

The Tooth Fairy Murders

Teacher Resources, Week 1

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.
- **Making the Choice and Voting:** Before choosing how to vote, students could discuss, as a group or a class, the wider context of the story and the consequences for the characters of each voting option at the end of the chapter. Students should be encouraged to use a variety of resources in their research, including books and the Internet.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Starter vocabulary lists:** Students might find these lists useful for their writing and drama exercises.
- **Templates:** This section provides printable templates for one, or some, of the exercises suggested in the 'Writing Activities' and/or 'Art and ICT Activities' section.
- **Art and ICT Activities:** This section provides examples of follow-up activities in the areas of art and ICT.
- **Worksheets:** This section provides printable worksheets for student use.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites that students might find useful.

The Tooth Fairy Murders

by Barry Hutchison

Text Questions

Chapter 1: Fairies, Fairies Everywhere

1. Did you enjoy the first chapter of *The Tooth Fairy Murders*? What did you like about it?
2. What sort of story do you think *The Tooth Fairy Murders* is? Do you think the things described in chapter 1 could really happen? If not, what word would you use to describe this sort of story? (Fantasy)
3. What parts of the story did you find funny?
4. Do you sometimes get woken by a dream? What is the difference between a dream and a nightmare? What do you do if you are woken by a nightmare?
5. What did you think caused the tapping at the window when Connor first heard this noise?
6. Was the tapping sound loud? How does the author describe it? Go back to the story to find out.
7. When Connor opens his curtains and first sees the blue light, what does he think he is going to see next?
8. What does Connor do when he first sees the tiny fairy man outside the window? Why does he do this?
9. The tiny flying man tells Connor, *You sunshine, are nicked!* What did he mean by this?
10. What were the most surprising things you noticed about the fairy flying squad as they were buzzing about Connor's room and circling around him?

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11. What do the fairies use to *subdue the parents*?
12. Who is going to record everything that Connor says? How might he use the evidence that he records?
13. Why is Connor *under arrest*? What does *under arrest* mean? What evidence is there for Connor's arrest?
14. Who is playing the magic flute? What does he look like? Go back to the story to find out.
15. What misunderstanding takes place when the walkie-talkie fairy says, *hit him with the magic flute*? How did you react when you read this part of the story?
16. What were holding Connor's hands onto the table, so that he couldn't move?
17. What does Troy Thunder look like? Go back to the story to find out. Did you like this character?
18. Who does Troy think knows about the Tooth Fairy murders?
19. Does everything that Troy says make sense? Go back to the story and find an example of something that Troy says that doesn't make sense. What does this tell us about the character of Troy Thunder?
20. How do Troy and Connor get out of the room?
21. Describe two of the creatures that Troy and Connor meet at the end of chapter one.

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Making the choice and voting

What happens next?

1. Troy and Connor attempt to fight their way to freedom.

Do you think this is possible given they are surrounded by so many frightening-looking creatures, all glaring at them? What strengths or powers do you think these creatures might have?

2. Connor turns to ask Troy what the plan is, but Troy has gone...or has he?

We don't know much about Troy, except that he is a little strange. We know he has some magic powers, so will Connor just have to hope that Troy has disappeared in order to save him?

3. Troy causes a distraction and Connor escapes on his own, with the creatures in hot pursuit.

Do you think this might work? What should Connor do if he does manage to escape? Would some of the creatures be able to run faster than him? How do you think the creatures might feel if they manage to capture Troy again? What might Troy be doing while Connor is being chased?

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Writing Activities

Write a summary of chapter 1 of *The Tooth Fairy Murders*. Make sure you include all the main characters and that you put the main events in the correct order.

Imagine YOU are Connor. Write about what happened to you when you woke up and heard the tapping noise at the window. You could start your account like this:

Last night I suddenly woke up and heard this strange tapping at my bedroom window.....

You don't need to write the whole story, you could end it when you see the dead tooth fairy under your pillow or when you are knocked unconscious by the half man, half goat creature. (Vocabulary List A)

What dreams do you like to have? Some people dream they can fly or can do other amazing things. Have you had a dream that you didn't want to end? Write a few sentences about your dream.

The Tooth Fairy Murders is a fantasy story. Do you like fantasy stories? Why do you think authors like to write fantasy stories? Why do you like to read them? Write a couple of paragraphs about fantasy stories. In the first paragraph say why you like to read these sorts of stories and in the second paragraph write about your favourite fantasy story and what you most enjoyed about it.

