



IN THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

Winnie's Story

FAMILY UNIT STUDY

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WINNIE'S STORY

Table of Contents

Welcome

What to Expect	6
Suggested Schedule	7
Library Book List.....	8
YouTube Video List	9
Scope & Sequence.....	10

Topics

The Real Winnie	14
Animal Science and Bear Care	16
The Honey Pot	18
Life in the Hundred Acre Wood.....	20
Christopher Robin Milne	22
Feelings and Friendships.....	24
Songs, Poems, and Sound.....	26
The Game of Poohsticks	28
Illustrations Through the Years	30
Creative Writing	32

Printables

Winnie's Namesake	36
Winnie's New Home.....	37
Winnie's Inspiration	38
The Story of Winnie-the-Pooh	39
Printing Practice.....	40
Cursive Writing Practice	41
Map of Hundred Acre Wood	42
Vocabulary Cards (Print Version).....	43
Vocabulary Cards (Cursive Writing Version).....	45
Unit Study Journal Cover Page.....	47

SAMPLE

WINNIE'S STORY

Welcome!



WINNIE'S STORY

What to Expect

Thank you for choosing one of How Wee Learn's Family Unit Studies! If you are new to Family Unit Studies, I invite you to take a moment to review the "What to Expect" below, as well as the suggested schedule on the following page.

A unit study focuses on critical thinking and problem-solving, allowing children to dive deep into fascinating topics and engage in meaningful learning. When a child is engaged in what they are learning, that learning sticks. And when a child is engaged and fascinated by what they are learning, learning is amazingly fun for the whole family! Say goodbye to those power struggles.

Our unit studies are divided into ten topics with manageable, bite-sized amounts of information. Each topic includes:

- **Interesting Fact:** Did you know that elephants suck their trunks much like babies suck their thumbs? Or that a human has the same number of neck bones as a giraffe? Interesting facts are an excellent way to spark a child's interest and imagination!
- **Discussion Question:** Asking the right questions and having meaningful discussions is a wonderful way to meet your child at their level of understanding and help them grow. So much can be learned through one meaningful discussion!
- **Curated YouTube Video:** Dive into fun and easy learning with experts in the field, entertaining stories, and inspiring tales, all selected to highlight key learning concepts. Enjoy a snuggle on the couch, learning with popcorn and a movie!
- **Book Suggestion:** The book suggestions for each topic are just that—suggestions. Any books related to the topic are strongly encouraged. Immersing your child in a literacy-rich environment and offering plenty of time to explore is key for child-led learning.
- **Math Enrichment:** Each unit study includes five math enrichment questions with three levels so they are fitting

for ages 4 to 12. These questions cover the five strands of math: Number Sense, Algebra, Data, Spatial Sense, and Financial Literacy. This is not a full math curriculum, of course, but an enrichment opportunity and a chance to be exposed to real-world math. As you go through a question, consider how you might ask a follow-up question. Perhaps, "What would happen if there were 6 birds instead of 5?"

- **Literacy Enrichment:** There are so many opportunities to integrate literacy development throughout each unit study! Reading, researching, recording information, labeling, and note-taking all happen naturally. On top of this, each unit study includes five literacy enrichment activities with three levels so they are fitting for ages 4 to 12.
- **Hands-on Activity:** The hands-on activity brings the information shared and discussed to life! These activities allow children to engage in and solidify their learning.
- **What's Happening:** This ensures any information you need for the hands-on activity is right at your fingertips. This may include background information on the topic, the science behind an experiment you perform, etc.
- **Extension Activity:** Some activities might feel too young for your learner. If that's the case, this section is for you! The extension activity shares how to make the hands-on activity more challenging or enriching, ensuring every child is met with appropriate developmental activities.

I hope you and your family love this unit study!

If you have any questions at all, please email me at customercare@howweelearn.com.

xo Sarah



WINNIE'S STORY

Suggested Schedule

These unit studies are completely flexible—there is no right or wrong way to dive in. When learning is this exciting, you simply cannot go wrong! Below are two possible ways you might choose to use these unit studies.

