



Birmingham Centre  
for Arts Therapies

ALICE IN WONDERLAND  
ACTIVITY BOOK



## **Have you read Alice in Wonderland?**

Alice in Wonderland was written by an English author called Lewis Carroll in 1865.

It tells of a girl named Alice who follows a white rabbit into a rabbit hole and falls into a fantasy world populated by peculiar creatures.

### **How many characters do you know from the list below?**

Alice	Bill the Lizard	Pat
The Caterpillar	The Cheshire Cat	The Dodo
The Dormouse	The Duchess	The Duck
The Eaglet	The Gryphon	The Hatter
The King of Hearts	The Knave of Hearts	The Lory
The March Hare	The Mock Turtle	The Mouse
The Puppy	The Queen of Hearts	The White Rabbit

The book was written in Victorian times at a time when children were seen and not heard. Lewis Carroll did not like the way children were treated in Victorian times, so he put lots of commentary and symbolism in the book. This means that the characters and the situations have hidden meanings about what Lewis Carroll really thought.

Over the next 5 weeks we will do a variety of activities in art, dance, drama, music and play games to find out more about the 'curiouser and curiouser' world of Alice in Wonderland.

Colour me in



# GAMES

Alice in Wonderland is full of the weird and wonderful. Make a nametag for yourself. Spell your name backwards on the nametag and decorate it. That's your name for the session. Find out what others are called.

## Make the Cheshire Cat Smile

The Queen wants the Cheshire Cat Beheaded, but how can you behead a floating head? No matter, The Queen of Hearts shall have it done. She needs find the cat. Make your partner laugh while they try and keep a straight face.



She is still not happy - around the room there are several Cheshire Cats - can you find all of them? Collect as many as you can.

## Build a pyramid of cards

In teams build a pyramid of cards. Who ever builds the highest pyramid wins!



## The Caucus race

In chapter 4 all creatures are wet and they start thinking of a way to get dry. The Mouse tries telling them the 'driest story' he knows, but this doesn't work so they decide to have a Caucus-race. The Dodo draws a circle in which they all start running at random. Join the Caucus race - when you hear STOP last one to sit down is out!



## Rabbit ears

Can you hoop the rings around the white rabbits ears?



## The Caterpillar

The caterpillar in chapter 5 advises Alice to eat the mushroom. If you get caught you have to join the caterpillar chain!

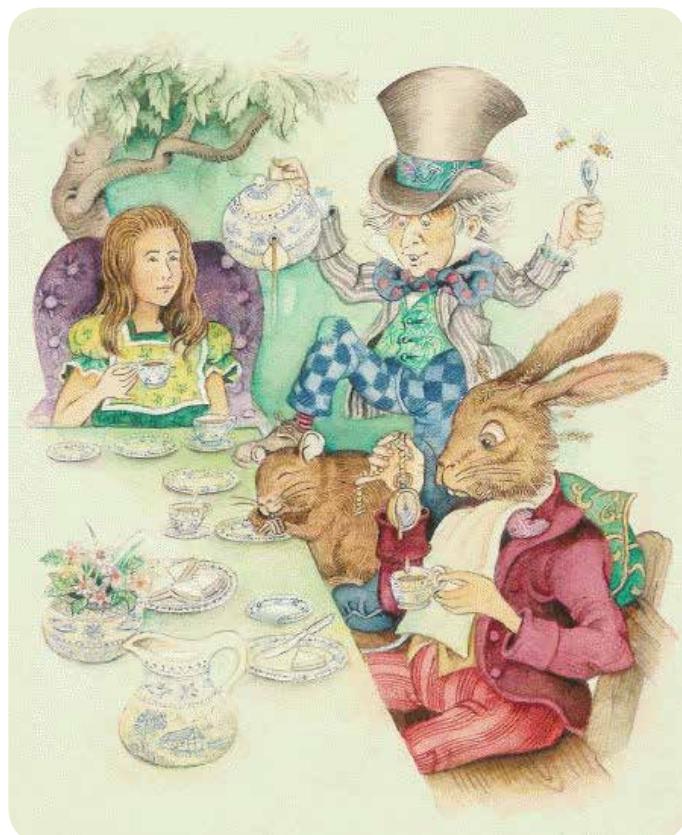
## **Have you heard of the Mad Hatters Tea Party?**

The scene is one of the most famous images from children's literature and it is when Alice meets the The March Hare, the Mad Hatter and a Dormouse. The tea party does not go well!

