

VIEWS FROM THE TREE HOUSE



Mary Pope Osborne, author of the Magic Tree House series, recently caught up with illustrators Kelly and Nichole Matthews, who helped bring *Dinosaurs Before Dark* to life in a brand-new format! Get to know these wonderful collaborators below.

Mary: Who does what in your creative process?

Kelly: We try to split our responsibilities pretty 50/50. I'll handle the thumbnailing (rough sketches for how each panel will look), penciling, and inking, and Nichole will do flats, colors, special effects, and final rendering. Sometimes the other will step in and assist, like Nichole helping me if some thumbnails/drafting are giving me trouble, or on a tight deadline, I will help Nichole with flatting. For personal projects, we'll send things like character/world designs and story beats back and forth to each other like Ping-Pong balls until we're both happy with them.

Mary: What is your favorite thing about illustration?

Nichole: I love nature; clouds, grass, trees and organic shapes are all very relaxing to paint. Sometimes I take a few hours and just fill a canvas with different kinds of sky or bushes or trees. This ends up helping our work, too, because I can then take these images and use them in other comics that we draw!

Mary: What was your favorite part of drawing the first Magic Tree House graphic novel?

Kelly and Nichole: The dinosaurs!!! We loved reading all sorts of books and stories about dinosaurs when we were younger. The Dinotopia and Smithsonian books were our favorites.

Kelly: We very rarely have the chance to draw them for work or in our free time, so getting to draw so many different kinds was a ton of fun! The babies were my favorite (so cute!), with Henry a close second.

Nichole: It was especially fun coming up with possible colors for them. Since not a lot is known about how they looked, we took inspiration from living creatures (like a peacock for the triceratops and a red-headed vulture for the T. rex.).

AROUND THE WORLD WITH JACK AND ANNIE!

PREHISTORIC

Jack and Annie come across a mysterious tree house while

walking in the woods near their home in Frog Creek, Pennsylvania.

But where did the tree house come from?

Before Jack and Annie can find out, the mysterious tree house whisks them to the prehistoric past—the

Cretaceous Period, over 65 million years ago!
They find themselves in a valley filled with dinosaurs, and they encounter animals long extinct. Now they have to figure out how to get home. Can they do it before dark . . . or will they become a dinosaur's dinner?

This journey to the first and oldest time period Jack and Annie have ever visited is now a graphic novel! Live this classic adventure again with new art from comic artists Kelly and Nichole Matthews!



Merlin's Wizard Zone Crack the code!

Solve the puzzle for Merlin's secret code!

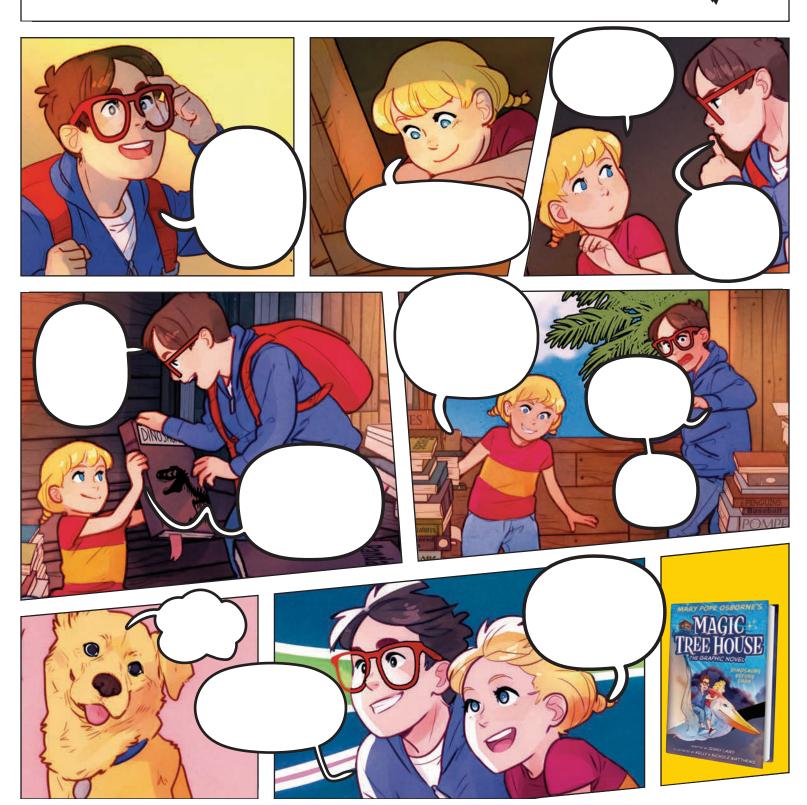




Answer on last page

WRITE YOUR OWN TREE HOUSE ADVENTURE!

Have you ever wanted to write your own adventure with Jack and Annie? Now is your chance! Fill in the speech bubbles below and imagine your own story.



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What do YOU want the next Magic Tree House to be about? Draw your idea below. Don't forget to add a title!