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Starter Vocabulary Lists

Vocabulary List A

astounded, believe, unbelievable, impossible, dreaming, nightmare,
fairy man, wings, helmet, blue light, tiny, miniscule, burst, swam,
surround, buzz, flutter, swirling, accuse, murder, tooth, strange, under
arrest, evidence pillow, shock

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Art, Drama and ICT Activities

Begin a class gallery of portraits of the main characters in *The Tooth Fairy Murders*. Your teacher can give you a picture frame template for your portraits.

This week we need portraits of Connor in his pyjamas, Troy Thunder in his yellow hat, the Fairy Folklorist and the woman fairy with her walkie-talkie. Make your portraits as colourful and interesting as you can. Under your portrait add a title or sentence to explain your picture, for example:

This is a portrait of Connor Goodwin the main character in *The Tooth Fairy Murders*, a story by Barry Hutchison.

(Picture frame templates provided on pages 8, 9 and 10)

Using the Internet, find out about fairies. Where do fairy stories come from? Did people ever really believe in them? Do people today believe in fairies? Are fairies good or evil or both? What powers do they have? Find out about the most famous fairy characters in children's stories. How are the fairies in traditional stories different to the fairies in the *Tooth Fairy Murders*? See if you can find some good pictures of fairies that you can print out. Then make a collage of pictures and information on fairies. You can add your own drawings of fairies too.

Using the Internet, find out what the mythical half man and half horse is called that we meet in chapter 1 of *The Tooth Fairy Murders*. Find out about other famous mythical creatures. Make a list of the five mythical creatures that you like best. Write down their names and a brief description of what they look like. You can illustrate your list if you want to make it more interesting.

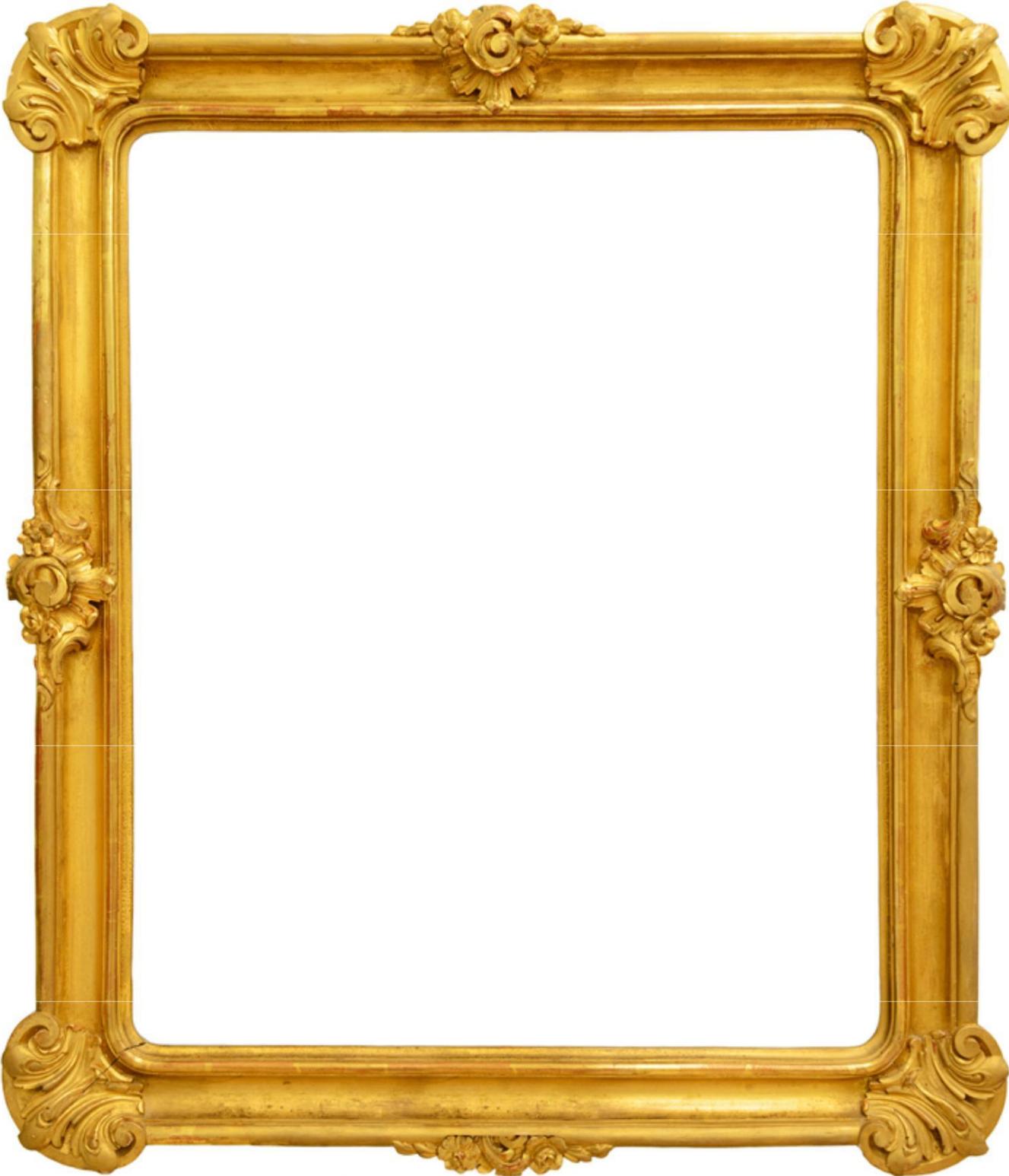
Imagine how shocked you would feel if you woke up, opened your bedroom curtains and saw a fairy. Imagine the expression your face would make. With a friend or classmate, practise making facial expressions to show shock and surprise. Then try making other facial expressions for other feelings like sadness, joy, disappointment, anger, suspicion. Try to make them as realistic as you can to convince your friend or classmate about how you feel. You could give each other marks out of ten for how realistic your expressions are.