10-Day Focused Unit Study

Your family might choose to focus on one unit study topic a day, completing the entire unit study over a 10-day period:

Day 1	Morning 30-60 mins	Complete core skill work with one page of How Wee Learn Literacy and one page of How Wee Learn Math for your child's specific grade. Next, introduce Topic 1 of this unit study with the interesting fact, discussion question, and YouTube video.
	Afternoon 30-60 mins	Complete Topic 1 by diving into the math or literacy enrichment question, the hands-on activity, and the optional extension activity!
Day 2	Morning 30-60 mins	Complete core skill work with one page of How Wee Learn Literacy and one page of How Wee Learn Math for your child's specific grade. Next, introduce Topic 2 of this unit study with the interesting fact, discussion question, and YouTube video.
	Afternoon 30-60 mins	Complete Topic 2 by diving into the math or literacy enrichment question, the hands-on activity, and the optional extension activity!

Etc., repeating until all 10 topics are covered.

One-Month Blended Unit Study

Alternatively, your family might choose to blend this unit study with your core skills and family adventures, completing it at a more leisurely pace. For example, 2-3 afternoons per week:

Day 1	Morning 30-60 mins	Complete core skill work with one page of How Wee Learn Literacy and one page of How Wee Learn Math for your child's specific grade.
	Afternoon 60 mins	Complete Topic 1 of this unit study by chatting about the interesting fact and discussion question, watching the YouTube video, doing the math or literacy enrichment question, and diving into the hands-on activity!
Day 2	Morning 30-60 mins	Complete core skill work with one page of How Wee Learn Literacy and one page of How Wee Learn Math for your child's specific grade.
	Afternoon 60 mins	Head outside for a nature walk, go to the park, or play board games!
Day 3	Morning 30-60 mins	Complete core skill work with one page of How Wee Learn Literacy and one page of How Wee Learn Math for your child's specific grade.
	Afternoon 60 mins	Complete Topic 2 of this unit study by chatting about the interesting fact and discussion question, watching the YouTube video, doing the math or literacy enrichment question, and diving into the hands-on activity!

Etc., repeating until all 10 topics are covered.



WINNIE'S STORY

Scope & Sequence

Family Unit Studies allow your child to explore one big topic through multiple subjects: reading, writing, math, science, history, geography, social studies, health, music, art, and life skills. This has been shown to make learning more meaningful and memorable—it makes learning stick! We use “cross-curricular connections” to help children see how ideas are linked in the real world, keeping them engaged and deepening their understanding.

As a parent, it's important to feel confident in the rich learning you're guiding your child through. That's why we've included this Scope and Sequence—not as an exhaustive list, but as a helpful starting point to show how key learning standards are met (and often exceeded!) through deep, connected experiences.

We hope this Scope and Sequence encourages you to look creatively at each Family Unit Study and see how the hands-on learning and fun are a part of an intentional, impactful, learning-filled journey.

Math		Topics
Financial literacy	Calculate food costs, change, weekly spending, savings, and a budget goal.	2
Spatial sense	Identify, draw, and compare 2D and 3D shapes; calculate the area of a circular floor.	4
Algebra	Solve equations with variables and using multiple operations.	6
Data	Interpret game results, create a bar graph, calculate experimental probability, create a scatterplot.	8

Number sense	Solve one- and multi-step problems using whole numbers and fractions.	10
Literacy		Topics
Listening & speaking	Daily “Spark Curiosity” discussion and video debriefs.	All
Reading comprehension	Through book suggestions and read-alouds in each topic.	All
Word study & vocabulary	Build words from a set of letters; investigate art media and technique vocabulary.	1, 9
Handwriting	Trace and write words in print or cursive; practice neat printing while writing poetry.	3, 7
Making connections & descriptive writing	Create a character inspired by a favorite stuffed animal.	5
Poetry & rhyme	Generate rhyming pairs and compose short poems.	7
Narrative writing & story structure	Create a comic, write a puppet script, and plan and write a short story.	1, 5, 10

Science		Topics
Animal biology & adaptations	Explore bear behaviors and their sense of smell.	2
Sensory science & scientific inquiry	Conduct a scent-distance test; measure and compare results.	2
Entomology & honey production	Explore how bees make honey, beeswax, and honeycomb.	3

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Sound & material properties	Investigate how materials and movement affect sound.	7
Forces & motion	Test gravity and friction in a fair slide experiment.	8

History		Topics
Biography & chronology	Trace Winnie's journey and the origins of Winnie-the-Pooh.	1
Historical sequencing	Sequence key events through a timeline escape room.	1
Childhood & play in the 1920s	Explore toys and imaginative play from Christopher Robin's childhood.	5

Geography		Topics
Map-reading & cardinal directions	Use a compass rose and cardinal directions.	4
Map-making & wayfinding	Build a floor map and give directions between landmarks.	4