### **Chapter 7: A Mad Tea-Party**

There was a table set out under a tree in front of the house, and the March Hare and the Hatter were having tea at it: a Dormouse was sitting between them, fast asleep, and the other two were using it as a cushion, resting their elbows on it, and the talking over its head. 'Very uncomfortable for the Dormouse,' thought Alice; 'only, as it's asleep, I suppose it doesn't mind.'

The table was a large one, but the three were all crowded together at one corner of it: 'No room! No room!' they cried out when they saw Alice coming. 'There's PLENTY of room!' said Alice indignantly, and she sat down in a large arm-chair at one end of the table.



# ART at the Mad Hatters Tea Party

We are going to have our own tea party but we need to send out invitations!

Design your own Mad Hatter Tea Party invitation - make it colourful, full of textures and fun.



Every great tea party needs a great hat - just like the Mad Hatter!

Lets make our own tea party hats and let our imagination run wild!



**"How Doth the Little Crocodile"** is a poem recited by Alice in Chapter 2. It describes a crafty crocodile which lures fish into its mouth with a welcoming smile.

How doth the little crocodile  
Improve his shining tail  
And pour the waters of the Nile  
On every golden scale  
How cheerfully he seems to grin  
How neatly spreads his claws  
And welcomes little fishes in  
With gently smiling jaws!



**"The Mock Turtle's Song"** (or the "Lobster Quadrille"), is a song and dance recited by the Mock Turtle. It was taught to him at school by his teacher called Tortoise. It appears in Chapter 10.

"Will you walk a little faster?" said a whiting to a snail,  
"There's a porpoise close behind us, and he's treading on my tail.  
See how eagerly the lobsters and the turtles all advance!  
They are waiting on the shingle – will you come and join the dance?  
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance?

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you join the dance?  
"You can really have no notion how delightful it will be

When they take us up and throw us, with the lobsters, out to sea!"  
But the snail replied "Too far, too far!" and gave a look askance --  
Said he thanked the whiting kindly, but he would not join the dance.  
Would not, could not, would not, could not, would not join the dance.

Would not, could not, would not, could not, could not join the dance.  
"What matters it how far we go?" his scaly friend replied.

"There is another shore, you know, upon the other side.  
The further off from England the nearer is to France --  
Then turn not pale, beloved snail, but come and join the dance.  
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance?

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you join the dance?

LISTEN TO THE SONGS BELOW

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XATkBETOjE>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S83B1\\_zJMAg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S83B1_zJMAg)

# MUSIC

We are going to write our own poem.

Pick your favourite character from the book and write a poem about what they look like. Can you make a short story about them too?

Now you can use any of the instruments to put music to your poem.

Excellent - you have written a song!



## **Chapter 1: Down the rabbit hole**

Alice is walking along the riverbank with her older sister, who is reading out loud a book about William the Conqueror, to which Alice is supposed to be paying attention, but her mind is elsewhere. Her sister gives up and leaves Alice daydreaming by the river. Alice is very surprised to see a White Rabbit go by, who is wearing a waistcoat. He stops and takes out a pocket-watch. "Oh dear! Oh dear! Now, I shall be too late!". He rushes off and disappears down a rabbit hole. Curiosity gets the better of Alice, and she immediately follows him down the rabbit hole.

1. You are in the car you look out of the window and you see a cow wearing a hat. What do you do? What do you say?
2. You are feeding your dog and suddenly it speaks to you? What do you do? What do you say? How do you feel?
3. In pairs one of you is Alice, one is the rabbit. What do you say to each other when you first meet? Recreate the above scene.

