

## Chatterbooks activity pack

# SHAKESPEARE WEEK

Celebrate in Libraries

### Reading and activity ideas for your Chatterbooks group

Shakespeare Week in libraries is a partnership between The Society of Chief Librarians, The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, The Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians, The Reading Agency and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
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**CHATTER  
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## Shakespeare Week 16 – 22 March 2015

### About this pack

Organised by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, **Shakespeare Week** is a national annual celebration which introduces primary aged children to Shakespeare's life, works and times in a fun and engaging way. In 2014 over 3,000 schools, as well as families and cultural organisations across the UK, took part in Shakespeare Week.

Here is a special Chatterbooks activity pack for **Shakespeare Week 2015 - Celebrate in Libraries** with details of books for young people about Shakespeare, and retellings of his plays, plus ideas for discussion and activities in your Chatterbooks reading group, and suggestions for more reading.

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This pack is brought to you by **The Reading Agency** and their publisher partnership **Children's Reading Partners**.

**Chatterbooks** is a reading group programme for children aged 4 to 14 years. It is coordinated by The Reading Agency and its patron is author Dame Jacqueline Wilson. Chatterbooks groups run in libraries and schools, supporting and inspiring children's literacy development by encouraging them to have a really good time reading and talking about books.

**The Reading Agency** is an independent charity working to inspire more people to read more through programmes for adults, young people and Children – including the Summer Reading Challenge, and Chatterbooks. See [www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)

**Children's Reading Partners** is a national partnership of children's publishers and libraries working together to bring reading promotions and author events to as many children and young people as possible.

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## William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was an English poet and playwright, often described as the greatest writer in the English language. His surviving works, including some collaborations, consist of 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and several other poems.

His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire and was baptised on 26 April 1564. Thought to have been educated at the local grammar school, he married Anne Hathaway, with whom he went on to have three children, at the age of eighteen, before moving to London to work in the theatre.

Two poems, *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece* were published in 1593 and 1594 and records of his plays begin to appear in 1594 for *Richard III* and the three parts of *Henry VI*. Shakespeare's tragic period lasted from around 1600 to 1608, during which period he wrote plays including *Hamlet* and *Othello*. The first editions of the sonnets were published in 1609 but evidence suggests that Shakespeare had been writing them for years for a private readership.

Shakespeare spent the last five years of his life in Stratford, by now a wealthy man of property. He died on 23 April 1616 and was buried in Holy Trinity Church in Stratford. The first collected edition of his works was published in 1623.

## Shakespeare Week in libraries – resources for libraries

Shakespeare Week website – with a special libraries page (link has been circulated to all library services)

Including link to *'Unwillingly to School'* – a film about Shakespeare as a boy (not to be shown until 16 March 2015)

Activity sheets

Booklist

**Resources for schools** – register at <http://shakespeareweek.org.uk/> for teachers' resources.

# Shakespeare Week in libraries

## Ideas for your Chatterbooks sessions

Get together a collection of books to inspire these activities and discussion - there are all the reading ideas in this pack, plus of course more from your library. Talk about Shakespeare – find out what your group already knows about him and his plays. Fill in on some of the facts about him (you could use the simple fact-finding sheet below) – and have a look at the film *Unwillingly to School* about Shakespeare as a boy, which has been produced specially for Shakespeare Week.

### WARM UPS

#### Words words words!

In all of his work – the plays, the sonnets and the narrative poems – Shakespeare uses 17,677 words!

Of those words, Shakespeare invented an incredible 1,700 of them – many of which are still commonly used in the English language.

Here are just a few of these – you could talk together about what they mean, or get people to have a go at making up sentences using some of them.

Word	Your sentence .....
balderdash	
bedazzled	
clangor	
dwindle	
elbowroom	
eyeball	
eyesore	
gnarled	
go-between	
hobnob	
honey-tongued	
leapfrog	
new-fangled	
scallywag	
shooting star	
swagger	
unhand	

## Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Yes, this is from the film *Mary Poppins*. It's great to say - and in the film it's defined as 'something to say when you have nothing to say'.