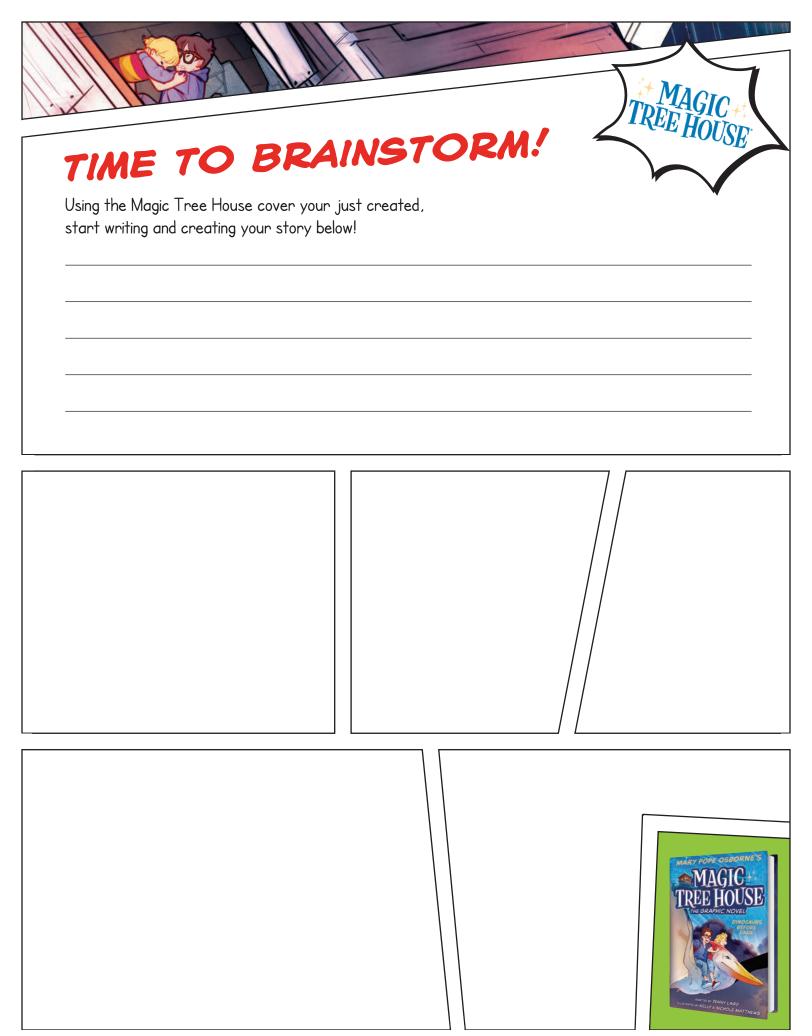


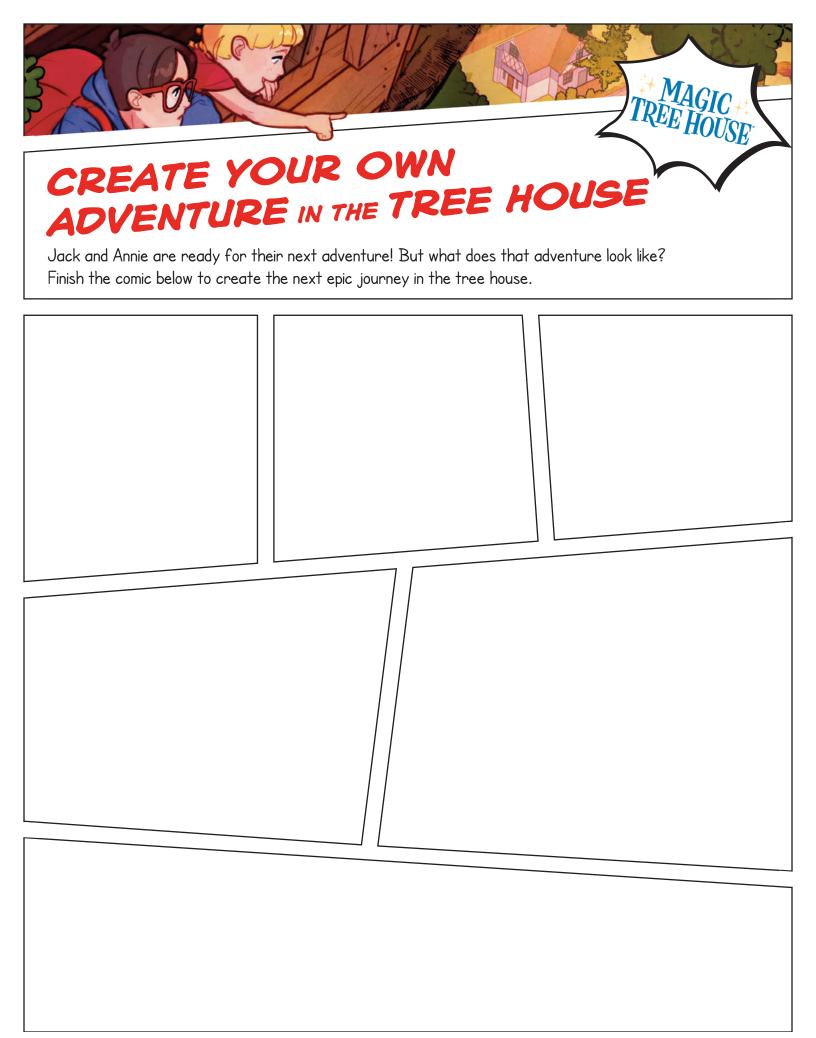


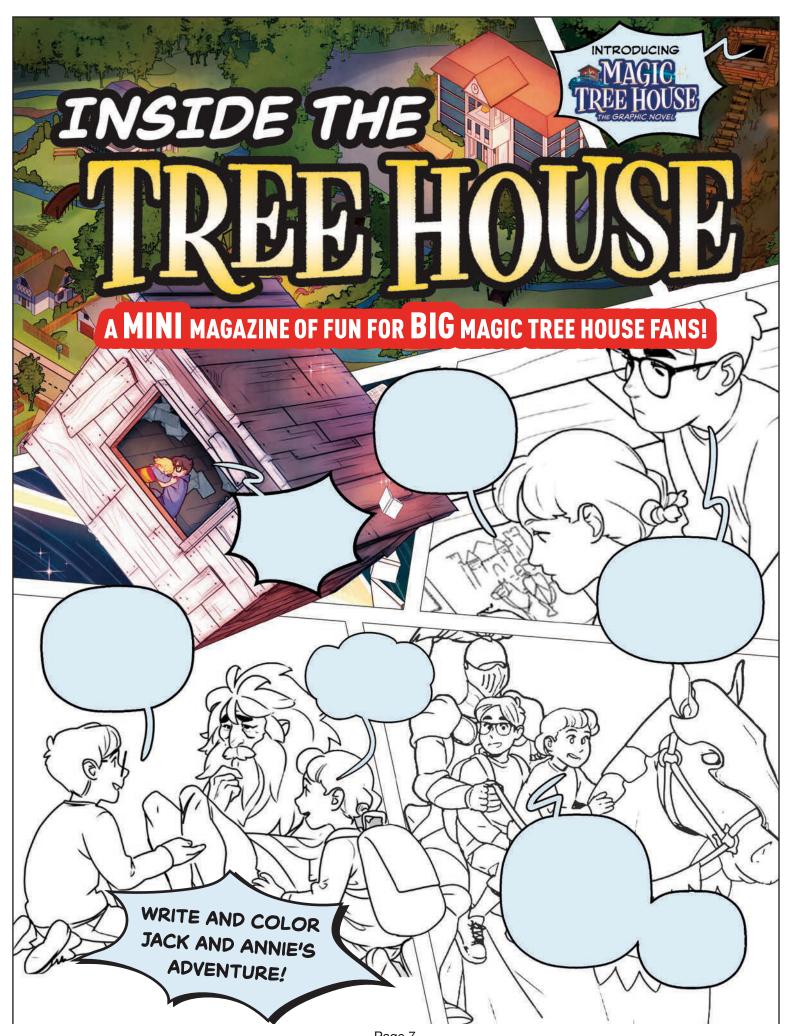
ILLUSTRATED BY

Where does the magic tree house take YOU?

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VIEWS FROM THE TREE HOUSE



Mary Pope Osborne, author of the Magic Tree House series, shares her writing process and her favorite part about seeing her stories adapted into graphic novels.

How do you decide what you want to write about for the Magic Tree House series?

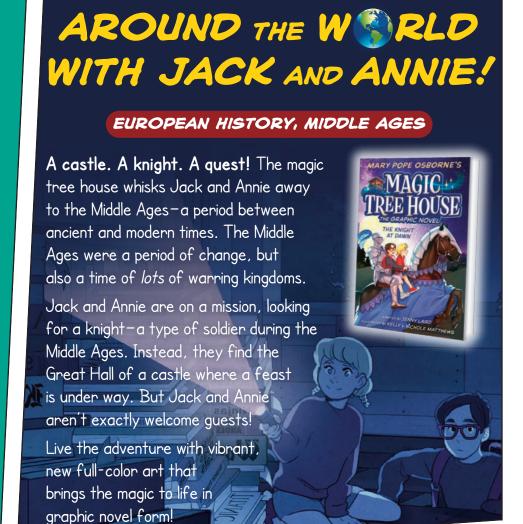
Mary: Readers everywhere write to me with ideas. When I get to talk to them, they give me great ideas for new books. Once I have a few ideas, I take those and have my readers vote on their favorites. I find that often, no matter who I'm talking to, the votes are similar. For example, long ago, everyone wanted me to write about knights and castles, which is how we got The Knight at Dawn. So my readers play a very important part in the creation of the Magic Tree House books!

How did you first come up with the idea of a magic tree house?

