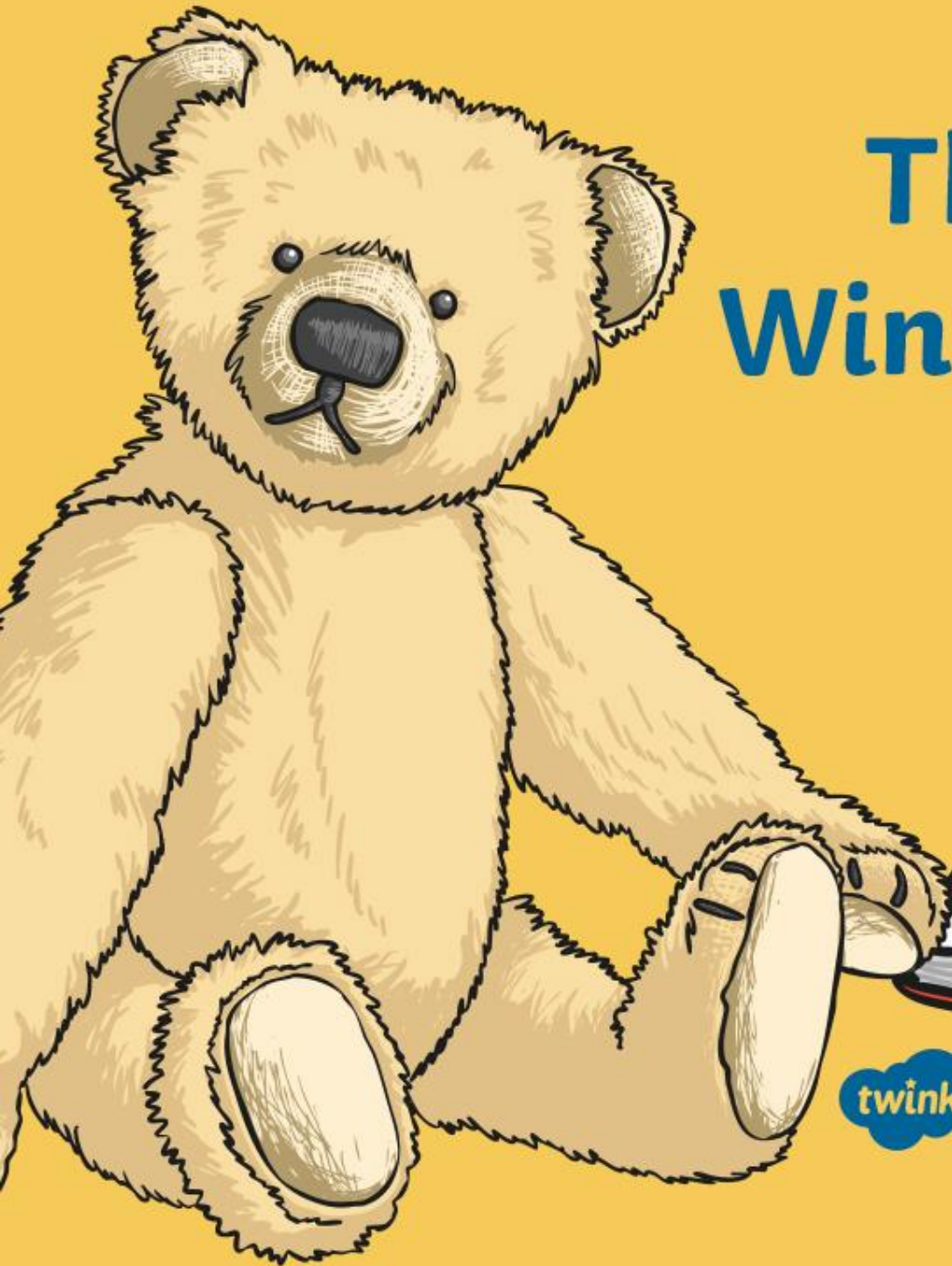


The History of Winnie-the-Pooh



Do you know Winnie-the-Pooh?

