

# Trouble in withy wood

## Teacher Resources, Week 5

### This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Numeracy Word Problems:** This section provides differentiated 1- and 2-step word problems related to time and money. Answers are also provided.
- **Key Words and Phrases:** This section provides a selection of key words and phrases from the chapter for use in a classroom literacy display or 'working wall'.
- **Worksheet:** This section provides printable worksheets for student use. Answers are also provided where appropriate.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.

# Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

## Text Questions

### Chapter 5: Rescue!

1. Did you like the last chapter of this story? Were you surprised with how the story turned out? Were you expecting it to end differently? Did you find the ending satisfying?
2. Describe the underground goblin warren. In what ways is it different from the sprite village? Find the simile the author uses to describe the goblin village. Did you find this simile helpful?
3. Who forgets what Usman's cage is made from and hurts his fingers? Go back to the chapter to find out.
4. Why has Hogweed been made Lost Property Manager? What will happen if Usman isn't claimed within two weeks?
5. Who likes doing puzzles? Name the characters in the chapter who are good at doing puzzles or can understand how puzzles work. Name the characters who are not good at doing puzzles.
6. What is a prime number? Go back to the chapter to find out. Think up some more prime numbers.
7. Why does Clover think Captain Campion is not good at maths? How does Campion respond?
8. How are the sprites and Fatima caught in an ambush? Describe what happens to them.
9. What adjectives does Bogbean use to describe Usman?  
**TEACHER NOTE:** little, smelly
10. Why does Fatima *demand to see the king*?
11. What bargain does Usman strike with Hogweed? Go back to the chapter to find out.

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

12. Hogweed says he was *the school champion* of puzzles. What does this tell us about the rest of the students at his school?
13. What is the clue to the anagram that Usman gives to Hogweed? Is Hogweed able to solve this puzzle? What did you think of the puzzle Hogweed gives to Usman? Why does Hogweed think Usman doesn't know the answer?
14. Did you ever feel sorry for Hogweed in chapter 5? Give reasons for your answer.
15. Describe the sound of Hogweed's feet as he runs after Usman. Go back to the chapter to find the description the author gives.
16. How does Usman find his way to where Fatima and the sprite rescue team are being held by young goblins? Go back to the text to find out.
17. What do you think surprises Usman most when he sees his sister?
18. What is wrong with the sign on the Goblin King's door? What do Usman and Fatima expect to see inside the king's throne room? What do they actually see when they enter the room?
19. Did the Goblin King order the young goblins to destroy the sprite village? What did he really want them to do? Go back to the chapter to find out.
20. How did Fatima know the Goblin King would be different?
21. Why do Usman and Fatima have to make a quick dash to get outside the goblin warren?
22. Will Fatima and Usman return to the sprite village again? Find the answer in chapter 5.
23. Who is going to miss Usman most?
24. What do you think Usman and Fatima will tell their parents when they get home?

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Writing Activities

What do you think will happen when Usman and Fatima get home? Write chapter 6 of this story describing what happens when they see their parents. Don't forget to write about their parents' reactions to the story the children tell.

Write a dialogue between either Fatima and her mother, or Usman and his father, with the children explaining why they went into Withy Woods. Make sure you use the correct punctuation. Try not to use the word 'said' more than once or twice. Don't forget to allow the parent to respond to what he/she hears.

How many words can you think of that sound the same, but are spelt differently and have different meanings (homophones) – such as **peace** and **piece**. Make a list of as many as you can.

What do you think the Goblin King should do to teach some of the ruffian young goblins, such as Hogweed and Bogbean, how to behave around the other inhabitants of Withy Wood? Discuss this question with a partner, or in a small group. Make notes on your best ideas.

## **Trouble in withy wood** by Tommy Donbavand



Would you like to read other stories by this author? Using the Internet, find out about the author and the other children's books he has written. Make notes on any books that you think you might like to read.

Turn one part of chapter 5 into a playscript. Make sure you set out your script in the correct way. Then get other students in the class to act out your script.

Make up an anagram word puzzle like the one Usman gave to Hogweed. Find a word that can be made from the same letters as another word, such as heart/Earth or horse/shore, and then give it to a classmate to solve.

## **Trouble in withy wood** by Tommy Donbavand

### **Other Extension Activities**

#### **Art Activities**

Draw a picture of the inside of the goblin burrow. Make sure you read the description in the chapter first. You could make a class collage with each student drawing a different goblin activity to put into the burrow. Use speech and thought bubbles to show what the goblins are saying and thinking.

Design a new front cover for this book. Make it as colourful, interesting and eye-catching as you can. Don't forget to add the title and the author's name. When you have finished the front cover, design the back cover. Include a blurb that you think will encourage other children to read it.