Mary: The hardest thing to figure out was how to get Jack and Annie back in time in the very first book, Dinosaurs Before Dark. I wanted the brother and sister dynamic and for them to travel to the past but I didn't know how. I tried magic crystals, a magic cellar, a magic art studio, even a magic museum, but none of those seemed to work. Nothing worked until I took a walk with my husband, Will, in the woods of Pennsylvania near a cabin we had. While walking, we saw an old tree house and the magic clicked! That's how I would get my characters back in time!

What is your favorite part about seeing the Magic Tree House series turn into graphic novels?

Mary: I love to see the stories come to life through Kelly and Nichole Matthews's art. It's great to see familiar scenes, like Jack and Annie in the dungeon in *The Knight at Dawn*, done in a different way through illustrations. I also enjoy working with my friend, Jenny Laird, who adapted Dinosaurs Before Dark and The Knight at Dawn into graphic novels. Hopefully there will be more Magic Tree House graphic novels to come!



MAGIC TREE HOUSE THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

Get a first look at the new Knight at Dawn Graphic Novel from author Mary Pope Osborne! Join in and listen as she reads from the latest graphic novel by clicking HERE.



MAGIC TREE HOUSE

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

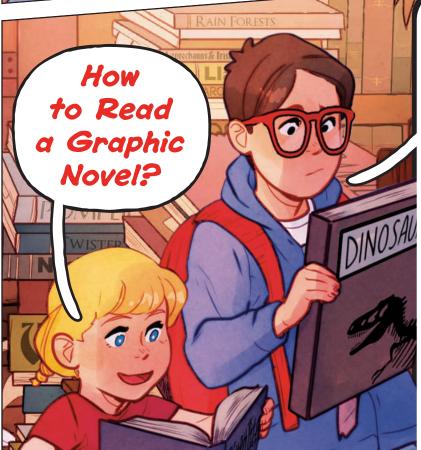
What Is a Graphic Novel?