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Templates: Picture Frame 1



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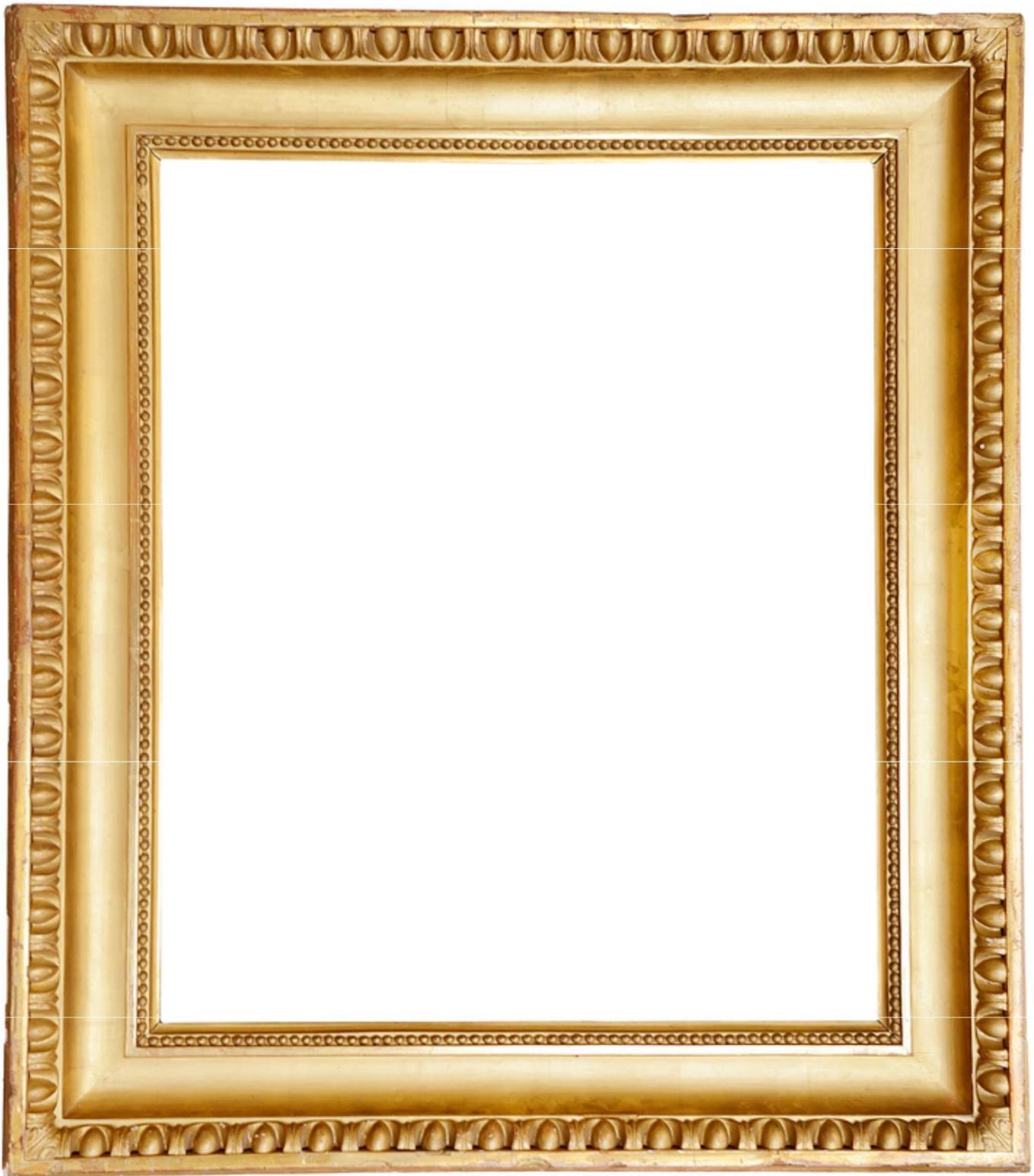
Templates: Picture frame 2