Here is Winnie-the-Pooh.



He is a teddy bear, who lives in the Hundred Acre Wood.

You are going to meet his friends and learn about the wonderful world of Winnie-the-Pooh.

But first, you need to know how Winnie-the-Pooh came to be!

A. A. Milne

Alan Alexander Milne wrote the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends.



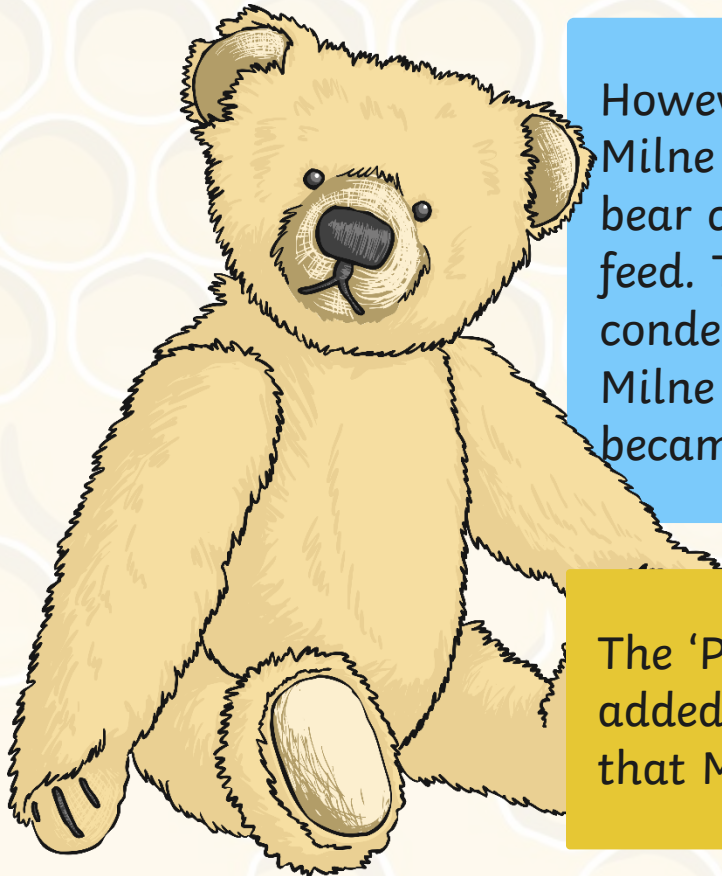
He wrote them for his son, who is called Christopher Robin, after he heard Christopher inventing voices for his toys.

A. A. Milne named the boy in the book Christopher Robin too!

The talented illustrator, Ernest H. Shepard, drew the beautiful illustrations in all of the storybooks.

Winnie-the-Pooh: His Name

At first, the teddy bear that Christopher had was called Edward Bear.