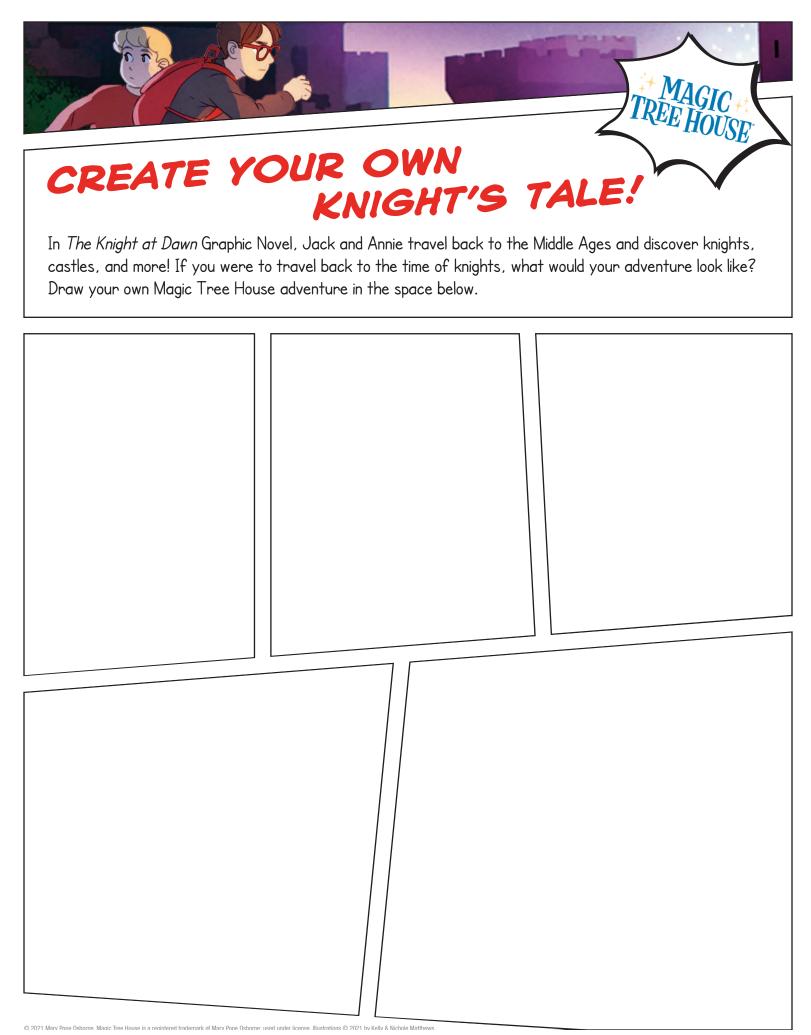


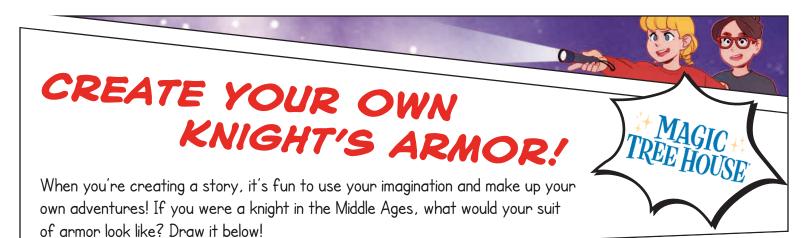
2: A storytelling format with pictures and words!

3: The best way to read a book!



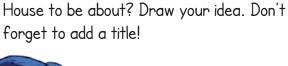
- 1. Start at the beginning. Open the book. Get excited. This will be fun.
- 2. Read left to right and top to bottom. Start with the first panel in the top left corner and read across from there.
- 3. Take your time. Graphic novels have fewer words on a page than prose novels—but resist the temptation to rush.
- 4. Words AND art are important in a graphic novel! Both the art and the dialogue have a part to play in the story.
- **5.** Every element is intentional. Check out the fonts, backgrounds, character expressions, and body language. It all contributes to the story.
- **6.** Graphic novels are created by a wide variety of authors in different styles and genres on a range of subjects. No matter what kind of books are your favorite, you can find graphic novels to love.







What do YOU want the next Magic Tree





ILLUSTRATED BY

Where does the magic tree house take YOU?

If you could spend the day with a historical

A. Theodore Roosevelt

figure, which would you choose?

B. Benjamin Franklin

How do you prepare a report on your favorite animal?

A. Go to the zoo to see the animal

B. Research the animal in a book

If you could write your own Magic Tree House book, what would it be about?

A. The ocean

B. Ancient history

You just entered the magic tree house, and it's about to whisk you off on a new adventure! Would you rather . . .

A. Dive in head first!

B. Study and prepare so you know what expect.

If you could have a magical power, what would it be?

A. The ability to talk to animals

B. The ability to read minds

Would you rather . . .

