

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh

Who is Winnie-the-Pooh?

Winnie-the-Pooh is a well-loved teddy bear that was created by the author Alan Alexander Milne – or A. A. Milne as he is known.

A. A. Milne wrote the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends for his son, Christopher Robin, after he heard Christopher inventing voices for his toys. A. A. Milne named the boy in the book Christopher Robin too!

Ernest H Shepard did the beautiful illustrations for all the storybooks.

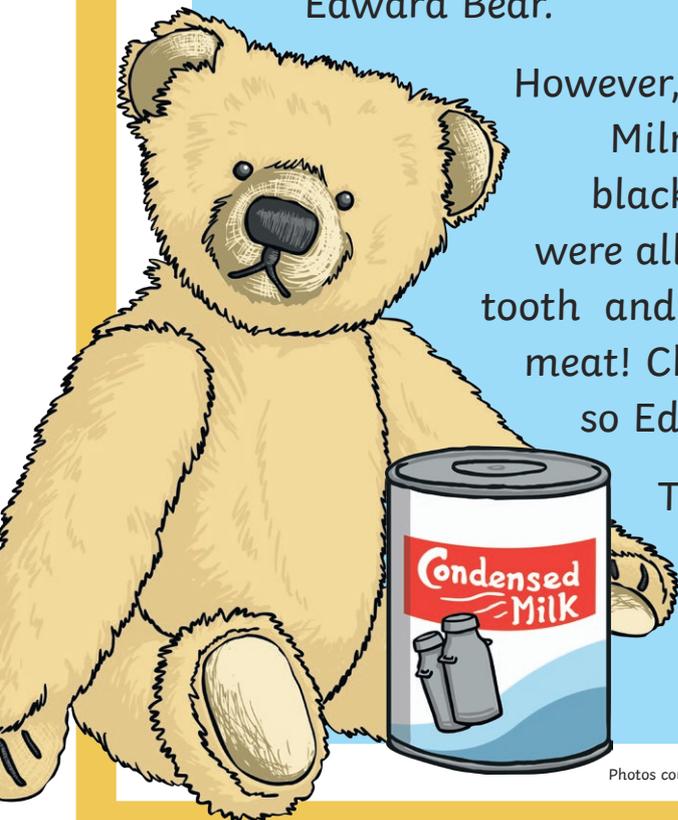


In the Beginning

At first, the teddy bear that Christopher had was called Edward Bear.

However, during a trip to London Zoo, A. A. Milne and his family met a Canadian black bear called 'Winnie', who they were allowed to feed. The bear had a sweet tooth and liked condensed milk more than meat! Christopher Milne loved the bear and so Edward bear became Winnie bear.

The 'Pooh' part of the name was then also added on – it came from a swan called 'Pooh' that Milne had met on holiday!



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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh



The Other Animals

The other animals in the Hundred Acre Wood were also toys that Christopher Milne owned. These were Tigger, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga and Roo. A. A. Milne also included Rabbit

and Owl but these were from his imagination!

The toys, which the stories are based on, are now in the New York City Museum in New York, USA (pictured above).



A. A. Milne wrote Winnie-the-Pooh in 1926, *The House at Pooh Corner* in 1928 and also two very famous poetry books called *Now We Are Six* and *When We Were Very Young* during the 1920s.

A Bear of Very Little Brain

Winnie-the-Pooh, or Pooh Bear as he is usually called, doesn't think he is very clever. In fact, he calls himself a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'.

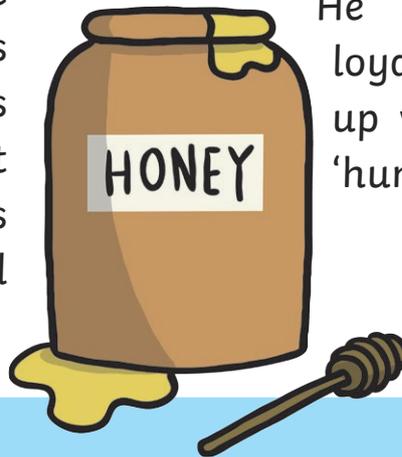
However, he is a very thoughtful bear and always somehow manages to sort out problems without really trying because he has a lot of common sense.

