PASSPORT TO SHAKESPEARE



This passport belongs to

SHAKESPEARE WEEK

Join the national celebration

Passport to Shakespeare

Greetings, passport holder! We hope you have enjoyed Shakespeare Week. You have taken part in a national celebration of the playwright William Shakespeare which was launched last year by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. We hope that you have been inspired by Shakespeare's characters, language and stories and that you'll grow to love his work just as much as we do!

Now that you're a passport holder, it's time to embark on another part of your journey with William Shakespeare. By taking part in the activities in this book you'll discover that although he lived over 400 years ago, Shakespeare's legacy is still all around us today. Plus you'll sing, dance, act, write, draw and have lots of fun along the way!



Good luck!

My Journey with Shakespeare

Stick a photo of yourself here!

Name:

Age:

Place of birth:

Journey destination:

Shakespeare's world, 1564-1616

Ambitions:

Name:

William Shakespeare

Age:

10

Place of birth:

Stratford-upon-Avon

Journey destination:

2015



Ambitions:

To be the most popular playwright in England and become world famous!

CHALLENGE 1

Tick when complete: ☐

Eye Spy Shakespeare

There are reminders of Shakespeare's work all around us. Is there a street near you named after one of Shakespeare's characters? Do you have someone with a Shakespearian name in your class?

What's in a name?

Did you know that there are over 1,000 characters in Shakespeare's plays? Many people today have the same names as Shakespeare's characters. (David and Victoria Beckham chose the Shakespearian name Romeo for their son!) How many people do you know with the names below?



- ☐ Oliver
- ☐ George
- ☐ Aaron
- ☐ Alice
- ☐ Imogen
- ☐ Olivia
- ☐ Adam
- ☐ Miranda



CHALLENGE 2

Tick when complete: ☐

The Bard's Beasties

Shakespeare mentions many animals in his plays, some of which he would have seen in Tudor England, but others he would only have read about. Be a detective and find out which plays these animals appear in:

Example:

Cat – *Thrice the brinded cat hath mew'd.*

Macbeth



Mouse – *Not a mouse shall disturb this hallowed house.*



Porcupine – *And each particular hair to stand on end like quills upon the fretful porcupine.*



Tiger – *O tiger's heart wrapped in a woman's hide!*



Shakespeare even mentions some imaginary animals, such as unicorns and dragons, in his plays.

Fun Fact

Shakespeare's most famous stage direction is 'Exit pursued by a bear.' It appears in *The Winter's Tale* when a character named Antigonus is chased off stage and killed by a bear!

CHALLENGE 3

Tick when complete: ☐

Is It All Greek to You?

If you don't understand something, you might say, "It's Greek to me." This is an idiom: an expression which says something in an interesting way. Shakespeare invented lots of idioms.

Have fun creating silly pictures to go with these Shakespearian idioms! Have a look at the example to help you. Shakespeare's words are in bold. Once you have illustrated the idiom, write down what the saying *actually* means underneath.

It was so funny you would have ***laughed yourself into stitches!*** *(Twelfth Night)*

Meaning: *She laughed hard because something was very funny.*



He's eaten me ***out of house and home*** *(Henry IV, Part I)*

Meaning:

I was ***tongue-tied*** *(A Midsummer Night's Dream)*

Meaning:

Listen out for some more idioms.

CHALLENGE 4

Tick when complete: ☐

Right Up Your Street!

In Stratford-upon-Avon there is a Hamlet Way, in Glasgow there is a Macbeth Place and in Kolkata, India, there is a street named Shakespeare Sarani. Can you find some more streets named after Shakespeare or his characters?