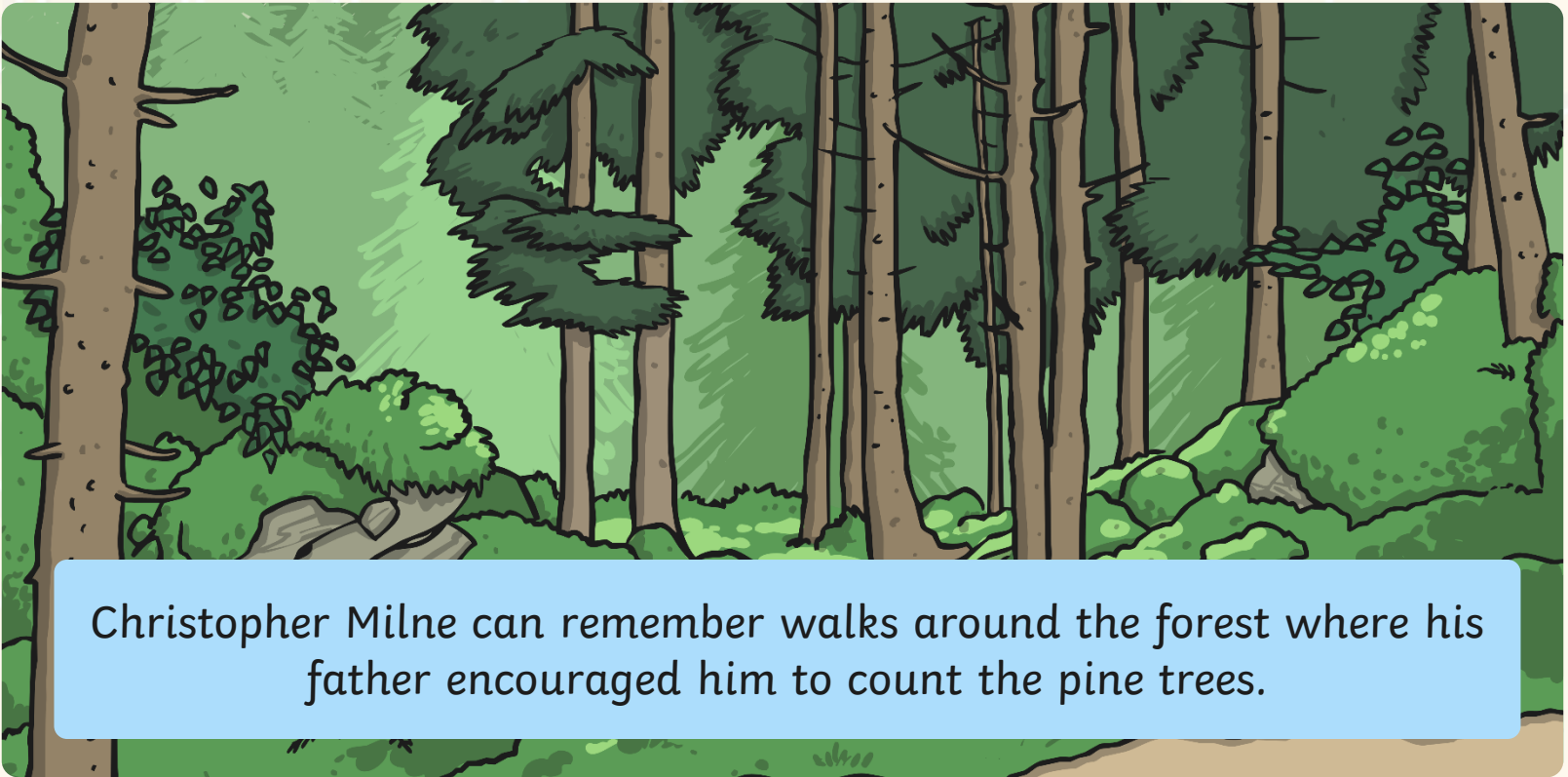


However, during a trip to London Zoo, A. A. Milne and his family met a Canadian black bear called 'Winnie', who they were allowed to feed. The bear had a sweet tooth and liked condensed milk more than meat! Christopher Milne loved the bear and so Edward bear became Winnie bear.

The 'Pooh' part of the name was then also added on – it came from a swan called 'Pooh' that Milne had met on holiday!

The Hundred Acre Wood

The Hundred Acre Wood, where Pooh and his friends live, is based on a real place called Ashdown Forest in Sussex.



Christopher Milne can remember walks around the forest where his father encouraged him to count the pine trees.

Meet His Friends

Here are Winnie-the-Pooh's friends, who also live in the Hundred Acre Wood:



Piglet



Kanga



Roo

Meet His Friends

Here are Winnie-the-Pooh's friends, who also live in the Hundred Acre Wood:



Tigger



Eeyore

Meet His Friends

These were all toys that Christopher Milne owned. His father created the characters Owl and Rabbit from his imagination.