But here's a word that's just as good which you'll find in Shakespeare's play *Love's Labour's Lost*: **honorificabilitudinitatibus!**

It means 'the state of being able to achieve honours'.

Get your group to try to invent their own amazing-sounding word – you could collect simple words that people like the sound of and put them all together – then think what your word could mean.

## Shakespeare Wordsearch

Look for these words in the squares below - across, down, up, and from right to left. The answers are at the end of this pack

**SHAKESPEARE**

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**HAMLET**

**FAIRY**

**STRATFORD**

**ANNE HATHAWAY**

**HENRY V**

**BOTTOM**

**GLOBE THEATRE**

**MACBETH**

**WITCH**

**ROMEO AND JULIET**

X	T	E	I	L	U	J	D	N	A	O	E	M	O	R	G
D	G	A	X	V	N	M	B	C	Z	A	S	A	F	G	Z
G	V	J	L	O	U	T	E	Q	W	R	Y	C	B	P	V
Z	C	C	B	M	N	V	C	Z	A	D	G	B	C	G	M
A	A	B	D	G	S	H	A	K	E	S	P	E	A	R	E
U	W	O	E	Q	T	W	R	Y	I	P	F	T	B	A	U
O	G	T	C	H	R	F	S	Z	C	F	B	H	Y	M	B
L	U	T	X	H	A	G	D	A	F	Z	X	B	F	M	V
G	L	O	B	E	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	B	C	A	C
J	Q	M	G	M	F	N	F	V	C	Z	A	D	X	R	X
T	W	F	V	D	O	F	S	Q	H	T	F	P	Q	S	Z
E	Z	X	Y	Z	R	A	D	F	C	F	A	H	Z	C	A
L	C	B	R	F	D	N	L	J	T	D	I	Q	P	H	W
M	E	T	N	U	O	L	J	G	I	S	R	C	G	O	Q
A	N	N	E	H	A	T	H	A	W	A	Y	F	V	O	R
H	Z	X	H	X	B	M	K	G	F	D	R	W	V	L	Y

## Things to talk about

### Dreams and ambitions

Watch the film *Unwillingly to School*. It's about a Shakespeare as a boy writing, with his parents, going to school – and daydreaming that he may become a famous writer. What is your daydream?

### The stories of the plays

Where do you think Shakespeare got the stories for his plays and ideas for his characters? Think about what he might have learned at school. Who might have told him stories as a child? Could he have seen plays performed? Who might he have met in London? Could he have travelled further? There is a gap in any records about him between 1585 and 1592 – and some of his plays are set in Venice...

Talk about where you get your ideas for your stories.

### Verse and prose

Shakespeare uses both verse and prose in his plays.

Here are some examples – you can really tell the difference when you say them out loud.

Prose: ordinary speech, with no particular pattern of rhythm

*I see their knavery: this is to make an ass of me; to fright me, if they could. But I will not stir from this place, do what they can.* (A Midsummer Night's Dream)

Rhymed verse: usually in Shakespeare this is in couplets – two lines that rhyme

*In sweet music is such art,  
Killing care and grief of heart.* (Henry VIII)

Blank verse: lines which don't rhyme but have a rhythmic pattern

*But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?  
It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.* (Romeo and Juliet)

### Tragedy and comedy

Talk about what each of these is.

Collect together examples of each from stories everyone knows, from books, films, TV series.

## Activity ideas



### Shakespeare fact-finding

We know about some main events in Shakespeare's life, and there are some things which are a mystery – for example what he did in the years between 1585 and 1592.

Be researchers, use books in your library and the internet – ask other people!

Have a go at filling in the facts in this Shakespeare Top Ten facts sheet – then add your own extra fact.