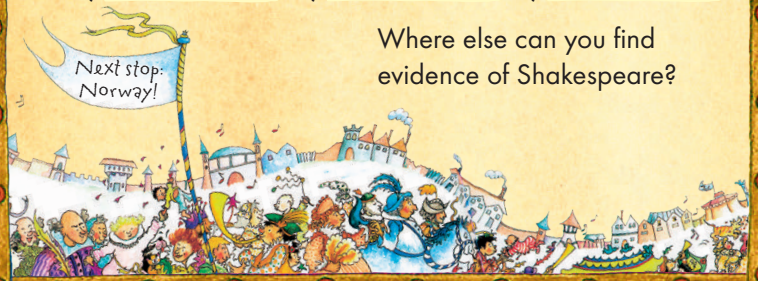
1) 2) 3)

Famous Beyond Words

At any given moment someone in the world is watching a play by Shakespeare. His plays are performed right across the world in many different languages. Your challenge is to find three places in the world where a Shakespeare play is being performed – one in the UK, one in the rest of Europe and one outside of Europe. See how far across the world you can travel!

1) 2) 3)

Where else can you find evidence of Shakespeare?



CHALLENGE 5

Tick when complete: ☐

Shakespeare's London

All writers are inspired by what they see and hear around them and William Shakespeare was no different. Can you spot the following things in Shakespeare's London?



Shakespeare



A bear



The Globe Theatre



Queen Elizabeth I



River Thames



A jester



The Tower of London



A juggler

Fun Facts

* The Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare regularly performed with the Chamberlain's Men, opened in 1599.
* Bear-baiting was a form of entertainment in Tudor England. A bear would be chained to a post in the middle of a ring and dogs would be set on the animal. On a few occasions they even baited lions!



Can you write a story inspired by this scene?

CHALLENGE 6

Tick when complete: ☐

Exploring Shakespeare's World

Shakespeare wasn't just a writer – he had to promote his plays, and sing, dance and act in them too! Can you follow in his footsteps?

You'll need a grown-up to help you with this section. Ask them to register your family at **www.shakespeareweek.org.uk**. You will find the following videos under the Resources section.



Strictly Tudor Dancing

Click on the Tudor Dance video and watch the Shakespeare Aloud actors show you their best moves! The dance you will learn is called 'Sellenger's Round'. Make sure you teach it to a friend. In Tudor times the steps were not written down, they were passed down from parents to their children.

Have You Got the X Factor?

Click on the Tudor Song video and let Shakespeare Aloud teach you 'Titania's Lullaby'. The chorus of this lullaby is sung in a round. Elizabethans called this type of singing a 'catch'. See if you can work out why.

CHALLENGE 7

Tick when complete: ☐

Perfect Props

There are over 140 props needed to perform the complete works of Shakespeare. Some of the more unusual items required are a skull, a donkey's head and a severed thumb!

In theatres the Stage Managers have to source or make lots of different props. Your mission is to find or create the following items. When you've got everything you need, grab your prop, strike a pose and recite your line.

Crown

I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse.
(*Julius Caesar*, Act III, Scene ii)





Round tummy

How shall I be revenged on him?
For revenged I will be, as sure as his guts are made of puddings. (*The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Act II, Scene i)

Cauldron

Double, double toil and trouble,
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.
(*Macbeth*, Act IV, Scene i)



CHALLENGE 8

Tick when complete: ☐

Lights, Camera, Action!

Now you've had a go at speaking Shakespeare's lines, improvise your own scenes based on the scenarios below, which are taken from Shakespeare's plays.

Shipwreck survivors wash up on an island
(The Tempest)



Two families fall out with each other
(Romeo and Juliet)



Twins are mistaken for each other
(The Comedy of Errors)



Perform your scene in front of an audience with props and costumes!

Fun Fact

It is believed that 'Knock, knock' jokes first appeared in Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*. What is your favourite 'Knock, knock' joke?

Passport to Shakespeare

CONGRATULATIONS!

If you have completed all the activities in this passport, please ask your parent, carer or a teacher to fill in this slip and post it back to us so that we can send you our congratulations. If you want to enter the Comic Strip Competition make sure you send back your drawing too!