Social Studies		Topics
Cultural traditions	Explore the origins and spread of shadow puppetry.	5
Childhood & play over time	Examine how children used toys and imaginative play during the 1920s.	5
Relationships & cooperation	Discuss friendship, kindness, and different personalities.	6

Health		Topics
Outdoor & bear safety	Learn why food and scented items must be stored carefully in bear country	2
Emotional literacy	Distinguish between personality traits and feelings.	6

Health		Topics
Social-emotional communication	Use facial expressions, tone of voice, and body language to communicate and interpret character traits and feelings.	6

Music		Topics
Sound exploration	Experiment with materials to create different sounds.	7
Foley & performance	Create and perform sound effects for stories and rhymes.	7

Art		Topics
Craft & design	Make a beeswax candle and design its branding.	3
Silhouette art	Create and perform with shadow puppets.	5
Art media & techniques	Research different media, tools, and techniques.	9
Observational drawing	Sketch a teddy bear using shape, line, gesture, and shading.	9
Visual storytelling	Illustrate comics and original stories.	1, 10

Life Skills		Topics
Practical skills & safety	Follow multi-step directions to make candles and puppets.	3, 5
Collaboration & turn-taking	Work with others during investigations, performances, and games that require shared roles and taking turns.	2, 6

SAMPLE

FAMILY UNIT STUDY

Winnie's Story



TOPIC ONE

The Real Winnie

Many readers know Winnie-the-Pooh as a gentle bear who loves honey and adventures with friends, but few know that Pooh was inspired by a real bear. In the early 1900s, a young black bear named Winnie lived at the London Zoo, where she became a favorite of children and visitors. One of those children was Christopher Robin Milne, who loved visiting Winnie so much that he named his teddy bear after her. How did a real Canadian bear become one of the most famous storybook characters in the world? Let's explore...

Spark Curiosity



Did You Know? Winnie was originally purchased by Canadian soldier and veterinarian Harry Colebourn during World War I.



I Wonder... What was Winnie like when children visited her at the zoo?

Enrichment Question

Subject Focus: Literacy (*Word Jumble*)

How many words can you make from the letters in the words WINNIE THE POOH?

L1

How many 3-letter words can you make?

L2

How many 3–5-letter words can you make?

L3

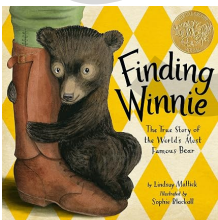
How many 4–6-letter words can you make?

Resource Suggestions



The bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh by ZSL - Zoological Society of London

This is the story of Winnie the bear, who arrived at ZSL London Zoo a hundred years ago and who inspired AA Milne's iconic honey-loving character.



Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear by Lindsay Mattick

Before Winnie-the-Pooh, there was a real bear named Winnie. And she was a girl!

Hands-On Activity

Subject Focus: History



Timeline Escape Room

See the next page for your hands-on activity instructions!



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: HISTORY

Winnie's Escape Room

Materials

Pencil, scissors



Winnie's Namesake



Winnie's Inspiration



Winnie's New Home



The Story of Winnie-the-Pooh

Directions

Instructions for Grown-Ups:

1. Cut out the Winnie's Inspiration printable puzzle strips.
2. Set out the Winnie's Namesake printable, the Winnie's New Home printable, and the puzzle strips.
3. Keep The Story of Winnie-the-Pooh to read to your children after they solve the three mystery words.

Instructions for Children:

1. Today, you will complete an escape room to learn about the real Winnie! Your challenge is to solve three mystery words.
2. After you solve all three mystery words, your grown-up will read you a poem. Use your three mystery words to fill in the first three blanks, then solve the final bonus word to escape!

Extension Activity

Choose part of the real Winnie's story and create a comic strip showing what happened and why it was important. Draw it by hand or use a free online tool like StoryboardThat or Canva.



<https://www.storyboardthat.com/>



<https://www.canva.com/create/comic-strips/>

What's Happening?

In 1914, Canadian soldier Harry Colebourn purchased a black bear cub while traveling through Ontario. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba.



Harry Colebourn and Winnie, 1914. Source: Manitoba Provincial Archives via Wikimedia Commons

Harry cared for Winnie and brought her with him to England. Later, he left

Winnie in the care of the London Zoo, where she became very popular with visitors.

One of Winnie's biggest fans was a young boy named Christopher Robin. He liked Winnie so much that he named his favorite teddy bear after her. He chose "Winnie" for the bear and added "Pooh," the name he had given to a swan he fed while on holiday. From then on, his teddy bear was called Winnie-the-Pooh.