A. Go dogsledding with Balto

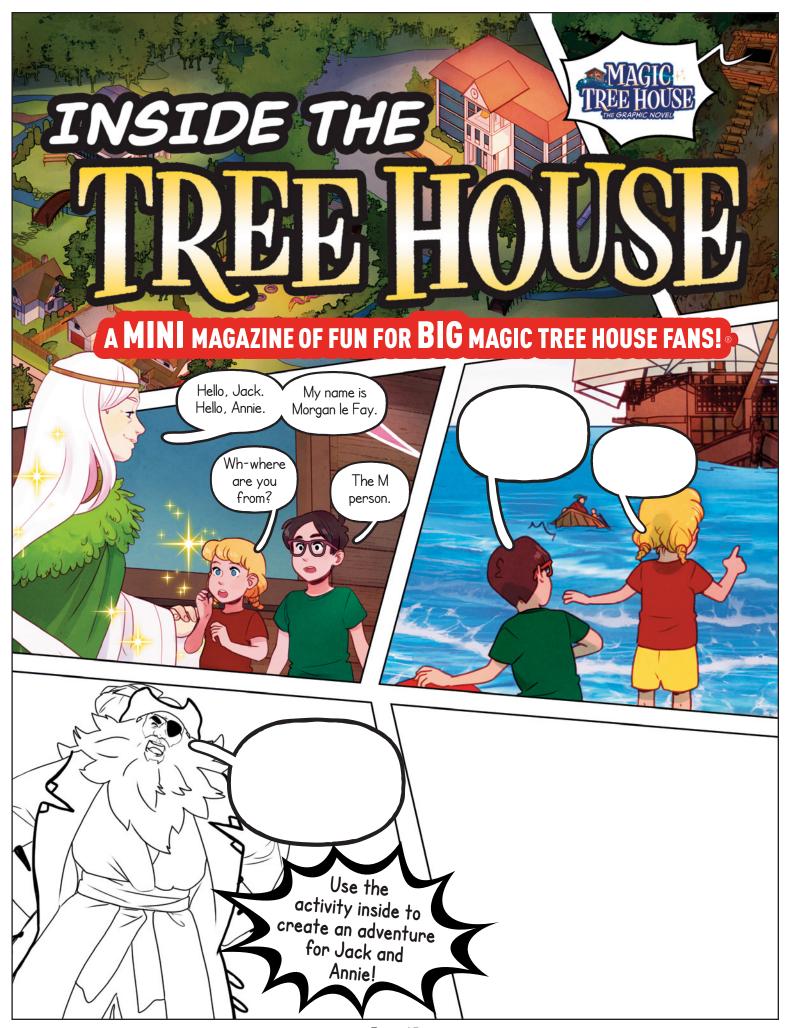
B. Research mummies in ancient Egypt



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Mary Pope Osborne, author of the Magic Tree House® series, answers YOUR reader questions below!

What's new in the world of Magic Tree House®?

Mary: Well, I've been writing Magic Tree House® books for over thirty years now, and over that time, the series has evolved in so many different ways! The latest of which has been the addition of graphic novels based on some of the earliest books in the series! So far, these include Dinosaurs Before Dark, The Knight at Dawn, and Mummies in the Morning. Next is Pirates Past Noon!

If you could go on the adventure in one of your books, which would you choose?

Mary: The one that I have such a wonderful feeling about is Stage Fright on a Summer Night, when Jack and Annie go to Elizabethan England to the Globe Theater to meet William Shakespeare. I have a very fond place for it in my heart!

What is your biggest piece of advice for Magic Tree House® fans who are aspiring writers?

Mary: Write your story, then try to make it better by rewriting it. Rewrite, rewrite, rewrite. But don't think of rewriting as "hard work." Combining your language skills with your imagination can truly be an exciting adventure.

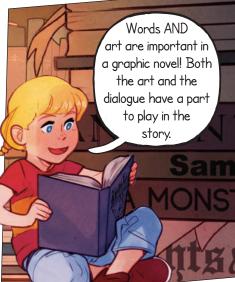


MAGIC TREE HOUSE

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



How





MAGIC TREE HOUSE THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

BRAINSTORM YOUR GRAPHIC NOVEL!

Create your own Magic Tree House® adventure!

Brainstorming is a great way to come up with creative ideas for any story, including graphic novels. On the cover of this magazine, you'll see that the story is incomplete! Use the lines below or your own paper to begin brainstorming where you can take this story. Why are Jack and Annie in the water? Who is Morgan le Fay, and what is the pirate saying to them? Write down as many ideas as you can. Once you have your ideas listed, start circling the ones you want to use!

CREATE A NEW CHARACTER!

Now that you've brainstormed where you are taking your story, it's time to start thinking about your characters! Who is the pirate who is talking to Jack and Annie? Is he going to help them on their adventure, or will he try to thwart them at every turn? Using the space below, tell us about your pirate!

What is your pirate's name?

Tell us about your pirate!





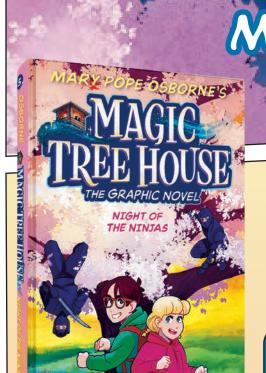


CREATE YOUR OWN PIRATE ADVENTURE!

The magic tree house has whis character, finish the cover of	this magazine and draw you	r version of the story below:	



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MAGIC. MYSTERY.
TIME TRAVEL.

The magic tree house has whisked Jack and Annie to ancient Japan, and they need to learn the secrets of the ninja to help their friend Morgan! But how do you find a ninja, a warrior who hides in the shadows? You don't find a ninja . . . the ninja finds YOU!

For the first time in graphic novel form, experience the adventure again with new vibrant full-color art that brings the magic to life!

A NINJA WARRIOR WORD SEARCH!





W	Τ	М	F	K	R	Α	Τ	٧	S
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FIND THESE WORDS:

JAPAN

NINJA

MAGIC

SECRETS

SHADOW

WARRIOR

Answer on last page

MAGIC. MYSTERY. TIME TRAVEL.