A Bear of Very Little Brain

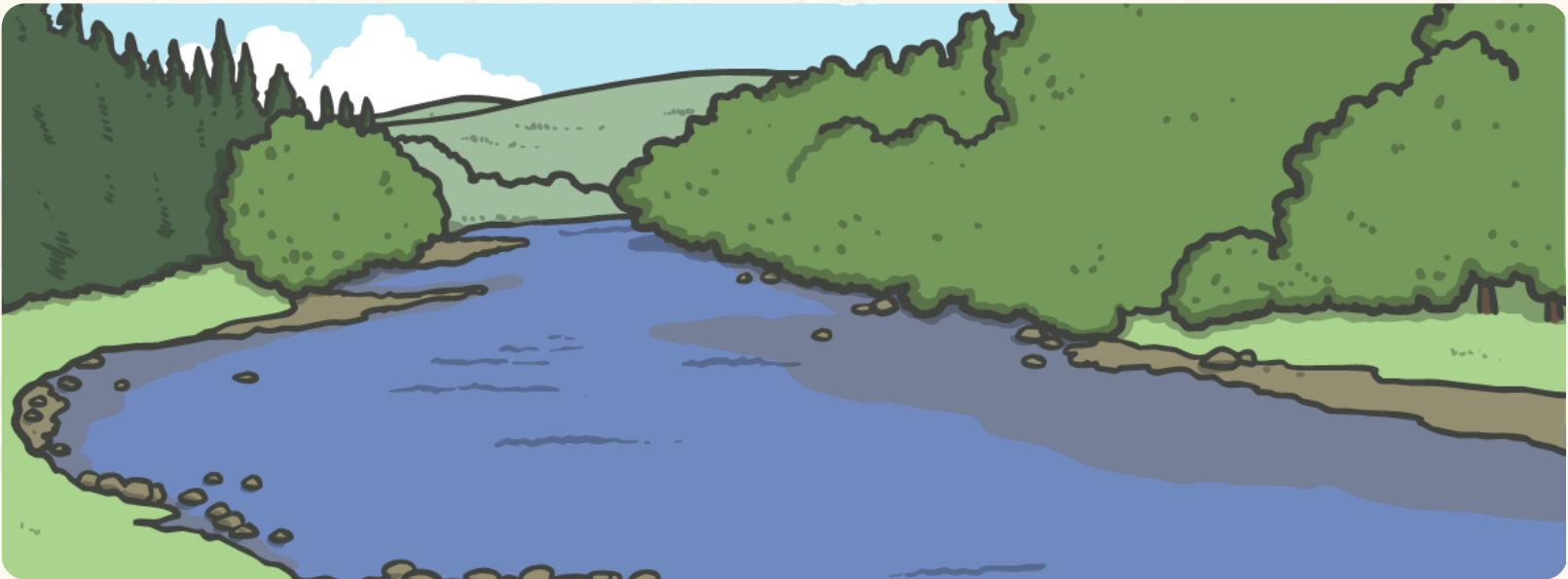
Winnie-the-Pooh, or Pooh Bear as he is usually called, doesn't think he is very clever. In fact he calls himself a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'.



However, he is a very thoughtful bear and always somehow manages to sort out problems without really trying because he has a lot of common sense.

Pooh Bear: The Problem Solver

He solves the problem of how to get Eeyore out of the river, by suggesting the animals drop stones and rocks in to 'whoosh' Eeyore to the side so they could reach him.



It worked!

Pooh Bear: The Good Friend

He encourages little Piglet, who is a very nervous creature, to save the day when a big storm causes Owl's tree to fall down, which traps Pooh, Piglet and Owl inside!



Pooh helped Piglet to believe in himself and Piglet managed to get help!