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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh

The Character

Winnie-the-Pooh is a sociable, friendly and kind-hearted character. He helps others and encourages those who lack confidence, like Piglet. He visits Eeyore and takes him a birthday present even though Eeyore is often miserable and doesn't seem very grateful. Pooh allows Rabbit to take the lead, even though he knows he isn't always right, and he listens to Owl talk about everything he knows (which is a lot!) and doesn't ever interrupt.



Pooh even built Eeyore his own house of sticks to keep him warm in the snow.

Pooh enjoys his snacks, or 'elevenses' as he calls them, and can often be found at one of his friends' houses around that time for a jar of honey or some condensed milk.

He is dependable and loyal, and he thinks up very good poems or 'hums' as he calls them.

His 90th Anniversary

2016 marked the 90th anniversary of when Winnie-the-Pooh was created by A.A. Milne. It was also the year in which Queen Elizabeth II turned 90!

In celebration, a new Winnie-the-Pooh book was written called 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' where Pooh meets The Queen at Buckingham Palace!



The History of Winnie-the-Pooh Questions

Please answer the questions in full sentences.

1. Who is A. A. Milne?

2. What made him write the Winnie-the-Pooh stories?

3. Who was Ernest H. Shephard?

4. How many years were there between Winnie-the-Pooh being written and the second book, The House at Pooh Corner?

5. In your own words, explain how Winnie-the-Pooh got his name.

6. Which animals in the stories did Christopher Robin not actually own?

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Questions**

7. What do you think it means when Winnie-the-Pooh is described as being a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'?

8. What does Pooh have that helps him sort out problems?

9. Name two kind things that Pooh Bear has done for his friends.

10. What words does the author use that tells you that Pooh would be a reliable friend?

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Answers**

1. Who is A. A. Milne?

A. Milne is Alan Alexander Milne, who is the person that wrote the stories of Winnie-the-Pooh.

2. What made him write the Winnie-the-Pooh stories?

When AA Milne heard his son inventing voices for his toys when he played with them, it made him want to write the Winnie-the-Pooh stories.

3. Who was Ernest H. Shephard?

Ernest H. Shephard illustrated the pictures in the storybooks.

4. How many years were there between Winnie-the-Pooh being written and the second book, The House at Pooh Corner?

There was two years between Winnie-the-Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner being written.

5. In your own words, explain how Winnie-the-Pooh got his name.

Pupil's own response based on: Winnie the black bear in London Zoo/ a swan being called Pooh that AA Milne met on holiday.

6. Which animals in the stories did Christopher Robin not actually own?

Christopher Robin did not actually own Owl and Rabbit – these came from his father's imagination.

7. What do you think it means when Winnie-the-Pooh is described as being a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'?

Pupil's own response based on Pooh not being very clever or that he didn't think he was very clever.

8. What does Pooh have that helps him sort out problems?

Pooh has a lot of common sense, which helps him sort out problems.

9. Name two kind things that Pooh Bear has done for others.

Any two of the following: helps others like Piglet when they don't think they can do something/ took Eeyore a birthday present/ built Eeyore a house to keep him warm in the snow/ let Rabbit take the lead/ listened to Owl talk for a long time.

10. What words does the author use that tells you that Pooh would be a reliable friend?

The author has used the words dependable and loyal, which mean the same as reliable.

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh

Who is Winnie-the-Pooh?

Winnie-the-Pooh is a well-loved teddy bear that was created by Alan Alexander Milne – or A. A. Milne as he is known.

A. A. Milne wrote stories about Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends for his son, Christopher Robin, after he heard Christopher use voices for his toys while playing with them. A. A. Milne named the boy in the book Christopher Robin too!



In the Beginning

At first, the teddy bear that Christopher had was called Edward.