CREATE YOUR OWN NINJA WARRIOR ADVENTURE!

Jack and Annie have been whisked away to ancient Japan to help their friend Morgan, when suddenly there's a whisper in the shadows, a silent warrior. It's a ninja! Draw your version of this scene below.





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Mary Pope Osborne,
author of the Magic Tree House®
series, and Jenny Laird, story
adaptor for the Magic Tree House®
graphic novels, share what they
love about the new
Magic Tree House® graphic novels.

What is your favorite part about seeing the Magic Tree House® series as graphic novels?

Mary: The graphic novels are so brilliantly put together. The artwork is so colorful and energetic that I think it really helps tell the stories. The art by Kelly and Nichole Matthews is wonderful. I've loved to see how my good friend Jenny Laird adapted these stories into graphic novels.

How are the graphic novels different from the original Magic Tree House® books?

Jenny: When adapting Mary's books into graphic novels, we tried to keep that same exciting, page-turning feeling, but instead of doing it with words, we did it mostly with pictures. Graphic novels also use narration, but what readers are reading is mostly what the characters are saying. Sometimes we'll read a private thought inside a character's head or even a sound that is happening, which is different from written descriptions in Mary's books.

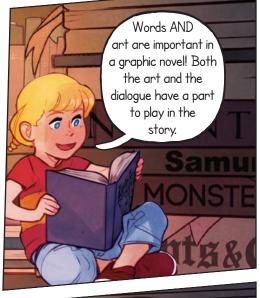
Mary: So many of you are familiar with the Magic Tree House® adventures, so it's fun to see them done in a different way.

What advice you can give to a future graphic novel author?

Jenny: That's easy! Create characters your readers care about. When we care about characters, we will follow them anywhere!









MAGIC TREE HOUSE THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

CREATE YOUR OWN STORY!

Write a story for the front Coveni

Write Jack and Annie's next adventure by filling in the blanks below. THEN fill in the speech bubbles on the cover with the full sentence of the corresponding number.

One day, Jack and Annie were whisked away in the magic tree house. "Annie," Jack said, peering through the open door of the tree house holding his notebook.

Example: "Where did we see the giant ____dinosaur___?"

Annie wasn't sure as she replied to Jack.

1. "I don't remember, but I think it was in ____

Jack agreed with excitement.

2. "You're right! That's the same day we met _____

Deep in thought, Jack mumbled to himself as he pulled a new book off the shelf. He scanned the title and said:

3. "Well, I'd rather be chased by a _____ than meet a _____

"Oh, let me see," Annie said, grabbing the book out of his hands.

4. "I wish we could go to Egypt and meet a queen who is

ad jective

Jack grouned as he stepped out of the tree house with Annie. "Where are we?" he said. A strange voice replied,

5. "Welcome. You've just traveled to _

Annie laughed and clapped her hands, exclaiming,

6. "This is going to be ______adjective

ARE YOU MORE LIKE JACK OR ANNIE?

Take the guiz below to find out!

If you could spend the day with a historical figure, which would you choose?

- A. Balto
- B. Marcus Aurelius

How would you prepare a report on your favorite animal?

- A. Go to the zoo to see the animal.
- B. Research the animal in a book.

If you could write your own Magic Tree House® book, what would it be about?

- A. The ocean
- B. Ancient history

You just entered the magic tree house, and it's about to whisk you off on a new adventure! Would you rather . . .

- A. Dive in headfirst!
- **B.** Study and prepare so you know what to expect.

If you could have a magical power, what would it be?

- A. The ability to talk to animals
- B. The ability to read minds

Would you rather . . .

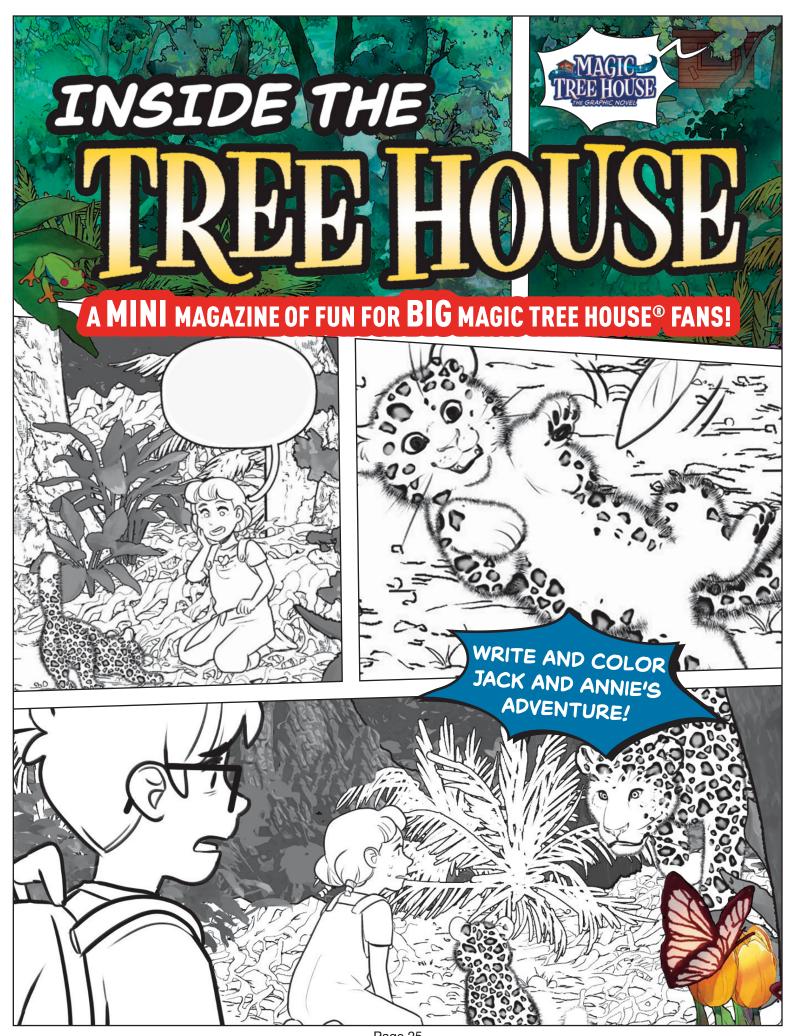
- A. Go dogsledding with Balto
- B. Research mummies in ancient Egypt

If you chose mostly As ...