## **Chapter 4: The rabbit sends in a little bill**

When Alice enters the Rabbits house, she quickly finds him some gloves, but she also finds a small bottle, fortunately NOT marked poison, so she takes a drink. This may have been a mistake, though for she begins to grow... and grow... and grow until she fills the whole house, jamming the front door tight shut. The White Rabbit comes to see where she's got to and finding that he can't get through the front door, calls for Pat the gardener and Bill the Lizard to bring a ladder, climb onto the roof and go down the chimney. They are worried by the prospect and suggest going through the window instead. "What a splendid idea! I wonder I didn't think of it." Only then do they realise that Alice's giant head is blocking the window. "Argh! A monster. Save me. Save me". They start to throw cakes at Alice through the window, one of which she manages to eat. Fortunately, this causes her to shrink and she's able to slip away unnoticed.

1. Imagine you are a fly or a ladybird or a spider? Try to get the attention of a human. What do you do? What do you say?
2. Work in a group and make the biggest shape you can
3. Recreate the scene with the Rabbit, Pat and Bill the Lizard - what do they say to each other when they see Alice's giant head - scared, frightened, confused...

# DRAMA – lets step into the book!

## Chapter 8: The Queen's Croquet-Ground

Alice comes upon a rose-tree with white roses. Three gardeners are painting them red. Alice asks them why and they explain that they planted the white roses by mistake and the Queen will cut off their heads for that. So they try to hide the mistake by painting them. At that moment the procession of the Queen arrives, which is made up almost entirely of playing cards. The Queen severely asks Alice who she is, but she is not afraid and makes the Queen angry by making a rude remark. The Queen shouts 'Off with her head!' but Alice replies that this is nonsense and the Queen is silent.

1. How do royalty act? Imagine you are the King or Queen of hearts
2. Mirror images - all the roses had to be painted red to make them look the same. With a partner, mirror image your partners movement.

## Chapter 11 Who stole the tarts?

"I must see after another execution I've ordered. Let the trial begin!" shouts the Queen. The King presides as Judge, the audience are sworn in as the Jury, and the prisoner; the Knave of Hearts brought in. "For the benefit of the jury, I shall read the accusation. The Queen of Hearts she made some tarts all on a summer day: The Knave of Hearts, he stole those tarts, and took them quite away!" The verdict is called for. "No, no. Sentence first, verdict afterwards.", yells the Queen. "Stuff and nonsense." shouts Alice, "The idea of having the sentence first!" The Queen does not like to be contradicted in this way and calls for the Royal Executioner to cut off her head.

1. Cards are flat and 2 dimensional. Not full rounded characters like the others. How can we create these characters? How do we get a sense of them being alike in a pack.
2. Who wears the boots the King or Queen. Role reversal. Queen more bossy than King. Make a scene where the King and Queen are sitting playing cards with each other. What do they say? Who wins? Remember the Queen is bossy.

Finally, pick your favourite character in the book and meet and greet the others in the room as that character.

# Dance/Movement

Alice in Wonderland is full of unusual creatures, riddles, topsy turvey poems and songs. Each character in the book has its own identity and character traits that make them different to each other. The way they speak, the way they move will be different.

## Dancing the Lobster Quadrille

Remember the Lobster Quadrille? Lets make up silly moves and then teach it to each other. Then, we will perform all moves in a row and we will have our own Lobster Quadrille dance.

## Interpreting the tunes

Listen to these pieces of music. What character do you think the music represents? Can you move like that character to the music?

## It's all a dream

Alice's adventures are all a dream in the end. In our dreams anything can happen. Do you remember your last dream? What did you dream about? Write down a list of everything you remember from your dream.

In small groups pick the first two things on your list and create a topsy turvey story - much like Alice's nonsense dream. Listen to the music and create a movement story without speaking to tell your crazy story.



# ALice in Wonderland Wordsearch

Can you find the words below?