Draw a picture of the Goblin King. Make sure you read the description in the chapter first. Make him look as interesting, old and as goblin-like as you can. Then write an extended caption to go with your drawing.

Design a puzzle you think the Goblin King might like to solve. You might need to try out your puzzle on one of your classmates to make sure it isn't too difficult.

## **Trouble in withy wood** by Tommy Donbavand

Design a poster with a set of rules for young goblins, such as Hogweed and Bogbean, that might prevent them from destroying the sprite village and generally behaving in a violent and anti-social way.

### **Discussion Activity**

In a small group, discuss why some people behave badly and how you can make people think more considerately about others. Write down your best ideas.

**Numeracy Word Problems**

**Difficulty \***

1. Fatima started her scavenger hunt at half past 10. She reaches the clearing 1 hour later. What time does she arrive?
2. It takes Usman 30 minutes to shrink. If he started shrinking at 11 am what time will it be when he has fully shrunk?
3. Imagine our story is set in June. The Goblins first attacked the wood sprites two months earlier. In which month did the attack happen?
4. Captain Champion thought it would take 14 days to fight the Goblin army. How many weeks is that?
5. The battle started at 4 pm and went on for 2 hours. At what time did it finish?

**Difficulty \*\***

1. Fatima started her scavenger hunt at half past 10 in the morning. She reaches the clearing 2 hours later. What time does she arrive? Write the answer in digital and analogue.
2. It takes Usman 30 minutes to shrink. If he started shrinking at 11:30 am what time will it be when he has fully shrunk?
3. Imagine our story is set in June. The Goblins first attacked the wood sprites three months earlier. In which month did the attack happen?
4. Captain Champion thought it would take 16 days to fight the Goblin army. How many weeks and days is that?
5. The battle started at 4:30 pm and went on for 2 hours. At what time did it finish?



## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Difficulty \*\*\*

1. Fatima started her scavenger hunt at a quarter to 10 in the morning. She reaches the clearing 2 hours later. What time does she arrive? Write the answer in digital and analogue.
2. It takes Usman 30 minutes to shrink. If he started shrinking at 11:15 am what time will it be when he has fully shrunk?
3. Imagine our story is set in June. The Goblins first attacked the wood sprites 7 months earlier. In which month did the attack happen?
4. Captain Campion thought it would take 25 days to fight the Goblin army. How many weeks and days is that?
5. The battle started at 4:30 pm and went on for 2 and a half hours. At what time did it finish?

# Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

## Numeracy Word Problems ANSWERS

### Difficulty \*

1. Half past 11
2. 11:30 am
3. April
4. 2 weeks
5. 6 pm

### Difficulty \*\*

1. Half past 12, 12:30 am
2. 12 pm
3. March
4. 2 weeks and 2 days
5. 6:30 pm

### Difficulty \*\*\*

1. A quarter to 12, 11:45 am
2. 11:45 am
3. November
4. 3 weeks and 4 days
5. 7 pm

**Key Words and Phrases**

Here is a list of challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 5 of *Trouble in Withy Wood*:

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

faintly lit

glittering  
crown

wracking  
his brains

picking their  
way carefully

dingy

crooked

wonky

fierce warrior

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Worksheet (page 1 of 2)

**Activity 1:** Spot the mistakes in the excerpt below. Some capital letters have been omitted and some are in the wrong place. Circle as many mistakes as you can find.

hogweed reached the cage, gripped the rose thorn bars, yelped 'Ow!', and let go again. "I've been to see the Goblin King!" he said, licking the bits that now hurt on his Fingers.

"really?" said Usman without enthusiasm.

Hogweed nodded. "King says that you shouldn't be here..."

"Well, I *know* that!" Usman Proclaimed.

But hogweed hadn't finished. "...and that you must be lost. So, he made Hogweed the new Lost property Manager!" the Goblin pointed proudly to a small wooden Badge on his chest with the letters 'L' and 'p' carved roughly into it. "King says that if no-one comes to claim you in two weeks, then Hogweed can keep you as his very own Teddy bear!"

"how many times do I have to tell you?" cried Usman. "I'm NoT a teddy bear!"

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Worksheet (page 2 of 2)

**Activity 2:** Put the correct homophone into the sentences below.

1. There were \_\_\_\_\_ many people on the bus. **(two, too)**
2. The young girl was wearing a very \_\_\_\_\_ skirt. **(plane, plain)**
3. Sam knew that he hadn't made a mistake and that he was  
\_\_\_\_\_ all along. **(write, right)**
4. Alex and his brother really loved \_\_\_\_\_ new puppy.  
**(there, their)**
5. It was far too dark to \_\_\_\_\_ anything. **(sea, see)**

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Worksheet ANSWERS

#### Activity 1:

hogweed reached the cage, gripped the rose thorn bars, yelped 'Ow!', and let go again.