Question	Answer.....
1.What date do we think was Shakespeare's birthday?	Day:            Month:            Year
2.Where was he born?	
3.What date did he die?	Day:            Month:            Year:
4.What was his father's work?	
5.Where did Shakespeare go to school?	
6.Who did Shakespeare marry?	
7.How many children did Shakespeare have?	
8.What did he do when he first went to London?	
9.Give the name of one of the theatres where he wrote and acted.	
10.Give the name of one of his plays	
<b>PLUS: Your Shakespeare fact</b>	



## More words!

Here are some phrases from Shakespeare's plays and poetry – some of them are still used a lot today.

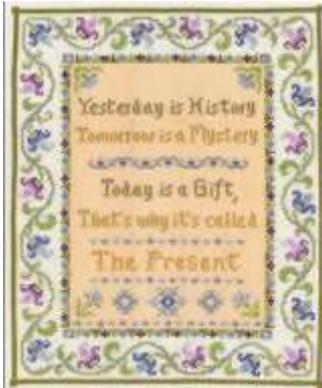
What do you think they mean?



<i>It is the bright day that brings forth the adder, and that craves wary walking</i>	Julius Caesar
<i>If music be the food of love, play on</i>	Twelfth Night
<i>He hath eaten me out of house and home</i>	Henry IV part 2
<i>Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?</i>	Romeo and Juliet
<i>Come what may, time and the hour runs through the roughest day</i>	Macbeth
<i>This above all, to thine own self be true</i>	Hamlet
<i>All that glisters is not gold</i>	The Merchant of Venice
<i>What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet</i>	Romeo and Juliet
<i>Neither a borrower or a lender be</i>	Hamlet
<i>All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts.</i>	As You Like It
<i>The game is up</i>	Cymbeline
<i>Why then, the world's mine oyster</i>	The Merry Wives of Windsor



## Illustrate your favourite line from Shakespeare!



Choose one of the phrases above - or another Shakespeare line which you like.  
Write it in this frame and decorate it with a design of patterns and pictures – you could make it look like a needlework sampler, as sewn by children in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



## **Make your own Chatterbooks Poetry Treasury**

You can get inspiration from *The Orchard Book of Classic Shakespeare Verse* (see p13 in this pack).

This could include all kinds of poetry as well as Shakespeare's.

Have a special folder or notebook. Decide what you are going to call your treasury and design and make a cover for it.

Then collect everyone's favourite poems, and favourite lines of poetry – each person can create pages for these, writing by hand, or using a computer, or both.

This is something that your group could continue to add to – and then have some time at meetings to read from your treasury.

Look at the end-papers of the Orchard book – a pattern has been made using short lines and phrases from Shakespeare. Your group could also have a go at doing this.

### **Be actors! 1.**

Choose a short piece from a Shakespeare play and ask everyone to copy it out.

Talk about what it means, explain any new or unusual words.

Learn it together line by line, and then recite it, everyone together in chorus.

Or have a Shakespeare slam! – each person could choose their own piece to learn and recite.

Here are two passages you might use:

*I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,  
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows,  
Quite overcanopied with luscious woodbine,  
With sweet musk-roses and with eglantine.  
There sleeps Titania sometime of the night,  
Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight;  
And there the snake throws her enamelled skin,  
Weed wide enough to wrap a fairy in. (A Midsummer Night's Dream)*

*We few, we happy few, we band of brothers.  
For he today that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother; were he ne'er so vile,  
This day shall gentle his condition.  
And gentlemen in England now abed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
That fought with us upon St Crispin's day. (Henry V)*

## **Be actors! 2.**

Boys will be girls.....

It was illegal for women and girls to perform in the theatre in Shakespeare's lifetime so all the female parts were written for boys. The text of some plays like *Hamlet* and *Anthony and Cleopatra* refer to this.

In Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* a boy would play the part of Viola – a girl who then dresses up and pretends to be a boy.

Your group could do role play – with the boys pretending to be girls, and the girls being boys!

