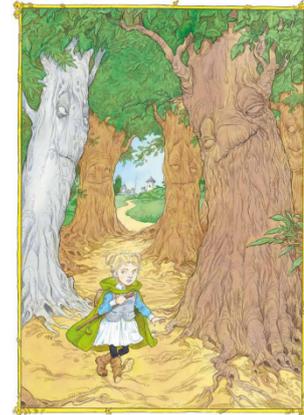


## Step into the Wild Wood with Chris Riddell...

*For the way through the woods is dark and deep,  
With many a lesson to gauge,  
And the path you take is the story you make,  
Each step a turn of the page*

*Once Upon a Wild Wood* is a richly imagined illustrated story from the dazzlingly brilliant 2015-2017 UK Children's Laureate Chris Riddell. These woods are packed full of familiar fairy tale characters as you've never seen them before.



Follow Little Green Raincape as she makes her way to Rapunzel's party, deep in the wild woods. The way is long and dark, but Green is a smart girl. Smart enough to turn down apples offered by kindly old ladies, smart enough to turn down travel advice from helpful wolves, and above all, smart enough to solve a wealth of classic fairy tale problems - not least mend a lovelorn beast's broken heart.

Children will delight in spotting their favourite fairytale characters amongst the trees; Red Riding Hood, Thumbelina, Rapunzel, Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, the three bears, the seven dwarfs and many more!

Publishing this autumn, *Once Upon a Wild Wood* is illustrated with warmth and humour and is full of witty details to discover on every page. Even though it's not available yet, here are some classroom ideas inspired by the book:

- Design an invite to a party hosted by a fairytale character.
- Write your own story featuring two or more characters from different fairytales.
- Imagine a fairytale character is throwing a party. Who is it and why are they having a party? Which of their fairytale friends do they invite and where is the party being held? What food and drink do they serve? What party games do they play? And, most importantly of all, what's in the party bag?

And coming in September is the paperback of the latest in Chris's *Goth Girl* series, *Goth Girl and the Sinister Symphony*

If you haven't discovered this series yet, it is a wonderfully witty parody of the British gothic novel, packed with silly puns, and clever literary references and, of course, Chris's exquisite drawings.

Use your sampler of *Goth Girl and the Ghost of the Mouse* (book one) to show children how Chris weaves in literary references. Then they could have fun writing stories that weave in puns and references to their own favourite books. Or come up with witty new book titles ('Haunted House' by Hugo First, 'Genie' by Al Addin, 'Three Wishes' by Jean E. Ovthelamp)!



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