M	U	S	H	R	O	O	M	H	C	K	T	A	E
N	E	E	U	Q	N	T	R	K	N	I	R	H	S
T	C	U	G	R	O	W	E	U	A	R	D	E	O
E	A	U	H	M	W	E	T	H	E	A	R	T	S
U	R	A	L	U	Q	E	T	H	M	L	R	H	M
Q	D	R	N	T	M	D	A	R	E	E	T	O	A
O	S	S	C	E	A	L	H	Q	R	A	A	L	R
R	D	N	A	L	R	E	D	N	O	W	D	E	C
C	U	S	D	S	D	D	O	A	O	U	R	E	H
G	C	T	E	R	D	E	A	L	I	C	E	D	H
E	T	S	A	L	I	E	N	A	E	T	A	H	A
N	O	R	C	A	R	N	A	S	M	A	A	C	R
R	C	S	D	M	A	D	K	S	E	T	D	E	E
R	I	M	U	D	E	L	D	E	E	W	T	H	Q

QUEEN  
ROSES  
HEAD  
CARDS  
DRINK  
MAD  
WONDERLAND  
TWEEDLEDUM  
TWEEDLEDEE  
MUSHROOM  
CROQUET  
MARCH HARE  
HOLE  
GROW  
SHRINK  
HATTER  
TEA  
ALICE  
EAT  
HEARTS

# Disney Alice in Wonderland

IN CINEMAS MARCH 5

## DOT TO DOT

What mysterious creature is this, appearing out of nowhere?  
Join the dots to find out! Start at number 1 and draw a line to each dot in the correct order.



For more fun visit [www.disneymovies.co.uk/alice](http://www.disneymovies.co.uk/alice)

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The Queen's gardeners were very busy  
painting all the big white roses red

Alice has become a giant and trapped inside rabbits little house. What is she thinking as rabbit runs away?

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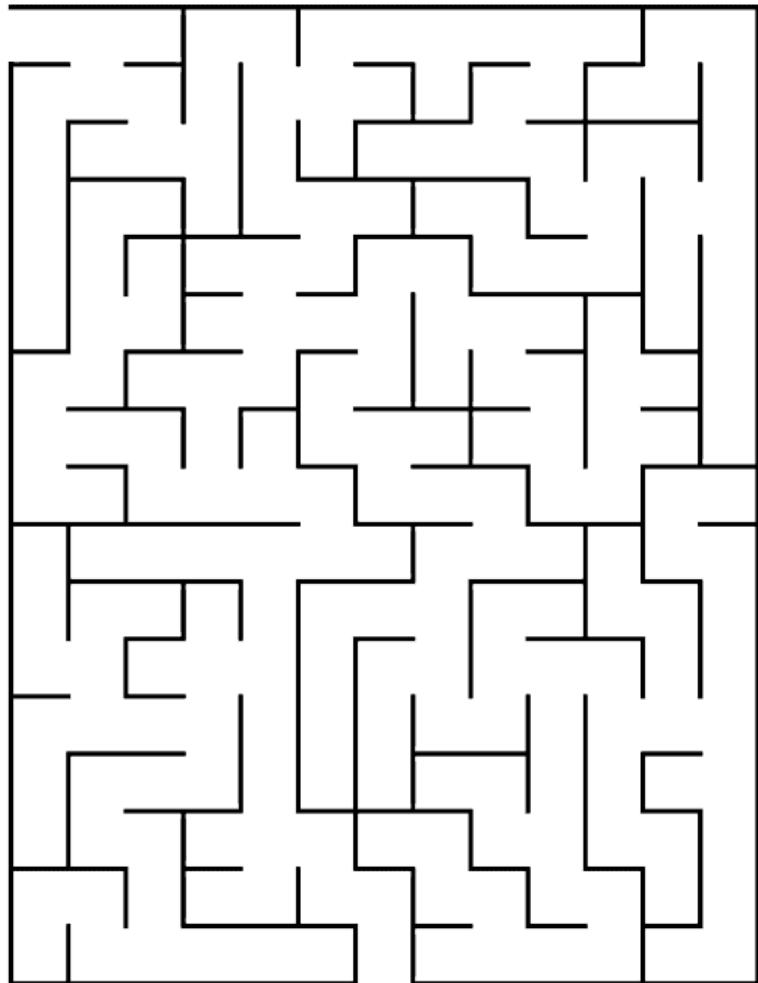


Giant Alice watches Rabbit run away.

## Alice in Wonderland Maze

Help Alice catch up with the White Rabbit.

Start



Finish