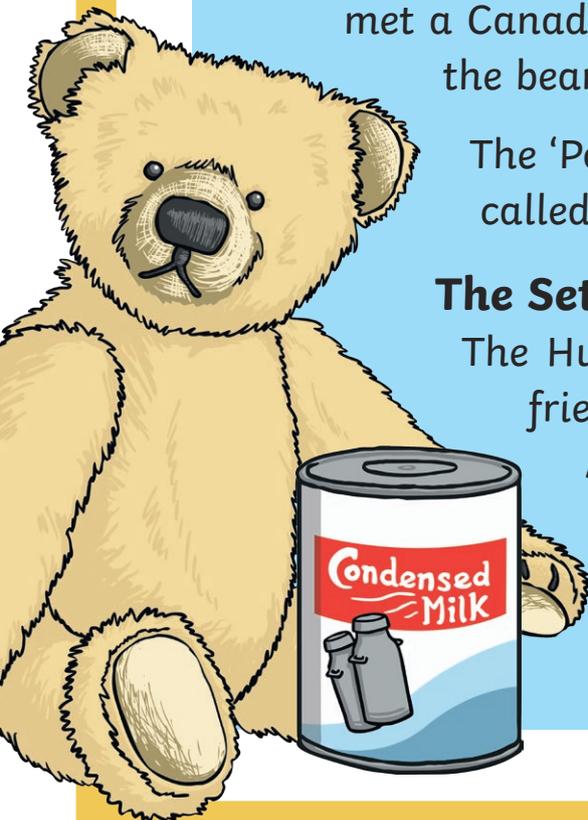
After a visit to the zoo, where A. A. Milne and Christopher met a Canadian black bear called Winnie, he named the bear in his story Winnie too.

The 'Pooh' part of the name came from a swan called Pooh that Milne had met on holiday!

The Setting

The Hundred Acre Wood, where Pooh and his friends live, is from a real place called Ashdown Forest in Sussex.

Christopher Milne remembers going for walks in the forest and he and his father would count the pine trees.



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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh



The Other Animals

The other animals in the Hundred Acre Wood were also toys that Christopher Milne owned. These were Tigger, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga and Roo. A. A. Milne also wrote about Rabbit and Owl, but these were

from his imagination and not toys that his son had.

The toys which the stories are based on, are now in the New York City Museum in New York, USA. (pictured above).



A. A. Milne wrote Winnie-the-Pooh in 1926, The House at Pooh Corner in 1928 and also two very famous poetry books called Now We Are Six and When We Were Very Young during the 1920s.

A Bear of Very Little Brain

Winnie-the-Pooh, or Pooh Bear as he is usually called, doesn't think he is very clever. In fact, he calls himself a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'.

However, he thinks very hard and he somehow manages to sort out problems without really trying because he has a lot of common sense.

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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh

The Character

Winnie-the-Pooh is a friendly and kind character. He helps others and encourages friends, who don't have much confidence like Piglet, to do things they might not think they can do.

He visits Eeyore and takes him a birthday present, even though Eeyore is quite miserable and not very grateful. Pooh lets Rabbit take the lead, even though he knows he isn't always

right and he listens to Owl talk about everything he knows and doesn't get bored.

Pooh enjoys his snacks and can often be found at one of his friends' houses around that time for a jar of honey or some condensed milk.

He is dependable and loyal, and he thinks up very good poems or 'hums' as he calls them.



His 90th Anniversary

There were two special celebrations in 2016. First, it was 90 years since the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh were written, and second, it was The Queen's 90th birthday!

In celebration, a new Winnie-the-Pooh book was written called 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' where Pooh meets the Queen at Buckingham Palace!



The History of Winnie-the-Pooh Questions

Please answer the questions in full sentences.