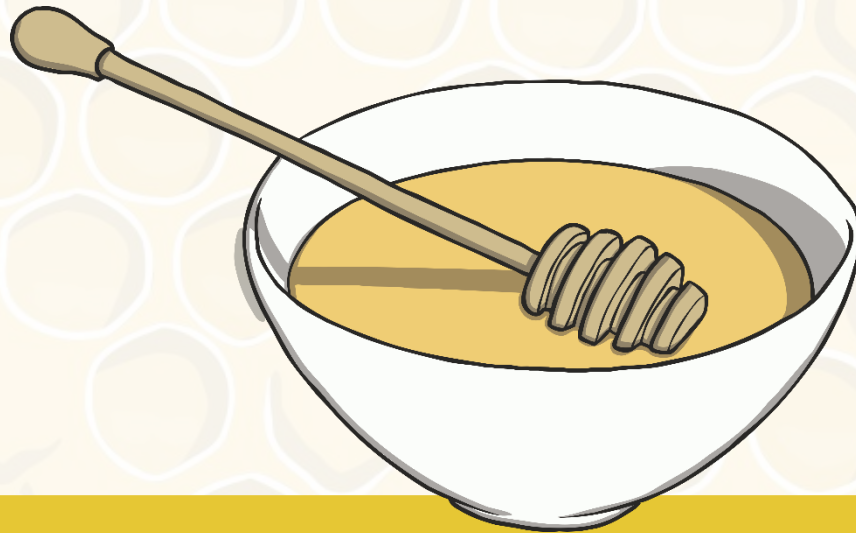
Pooh Bear: The Navigator

Pooh has quite a skill for listening to the 'call of his honey pots' and one day when the animals were lost in the fog, Rabbit couldn't find the way home so Pooh simply listened to his honey pots and managed to guide them back safely.



Pooh Bear's Liking for Snacks

Pooh Bear is very fond of snacks. Particularly honey, which he calls 'hunny', and condensed milk.



In one story, Pooh goes to visit Rabbit around the time he would normally have 'a little something' and he eats so much that he cannot get back out of Rabbit's front door! He gets stuck!

Pooh's Talents



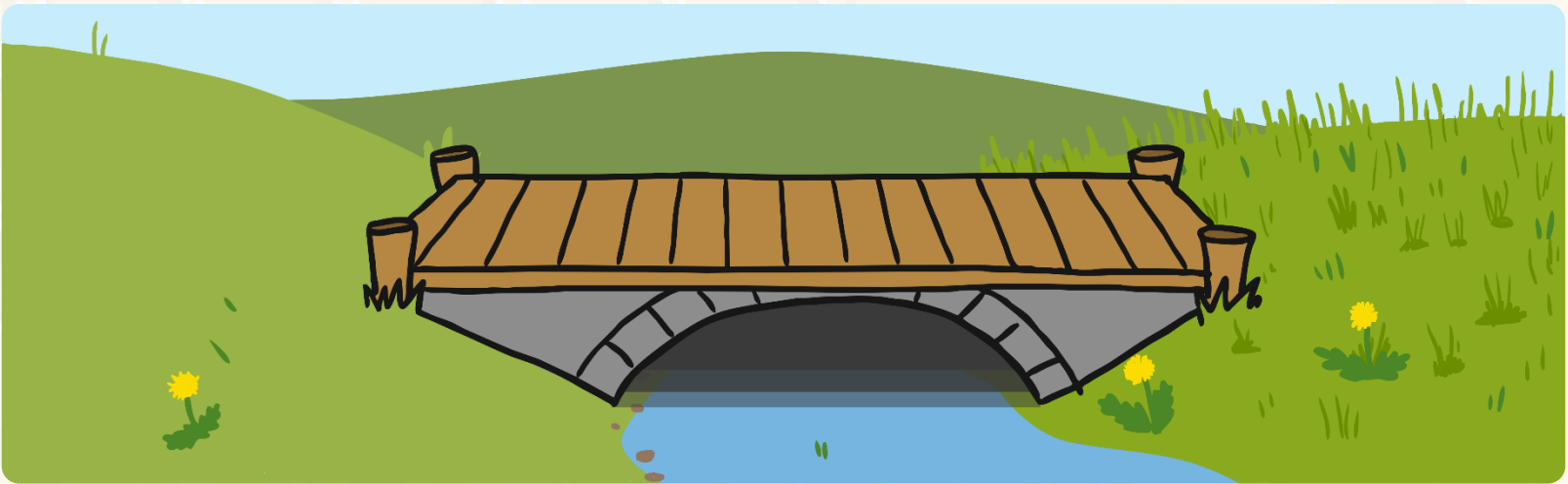
Pooh Bear is kind-hearted,
friendly, brave and loyal.