"I've been to see the Goblin King!" he said, licking the bits that now hurt on his fingers.

"really?" said Usman without enthusiasm.

Hogweed nodded. "King says that you shouldn't be here..."

"Well, I *know* that!" Usman Proclaimed.

But hogweed hadn't finished. "...and that you must be lost. So, he made Hogweed the new Lost property Manager!" the Goblin pointed proudly to a small wooden Badge on his chest with the letters 'L' and 'p' carved roughly into it. "King says that if no-one comes to claim you in two weeks, then Hogweed can keep you as his very own Teddy bear!"

"how many times do I have to tell you?" cried Usman. "I'm NoT a teddy bear!"

#### Activity 2:

1. There were too many people on the bus.
2. The young girl was wearing a very plain skirt.
3. Sam knew that he hadn't made a mistake and that he was right all along.
4. Alex and his brother really loved their new puppy.
5. It was far too dark to see anything.

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Picture Resources

This is an illustration of a sprite sitting with some birds.



Does this sprite look like the sprites described in *Trouble in Withy Wood*?

Why do you think the sprite is sitting with the birds? Do you think the sprite can talk to them?

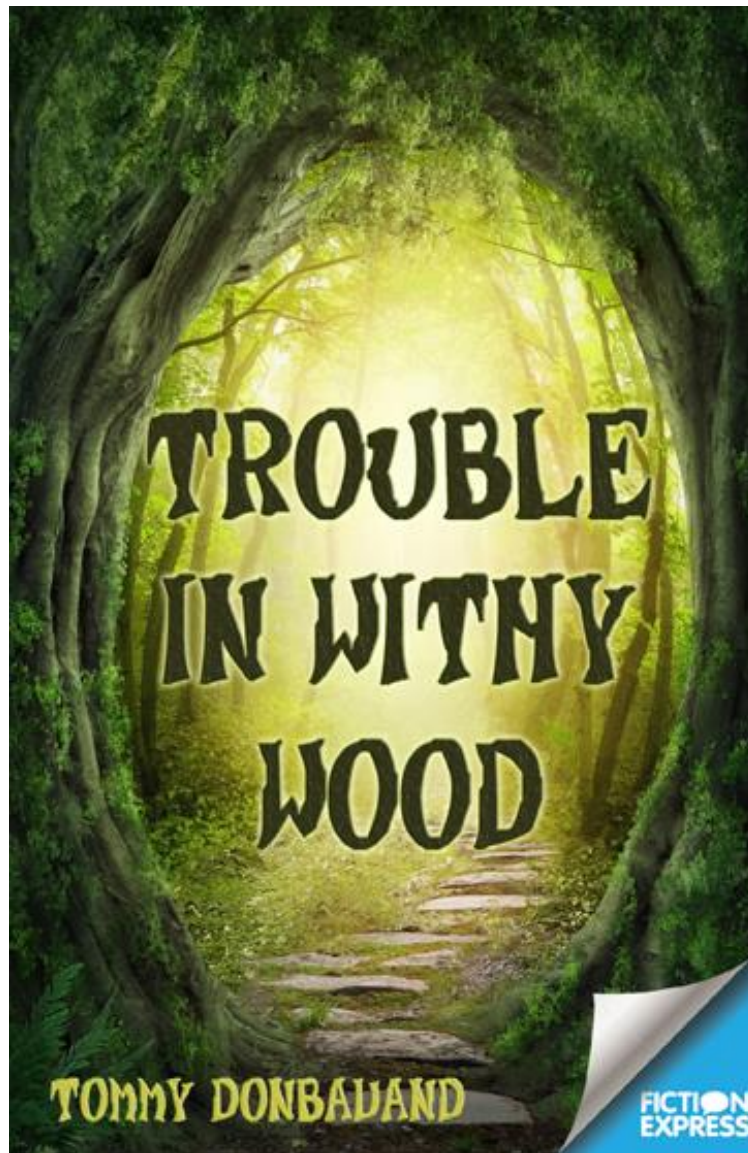
Who, or what, do you think the blue lady is in the background?

Make up your own short story using this illustration as inspiration. Think about why the sprite is sitting here, what he might be talking to the birds about, and what might happen next.

## Trouble in withy wood by Tommy Donbavand

### Picture Resources

This is the Fiction Express cover for *The Trouble in Withy Wood*.



Do you think this is a good cover for this e-book?

What would you do differently if you were designing the cover?

What do you think might make it difficult to design the Fiction Express book covers?

Do you think it might be easier to design the book cover now that the story is completed?