1. Who wrote the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh?

2. What happened that made him want to write them?

3. How did he choose the name of the boy in the stories?

4. How did Winnie-the-Pooh get his name?

5. Where did the author get the idea of where to set his story?

6. What word does the author use that means AA Milne made up the characters of Owl and Rabbit?

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Questions**

7. What does Winnie-the-Pooh think about himself?

8. Name two things that prove Winnie-the-Pooh is a good friend.

9. What does Pooh enjoy doing?

10. Why was the book 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' written?

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Answers**

1. Who wrote the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh?

A. Milne wrote the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh.

2. What happened that made him want to write them?

He wanted to write them after hearing his son invent voices for his toys when he played with them.

3. How did he choose the name of the boy in the stories?

He chose the name of the boy in the stories by using the same name as his son.

4. How did Winnie-the-Pooh get his name?

Winnie-the-Pooh got his name from when A. A. Milne went to the zoo and saw a black bear called Winnie, and the 'Pooh' part of the name came from a swan called Pooh that he met on holiday.

5. Where did the author get the idea of where to set his story?

The author got the idea to set his story from a real forest called Ashdown Forest.

6. What word does the author use that means A. A. Milne made up the characters of Owl and Rabbit?

The word the author uses that means A. A. Milne made up the characters of Owl and Rabbit is 'imagination'.

7. What does Winnie-the-Pooh think about himself?

Winnie-the-Pooh thinks he isn't very clever.

8. Name two things that prove Winnie-the-Pooh is a good friend.

Any two of the following: Pooh helps others who don't think they can do something like Piglet/ visits Eeyore and takes him a birthday present/ lets Rabbit take the lead/ listens to Owl talk about everything he knows.

9. What does Pooh enjoy doing?

Pooh enjoys eating snacks, helping others and thinking up 'hums'.

10. Why was the book 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' written?

'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' was written to celebrate the 90th anniversary since the Winnie-the-Pooh stories were written, and is also The Queen's 90th birthday.

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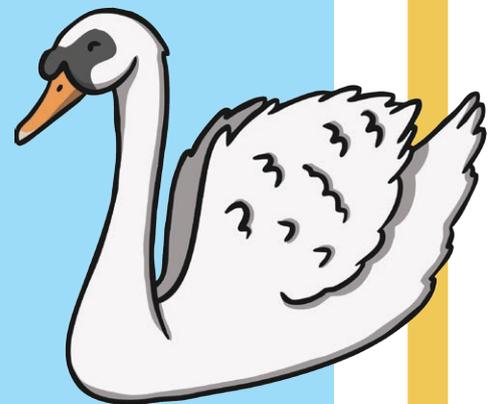
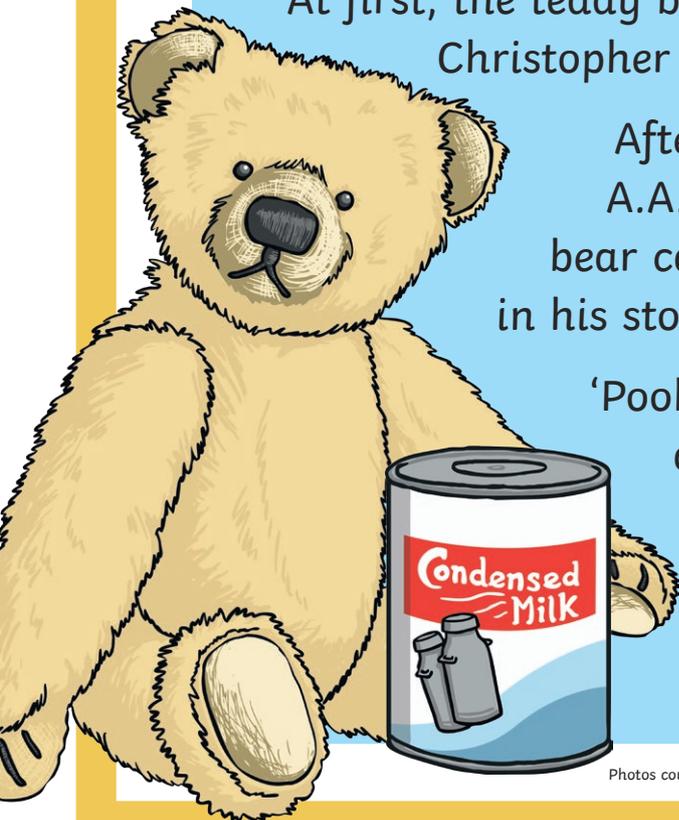


In the Beginning

At first, the teddy bear that Christopher had was called Edward.