You're Annie! You're spontaneous and always up for an adventure, but sometimes you can get into sticky situations! You love your friends and family and would do anything to protect them. If you chose

mostly Bs ...

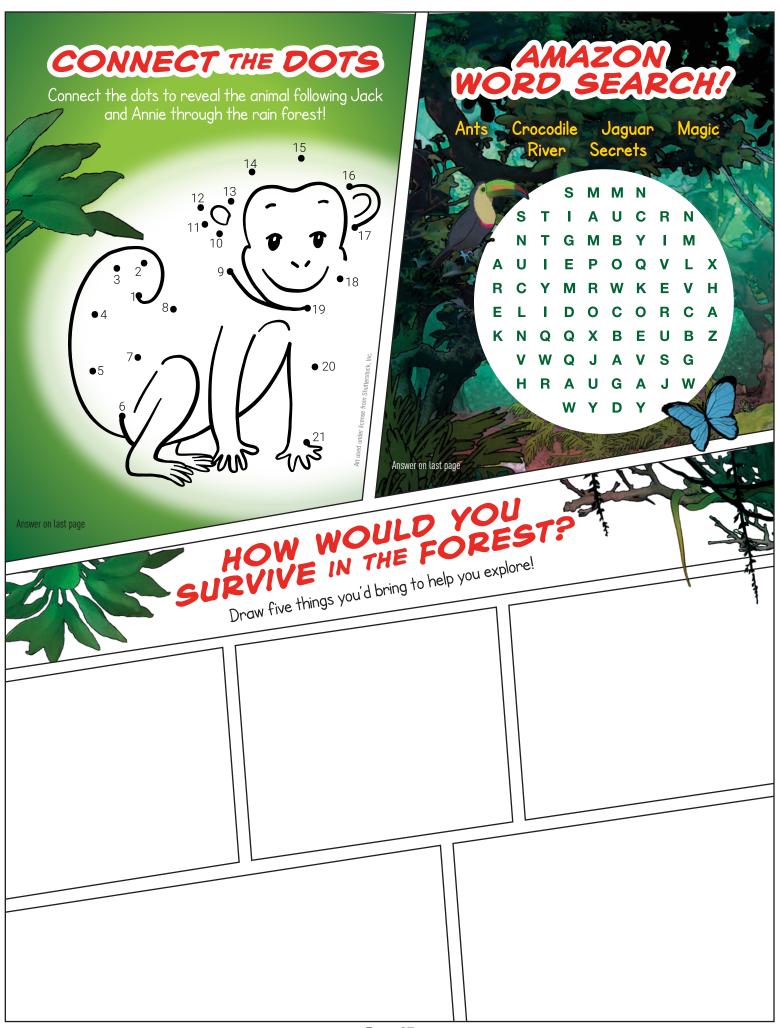
You're Jack! You're smart and responsible, and you can think on your feet! Sometimes you find yourself in danger, but you use your knowledge and bravery to find your way out!