Pupil's name:

School:

Address:

Please return to: The Shakespeare Week Team, The Shakespeare Centre, Henley Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6QW

Arts Award

If you and your friends enjoy being creative then you might like to try for an Arts Award. Talk to your teacher about the Discover and Explore Arts Awards. Find out more at **www.artsaward.org.uk**





Comic Strip Competition

Marcia Williams has created the wonderful illustrations for this passport. To be in with a chance of winning a signed set of Marcia's books, design your own comic strip based on a Shakespeare play. Draw one scene from any play on a piece of paper and write a few words and some speech bubbles to go with it.

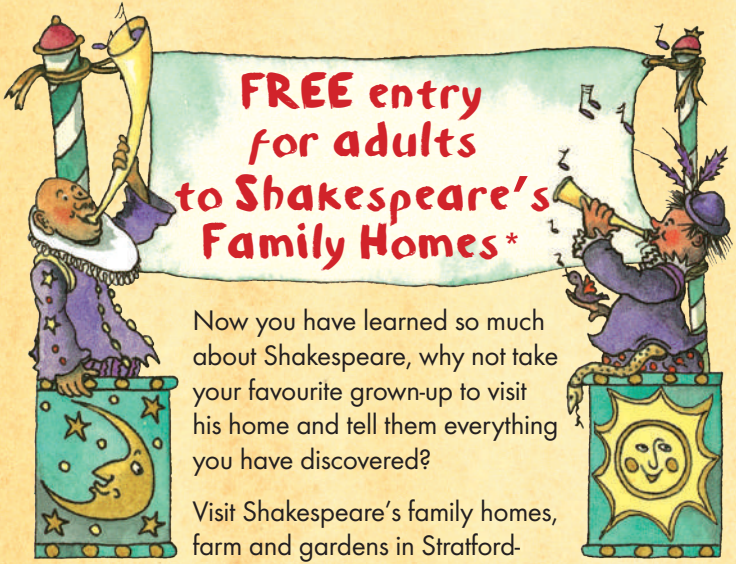


WIN MARCIA WILLIAMS BOOKS!

Visit the Resources section of the Shakespeare Week website to pick up Marcia Williams' top tips for drawing your own Shakespeare cartoons!

www.shakespeareweek.org.uk

Illustrations © Marcia Williams, from *Mr William Shakespeare's Plays*, *Bravo Mr William Shakespeare!* and *Tales From Shakespeare*, published by Walker Books.



FREE entry for adults to Shakespeare's Family Homes*

Now you have learned so much about Shakespeare, why not take your favourite grown-up to visit his home and tell them everything you have discovered?

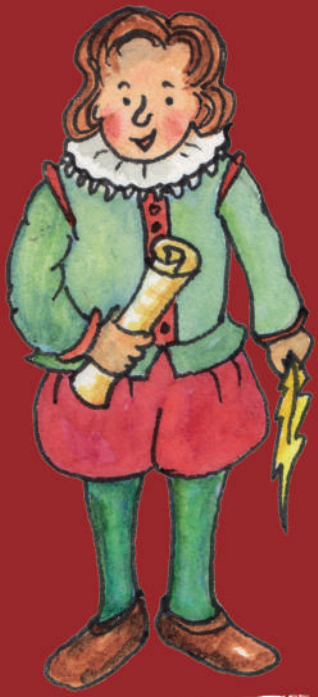
Visit Shakespeare's family homes, farm and gardens in Stratford-upon-Avon to discover the stories behind the world's greatest storyteller. Step back in time with our resident Tudors, join in with our theatre troupe performances and enjoy creative family activities, festivals and exhibitions throughout the year. Enjoy 12 months free entry with all passes.

For every child's Five House Pass purchased 1 adult gains free entry. Valid on presentation of passport. (*Limited to 1 adult per child's pass.) Code: PASSAGF5HP

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust is a charity which relies on visitors, donors and volunteers. Thank you for your support.

www.shakespeareweek.org.uk @shakespeareweek

Registered charity 209302



Shakespeare birthplace trust

"Parting is such sweet sorrow."

SHAKESPEARE WEEK
Join our national celebration

Supported by:

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

WALKER BOOKS
AND SUBSIDIARIES
LONDON • BOSTON • SYDNEY • AUCKLAND