After a visit to the zoo, where A.A.Milne met a Canadian black bear called Winnie, he named the bear in his story Winnie.

'Pooh' was named after a swan called Pooh that Milne had met on holiday!



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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh



The Other Animals

The other animals in the stories were also toys that Christopher Milne had. These were Tigger, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga and Roo. A. A. Milne wrote about Rabbit and Owl

too, but he had made these up to fit in his stories.

The toys which the stories are based on, are now in the New York City Museum in New York, USA (pictured above).



A. A. Milne wrote Winnie-the-Pooh in 1926 and *The House at Pooh Corner* in 1928.

A Bear of Very Little Brain

Winnie-the-Pooh, or Pooh Bear as he is called, doesn't think he is very clever. In fact, he calls himself a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'.

However, he somehow manages to sort out problems without really trying because he has a lot of common sense.

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The History of Winnie-the-Pooh

A Good Friend

Winnie-the-Pooh is a friendly and kind animal. He helps others, especially friends like Piglet, to do things they might not think they can do.

He visits Eeyore and takes him a birthday present even though Eeyore is often quite miserable. Pooh lets Rabbit be quite bossy even though he knows he isn't always right and he listens to Owl talk about everything he knows

and doesn't tell him to be quiet!

Pooh enjoys his snacks and is often at one of his friends' houses around the time that there might be a jar of honey or some condensed milk to eat.



He is loyal and he thinks up very good poems or 'hums' as he calls them.

His 90th Anniversary

There were two special celebrations in 2016:

- 90 years since the stories about Winnie-the-Pooh were written.
- The Queen's 90th birthday!

In celebration, a new Winnie-the-Pooh book was written called 'Winnie-the-Pooh and the Royal Birthday' where Pooh meets the Queen at Buckingham Palace!



The History of Winnie-the-Pooh Questions

Please answer the questions in full sentences.

1. What kind of creature is Winnie-the-Pooh?

2. Who is Christopher Robin?

3. What was Christopher's teddy called at first?

4. What year was the story Winnie-the-Pooh written?

5. Where does Pooh Bear and his friends live?

6. Name two of the other animals in the stories.

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Questions**

7. What does Winnie-the-Pooh call himself?

8. Name one kind thing that Winnie-the-Pooh does.

9. What does Pooh like eating?

10. What age were The Queen and Winnie-the-Pooh in 2016?

The History of Winnie-the-Pooh **Answers**

1. What kind of creature is Winnie-the-Pooh?

Winnie-the-Pooh is a teddy bear.

2. Who is Christopher Robin?

Christopher Robin is A. A. Milne's son/ the boy who owns Winnie-the-Pooh/ the boy in the stories.

3. What was Christopher's teddy called at first?

At first, Christopher's teddy was called Edward.

4. What year was the story Winnie-the-Pooh written?

Winnie-the-Pooh was written in 1926.

5. Where does Pooh Bear and his friends live?

Pooh Bear and his friends live in the Hundred Acre Wood.

6. Name two of the other animals in the stories.

Any two of the following: Tigger, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga, Roo, Rabbit or Owl.

7. What does Winnie-the-Pooh call himself?

Winnie-the-Pooh calls himself a 'Bear of Very Little Brain'.

8. Name one kind thing that Winnie-the-Pooh does.

Any of the following: helps Piglet/ visits Eeyore and takes him a birthday present/ lets Rabbit be quite bossy/ listens to Owl talk about everything he knows and doesn't tell him to be quiet.

9. What does Pooh like eating?

He likes eating honey and condensed milk.

10. What age were The Queen and Winnie-the-Pooh in 2016?

The Queen and Winnie-the-Pooh were both 90-years-old in this year.