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Templates: Picture frame 3



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Worksheet (page 1 of 2)

1. The author uses lots of words beginning with the letters **sw**. Like **swung**, **swishing** and **swatted**. What words beginning with **sw** do you think should go in the empty spaces in the sentences below.

We went down to the seaside and I had a _____.

My Mum made a cake, but I didn't like it because it was much too _____.

When I run about a lot, I get very hot and _____.

The eagle _____ down from the tree to catch its prey.

I _____ on the light.

2. Here are some sentences from the story. Can you put the correct word from the list below into the right space?

ledge, lullaby, swung, swatted, miniscule, shuffled

He _____ his legs out of bed and
_____ towards the window.

The man jabbed him again and Connor _____ him away.

It was coming from the _____ outside his window.

Her _____ features wrinkled in disgust.

The sound of the _____ grew louder.

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Worksheet (page 2 of 2)

3. When the fairy flying squad burst into his room Connor thinks he is having a dream. Go back to the story and find the word, beginning with the letter v that the author uses to describe this dream. Using the dictionary, find out what this word means and write two sentences of your own using this word.

1. _____

2. _____

4. Find out the answers to these two questions:

What is the name of the mythical creature that is part man and part horse?

It is a _____.

What is the name of the mythical creature that is part man and part goat?

It is a _____.

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Picture Resources

Fairies are shown in many different ways in different stories. Here are two pictures of fairies.



1. In what ways are these two pictures different?
2. In what ways are they similar?
3. Do you think the fairies in *The Tooth Fairy Murders* will look anything like either of these? If not, what *will* they look like?

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Picture Resources

The creature playing the magic flute had the body of a man but the legs of a goat. This stamp shows three of these creatures.

1. Which country does the stamp come from?

Using an atlas or the Internet, find out where this country is.

2. The picture is labelled: “mythical creatures”. What does “mythical” mean? Do mythical creatures really exist?

3. The stamp also tells you the name of the creatures. What are they called?

4. Can you think of another famous children’s book that has this creature in it?



5. In what year was the stamp printed?

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Resources

There are lots of fairy websites on the Internet. Here are just a few:

<http://www.flowerfairies.com/UK/home.html>

<http://www.rainbowmagiconline.com/uk/>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/DisneyOnline/fairies/>

Animal Planet – Top 10 Mythical Creatures

<http://animal.discovery.com/tv/a-list/creature-countdowns/mythical/mythical.html>

Mythical creature teacher ideas from The Crafty Classroom

<http://www.thecraftyclassroom.com/CraftHistoryMythCreature.html>

TES Resources for Greek myths and monsters

<http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/Ancient-Greece-Myths-monsters-and-heroes-6087870/>

(note you need to be a TES subscriber to access resources)

Books:

It's Amazing: Fairies by Annabel Savery. Franklin Watts, 2011.

It's Amazing: Monsters by Annabel Savery. Franklin Watts, 2011.

Note to teachers: Every effort has been made by the Publishers to ensure that these websites are suitable for children, that they are of the highest educational value, and that they contain no inappropriate or offensive material. However, because of the nature of the Internet, it is impossible to guarantee that the content of these sites will not be altered. We strongly advise that Internet access is supervised by a responsible adult.