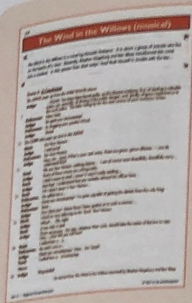


The Wind in the Willows (musical)

55



Question Book:

Year 5, pages 24-25

Author / Source:

Stephen Kingsbury and Ben Sleep

Genre:

Fiction — playscript

Cross-curricular links:

- Drama (role-play)
- PSHE (crime and the law)

Introduction

The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame, first published in 1908, is a popular children's novel. Set in the Thames Valley, it follows the adventures of Mole, Rat, Toad and Badger. Stephen Kingsbury and Ben Sleep have worked together to adapt well-known novels, such as *The Wind in the Willows*, into musicals which schools and other groups can perform. Read the extract through with the class, asking for volunteers to read a part each. You could also ask an additional pupil to read the stage directions aloud.

Answers

1. E.g. To show that the judge is shouting.
2. E.g. He has stolen a car, driven dangerously and behaved rudely towards a police officer.
3. E.g. They give extra information about what is happening on stage so that the reader knows which actors are present and what they're doing.
4. E.g. He thinks Toad should be dealt with strictly for his many serious crimes. He thinks that Toad is cunning but that he can deal with him.
5. E.g. He apologises and says he understands that his crimes are serious. He also tries to defend himself — he denies that what he did was stealing and claims he was joking when he was rude to the policeman.
6. E.g. Because he thinks the policeman is insulting him by calling him a toad.
7. E.g. He calls the policeman a "nincompoop", but wants to punish Toad for doing the same thing. He says Toad's actions are "unforgivable" as no one, whatever their rank, should be rude to a police officer.