Christopher Robin's father, A. A. Milne, was inspired by his son's teddy bear and imaginative play. He began writing stories about a fictional bear named Winnie-the-Pooh and his adventures with his friends. In 1926, these stories were published in the book 'Winnie-the-Pooh.'

Today, Winnie-the-Pooh is one of the most beloved storybook characters, and it all began with a real Canadian bear named Winnie!

SAMPLE

WINNIE'S STORY

Printables



WINNIE'S STORY

Winnie's Namesake

Solve the wordsearch below. The remaining letters will spell out the mystery word!

Harry

Cub

Canada

Winnie

Soldier

Care

Bear

Home

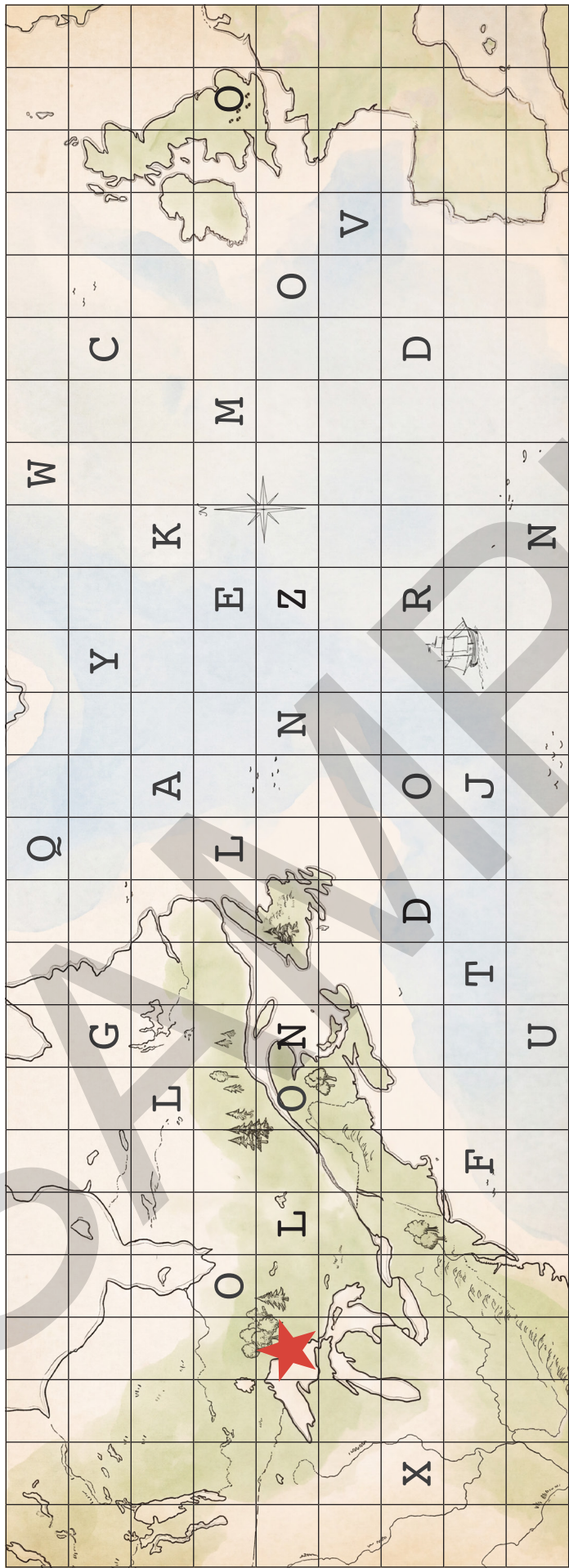
Love

S	H	A	R	R	Y	W
O	O	W	I	N	N	I
L	M	B	E	A	R	N
D	E	C	U	B	I	N
I	P	L	O	V	E	I
E	E	G	C	A	R	E
R	C	A	N	A	D	A

Mystery Word:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Winnie's New Home



Start at the red star. Follow the arrows, moving the number of squares shown.
The letters you pass over will spell out the mystery word!