He never says anything
unpleasant about anyone and he
likes to be helpful.

He thinks up poems, or 'hums',
as he calls them, all the time.

Poohsticks

Christopher Milne played Poohsticks on a footbridge across the River Medway in Posingford Wood when he was a boy.



Do you know what Poohsticks is? Have you played it before?

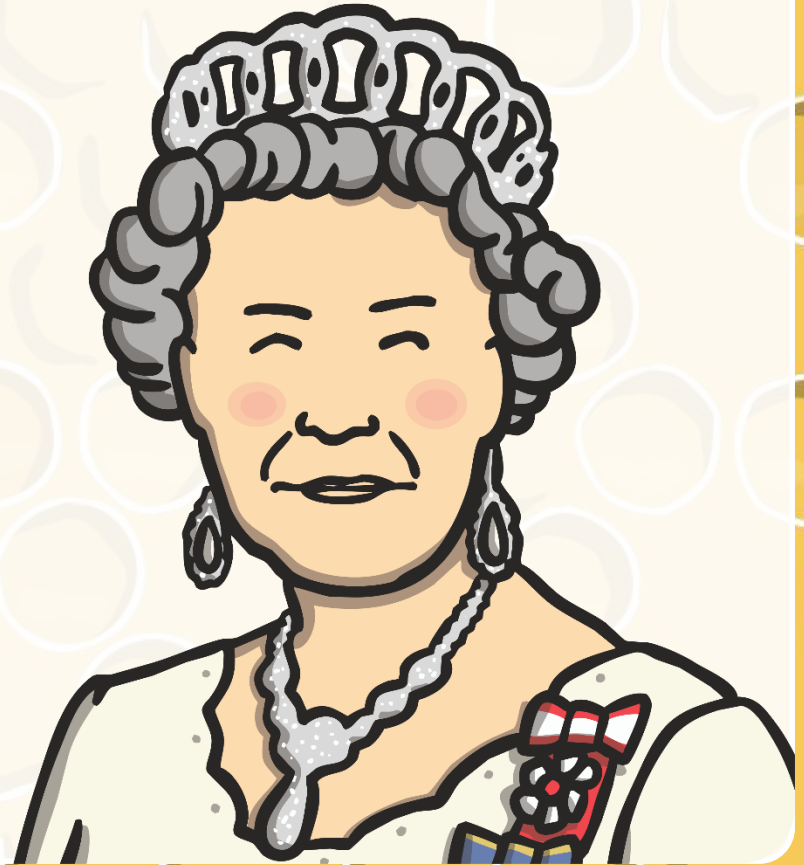
A. A. Milne made sure this game was included in his books about Pooh.

Let's Celebrate Winnie-the-Pooh!

It is 90 years since Winnie-the-Pooh was created by A. A. Milne.
It was also the year in which Queen Elizabeth II turned 90!



In celebration, a new Winnie-the-Pooh book has been written called 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' where Pooh meets The Queen at Buckingham Palace!



Are you like Winnie the Pooh?

What qualities do you have that make people want to be your friend?

Share some ideas with someone at home and send them to your teacher.

We should always be kind, caring and thoughtful just like Winnie the Pooh.

Can you tell us about a time when you were caring and helpful to someone?

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