigned if you use a digital platform. Visit www.kahoot.com and log in. If you don't have an account yet, create a profile for free in less than 2 minutes.

Click on "discover" and write in the "Find me a kahoot about..." search bar: **"Pickles company: Out of the Woods junior show 2024-2025"**.

You can duplicate the quiz in order to add questions or adapt the time chosen to answer each question. Then click to "Play", then "teach". Your students can play individually or in teams. Select the "classic" or "team" mode.

A Game pin appears on the screen. Your students will need their smartphones to connect on www.kahoot.it and enter the pin and their name. When all the players are ready, click on start.

An app is also available.



Multiple choice

You have now discovered the plot of the play "Out of the Woods" and its different protagonists. Let's see what you can remember.

Task: Read the sentences and mark the correct answer.

1. Who is the ruler of Stonewall?

- a) Flick
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress**
- d) King Adam

2. What does the crown represent in the play?

- a) Love, courage, and friendship
- b) Power and authority**
- c) Wealth and riches
- d) Protection from the Dark Dog

3. Why does Flick end up in prison?

- a) For stealing an apple**
- b) For trying to escape Stonewall
- c) For challenging the Lady Protectoress
- d) For helping the circus troupe

4. Who helps Flick escape from prison?

- a) Gudishews
- b) She does it by herself**
- c) Nike Strongman
- d) King Adam

5. What is the main attraction of Typhus' circus troupe?

- a) Flick's acrobatic skills
- b) Nike's strength**
- c) Nike's dancing
- d) Typhus' magic tricks

6. Who is revealed to be alive and living in a cave?

- a) Flick
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress
- d) King Adam**

7. What is the new symbol that Flick proposes at the end of the play?

- a) The crown
- b) The Dark Dog
- c) Unity and fighting for each other**
- d) The circus troupe

8. What is the Dark Dog?

- a) A mythical creature that terrorizes Stonewall**
- b) The Lady Protectoress' pet
- c) A symbol of fear and oppression**
- d) King Adam's secret weapon

9. How does Flick convince the Lady Protectoress to change her ways?

- a) By defeating the Dark Dog
- b) By exposing King Adam's deception
- c) By appealing to her sense of fear
- d) By showing her the power of friendship**

10. Who becomes the new ruler of Stonewall?

- a) Flick**
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress
- d) King Adam



Oral Expression

For this exercise students should be encouraged to show their flare and creativity! There are both examples and templates shared in the Classroom Pack to help scaffold students.

An extension exercise is also provided for students to create their own circus poster.

COME ONE! COME ALL! Create your own circus!

What are the main attractions? Who is part of your circus? Are they incredibly strong? Or unbelievably flexible? Maybe they have the longest beard in the world!?

Create a ringleader speech attracting audiences of all kinds to your particular circus!



Written Expression

Dear Diary!

For this exercise, students are asked to tap into their empathy and build upon their understanding of Flick and her situation in the play. The exercise can easily be adapted for other characters and/or situations within the play.

This is a great exercise to reaffirm students' understanding of character and plot within the play.

Some students might need extra scaffolding and you can use the template below to help support them.



"Dear Diary,

Today was my first day alone after escaping from Stonewall. Now, I'm in a forest that feels like a whole new world. The trees around me are **[describe the trees: tall, dark, dense, etc.]**, and the air is filled with the smell of **[describe the scent: fresh pine, damp earth, flowers, etc.]**. I can hear **[describe the sounds: birds singing, leaves rustling, animals moving, etc.]**, and it makes me feel **[describe how it makes you feel: calm, uneasy, curious, etc.]**.

As I walked through the forest, I felt **[describe your feelings: scared, excited, free, lonely, etc.]**. I kept thinking about **[write about what's on your mind: leaving Stonewall, the people you left behind, what might happen next, etc.]**. It's strange being here because **[share your thoughts on the new environment or situation]**.

When night started to fall, I decided to **[describe your actions: find a safe spot to rest, gather some food, explore more, etc.]**. I ended up **[describe where you ended up: under a big tree, near a stream, in a small cave, etc.]**. Even though I'm alone, I'm trying to stay positive by **[write about how you're staying strong: thinking of happy memories, reminding yourself of your goals, etc.]**.

As I get ready to sleep, I wonder what tomorrow will bring. Maybe I'll **[write your hopes or plans for the next day: find food, meet someone, discover something new, etc.]**. Whatever happens, I know I need to be **[write about how you plan to face challenges: brave, smart, hopeful, etc.]**.

Goodnight, Diary.
Flick



Culture

Interview with the author James Burke

For this culture section James Burke, the author of *Out of the Woods*, provides insight into his inspiration and influences while writing the play.

Burke makes many references to different literary texts including: Parable of the Sower, Nausicaä of the Valley of the Winds, As You Like It and Guardians of the Galaxy. Each of these texts are discussed in further detail with extra references to trailers and video content.

There is also included a quiz for students at the end.

Students can either work individually or in teams - there is lots of freedom to adapt the exercises. Alternatively you can have students in teams become “experts” of one of the texts and create small presentations of the text with the information provided.

1. What inspired James Burke to create his play? **A) The birth of his niece**
2. In the play James Burke wrote, what is the main lesson he wants to teach? **B) Empathy**
3. Which of these works inspired James Burke’s play? **B) Parable of the Sower**
4. In "Parable of the Sower," what is the main character’s special ability? **C) She can feel other people’s pain**
5. What is the main idea of the religion Earthseed in "Parable of the Sower"? **A) God is Change**
6. Which movie inspired the setting of the forest in James Burke’s play? **B) Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind**
7. What year was "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind" released? **B) 1984**
8. Who is the main character in "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind"? **B) Nausicaä**
9. What type of play is "As You Like It" by William Shakespeare? **B) Comedy**
10. Which famous quote is from "As You Like It"? **B) "All the world's a stage"**
11. Which movie from the quiz is part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU)? **B) Guardians of the Galaxy**
12. Who directed "Guardians of the Galaxy"? **C) James Gunn**