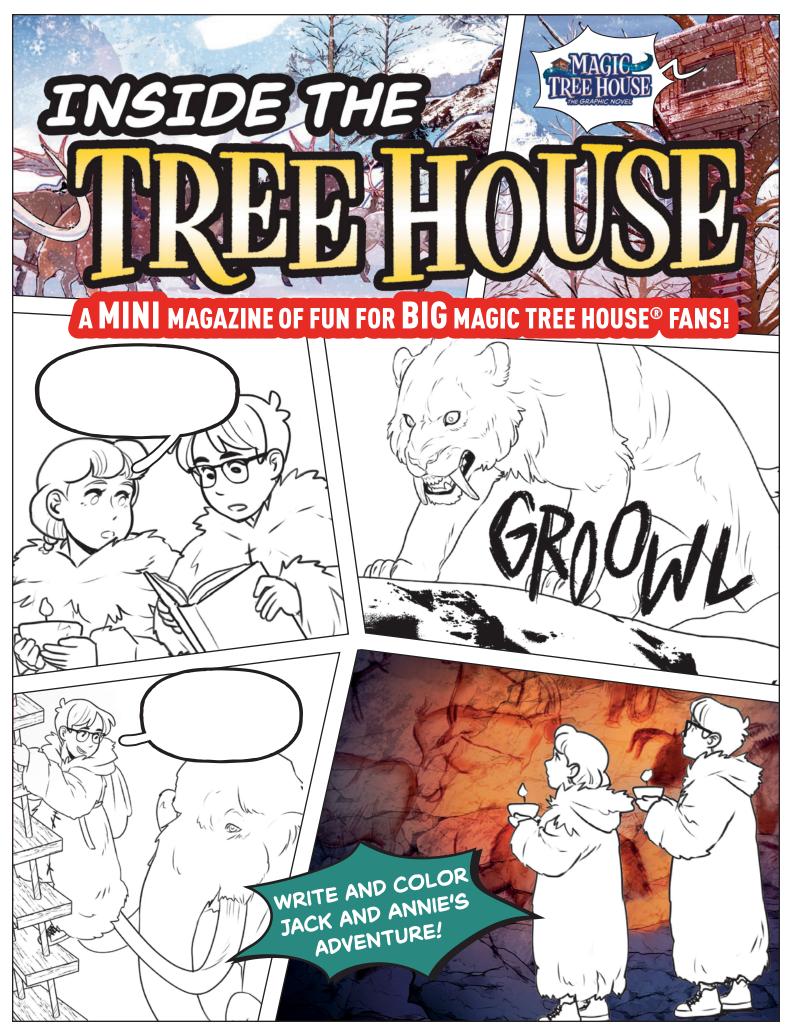


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EVERYTHING WAS SILENT. IT WAS AS SILENT AS THE FALLING SNOW.

It's up to Jack, Annie, and a mammoth named Lulu to save the day in this frozen mystery.

Jack and his sister, Annie, are on a mission to save their friend, Morgan le Fey. The magic tree house whisks them away to the Ice Age when Jack and Annie are . . . WEARING THEIR BATHING SUITS! They can't save Morgan if they're frozen! Plus, there are giant cave bears, a hungry sabertooth, and early humans to beware. Now, Jack and Annie are on two missions: save Morgan . . . and themselves!





M FOR MORGAN, M FOR P

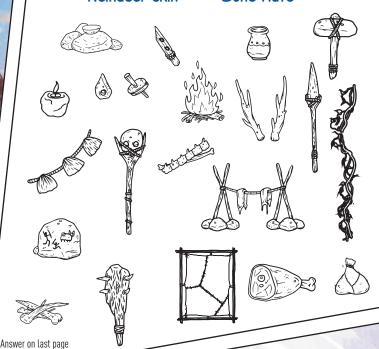
Morgan needs more items that start with M to help break a spell. Can you see how many words you can make with the letters below that start with the letter M?

Mammoth



During the Ice Age, people had to be resourceful. Can you find and color the items below to help Jack and Annie survive the extreme conditions?

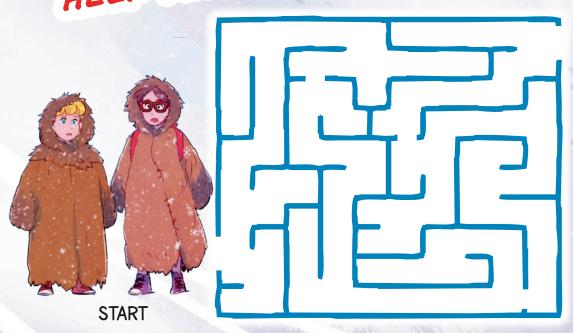
Stone lamp Reindeer skin Plant rope Bone flute



Answer on last page

HELP FIND PEANUT!

Peanut has gone missing, and the snow is coming down fast. Solve the maze to find where she's hiding.

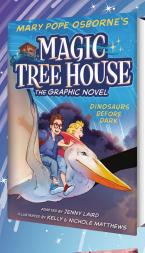




FINISH

Answer on last page

AROUND THE WORLD WITH JACK AND ANNIE!







Get ready for even more magic, mystery, and time-travel with these graphic novel adventures!







Follow the link to learn more!
MagicTreeHouse.com

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ATTENTION, EDUCATORS!



Check out the free downloadable Magic Tree House® resources available through Mary's own **Classroom Adventures Program** created for teachers, like you, who have inspired Mary for 30 years with your dedication and creative use of Magic Tree House® books.

Mary's program is a **Gift of Time** to teachers striving to find creative ways to inspire their students and still meet curriculum standards.

Free downloadable resources include:

- A Curriculum Key that classifies every Magic Tree House® book in the series by subject and curriculum standards
- Reading Level Guide for all Magic Tree House[®] books and Fact Trackers
- Comprehensive Lesson Plans for every Magic Tree House[®] book and Fact Tracker

Visit MTHClassroomAdventures.org for more information!

Stay Undated

Learn about original Magic Tree House musicals by visiting an all new website:

Follow Mary on Instagram @Mary_Pope_Osborne and X @MaryPopeOsborne

MagicTreeHouse.com

ANSWERS

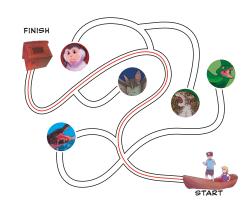
Page 2
MERLIN'S WIZARD ZONE

A Terror Dactyl

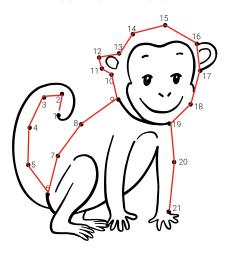
Page 20
A NINJA WARRIOR WORD SEARCH!

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Page 26
NAVIGATE THE WATERS OF THE AMAZON!



Page 27
CONNECT THE DOTS



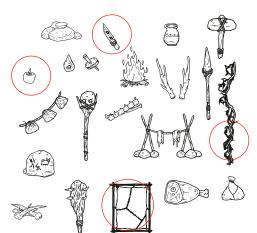
Page 27
AMAZON WORD SEARCH!



Page 30 M FOR MAGIC, M FOR MORGAN, M FOR ...?

Momma, Math Moth, Moat, Mom, Mat

Page 30
SURVIVAL SEARCH



Page 30 **HELP FIND PEANUT!**