→6 ↓2 →4 ↑2 →10 ↑1

Mystery Word:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

WINNIE'S STORY

Winnie's Inspiration

T

E

D

D

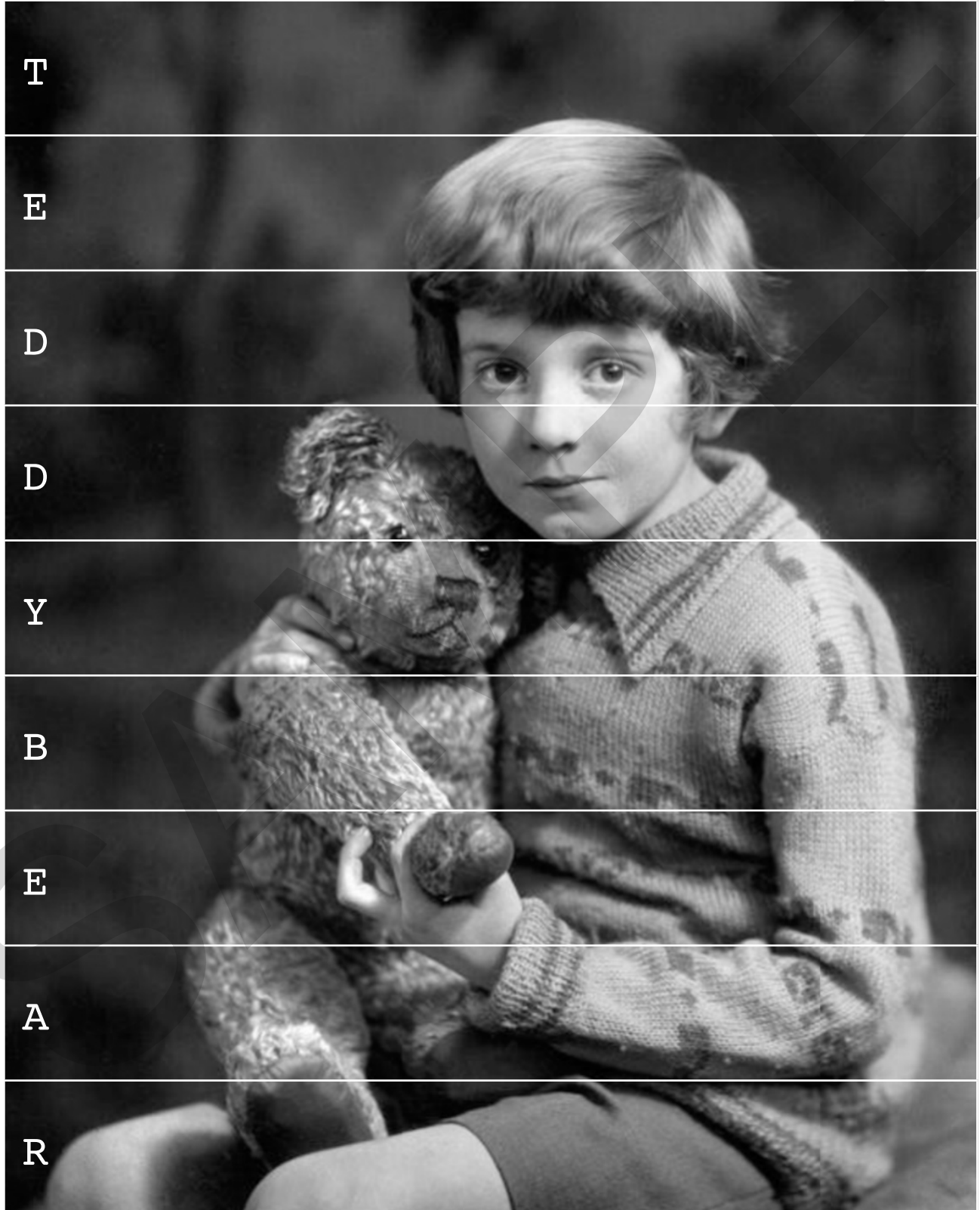
Y

B

E

A

R



Christopher Robin Milne, 1928. Photograph by Marcus Adams. Source: National Portrait Gallery, London, via Wikipedia.



WINNIE'S STORY

The Story of Winnie-the-Pooh

A soldier named Harry bought a bear,
A little black cub in need of care.
He named her Winnie that very day,
For his hometown, _____, far away.

Together they sailed to England's shore,
But Harry soon had to travel once more.
To keep Winnie safe, he knew what to do,
He found her a home at the _____.

At the zoo, young Christopher came,
And grew very fond of the bear and her name.
He named his _____ Winnie, too,
Then added the name of a swan he called Pooh.

His father, A. A. Milne, began to write,
Of Pooh and his friends with great delight.
And so, from the real bear Christopher knew,
Came the bear we know as _____.