



In this issue take a little peek into Neverland and try your hand at some shadow fun!

J.M. Barrie

1860-1937

James Matthew Barrie, ninth child of ten, was born in Kirriemuir, Angus, Scotland to a weaver and his wife. When J.M. Barrie was six years old, his next older brother David died shortly before his 14th birthday. As he grew up, Barrie tried to comfort his devastated mother by dressing in David's clothes and acting like him. His mother took comfort in the idea that her son David would always remain a boy who would never grow up and leave her.



As a child, Barrie loved reading books and playing in gardens, acting out pirate adventures with his friends. They formed a drama club, but the boarding school did not allow that to last for very long. As a young adult, Barrie attended Edinburgh University and studied literature. He was a very shy and short man (around 5 feet, 3 inches) who found joy in writing for different newspaper publications. His stories and plays became increasingly popular and established him as a successful writer.

In 1902 *The Little White Bird* or *Adventures in Kensington Gardens* was the first of the stories of Peter Pan. It was made into a play in 1904. Although his list of novels and plays is quite long, Barrie is best known for the stories of Peter Pan, the boy who never grew up. Many of the adventures were inspired and written for the Llewelyn Davies family who had five little boys. Their friendship with Barrie lasted throughout his lifetime.



"When the first baby laughed for the first time, its laugh broke into a thousand pieces, and they all went skipping about, and that was the beginning of fairies."

Peter Pan never wanted to grow up because he thought being a child was much more fun. He didn't realize that he would miss out on many wonderful things in life by never growing up.

What are some things that you would like to try or do as a grown up that you aren't able to do now?

Write to bittybulls@turnbullclan.com and let us know!



Book Nook~

Making Shadow Puppets (Kids Can Do It) by Jill Bryant (40 pp, ages 8+) Instructions for nine fun rod puppets and ideas for scenery and scripts.

Fun with Hand Shadows by Frank Jacobs (64 pages, all ages) This book contains 28 easy to understand images, such as deer, goose, birds, bunny, dog, elephant with humorous side notes. Sure to be fun for any age!

Fairy Houses by Tracy Kane (40 pages, ages 5+) Beautifully illustrated story of a little girl that builds fairy houses in the woods out of bits of nature. Every day she watches animals enjoying it. One day she receives very special visitors. Must have book!



"All the world is made of faith, and trust, and pixie dust."



Statue of Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens, London, England

Peter Pan Puzzler

Fill in each square with one of the four symbols. Each column, row, and square should only have each picture drawn once.



Flying through clouds



Tick-Tock Crocodile's clock







Pixie dust



Peter Pan's red feather



Answer found on second page.



Shadow Fun

Try your hand at making shadow puppets and fly away on some adventures of your own.

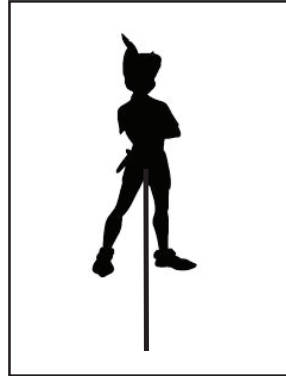


Cut out the silhouette of a shape on dark paper and attach to a stick

light source



screen, bed sheet, or thin white paper



Practice moving your puppet around, closer and farther away from the light, to make the shape change size on the screen.

What am I?

If I walk in the dark I have no companion; if I walk in the light I have one.

If I catch, it catches; if I run away it chases me.

It is as big as an elephant, but doesn't weight anything.

Shadows are created when a person or object comes between a light source and a surface. Sunnier spring days are just around the corner--perfect for playing with your shadow.

**How do you make your shadow bigger or smaller?*

**How do you make it disappear?*

**How can you make your shadow touch something without you touching anything?*

**Have someone trace your shadow in chalk when outside.*

**Play Shadow Tag--try to step on shadows instead of tagging/touching the other person.*



Then Wendy saw the shadow on the floor, looking so dragged, and she was frightfully sorry for Peter. "How awful!" she said, but she could not help smiling when she saw that he had been trying to stick it on with soap. How exactly like a boy! Fortunately she knew at once what to do. "It must be sewn on," she said, just a little patronisingly.