## **Be actors! 3.**

Choose a poem from a poet you all like - maybe Paul Cookson, Roger McGough, Grace Nicholls, Michael Rosen or Nick Toczek (see [The Dragon Who Ate Our School](#)). Enjoy it, learn it, and perform it together!

## **Characters in Shakespeare plays**

Below are just a few of the well-known characters in Shakespeare's plays, with some brief information about them. Talk about each of them and their stories – **see p13 in this pack for retellings of Shakespeare plays.**

Collect words describing what you think each character might be like – e.g. Henry V: 'brave', 'inspiring'

What might they look like? Again collect words and then children could choose a character and draw or paint a picture of them.

## **Be actors! 4.**

When you've talked about and got to know some of the characters and something about the plays they appear in, have a go in pairs at 'hot-seating' – one child could be a Shakespeare character and be interviewed by another as if on TV or radio. Practise in pairs, then share interviews with the whole group.

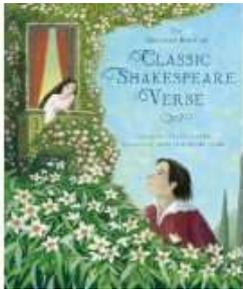
For Juliet, and the witches in *Macbeth*, you could look up the balcony scene between Romeo and Juliet (*Romeo and Juliet II ii*), or the cauldron scene with the witches (*Macbeth IV i*). In twos or threes children could learn, rehearse and act these scenes to each other.

They might rewrite their scene in their own words – maybe update the setting and the language: meeting on the school bus, devising new gruesome ingredients or a new spell for the potion...

You could also read together the retellings of Shakespeare plays for children and use these to create and act out Shakespeare scenes.

Character	Play	Description
Juliet 	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Romeo and Juliet fall in love but there is a feud between their families who forbid them to meet. They secretly marry but Romeo is exiled for killing someone in a duel and through tragic misunderstandings they both take their own lives. <i>'Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?'</i>
Witches 	<i>Macbeth</i>	Three witches brew a spell and tell Macbeth that he will be king of Scotland. This comes true, but then follows horrific fighting and murder till he himself is killed. <i>'Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn and caldron bubble...eye of newt and toe of frog, wool of bat and tongue of dog...'</i>
Bottom 	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Nick Bottom is a weaver, in the woods rehearsing a play with other craftsmen when the fairy Puck changes his head into a donkey's. Puck casts a spell on Titania, the fairy queen, so that she falls in love with the first thing she sees when she wakes – Bottom with a donkey's head! <i>'I see their knavery: this is to make an ass of me, to fright me if they could.'</i>
Cleopatra 	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	Cleopatra is queen of Egypt and very beautiful. <i>'Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety.'</i> She falls in love with Mark Anthony, a Roman who wants to take power in Rome after the death of Julius Caesar. Together they fight Octavian, Caesar's nephew – defeated they commit suicide. Cleopatra kills herself with the bite of an asp – a snake.
Henry V 	<i>Henry V</i>	Henry V was king of England in the 15 <sup>th</sup> century – this is the story of the events immediately before and after the battle of Agincourt, with England fighting France. Henry inspires and leads his army passionately and decisively into battle. <i>'We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me Shall be my brother;'</i>
Hamlet 	<i>Hamlet</i>	Hamlet is prince of Denmark. His uncle has killed Hamlet's father and married his mother – and Hamlet is torn with anguish and indecision about what to do. Should he kill his uncle? Should he kill himself? <i>'To be or not to be, that is the question...'</i>

## Books about Shakespeare, and retellings of his plays Shakespeare's Verse



**Gina Pollinger & Emma Chichester Clark**  
*The Orchard Book of Classic Shakespeare Verse* Orchard  
978-1408333020

This selection of verse and poetry from William Shakespeare is filled with wit and wisdom, tenderness and magic, mischief and merriment. An exquisite collection of Shakespeare's writing featuring favourite passages of verse, familiar to many, along with lesser-known pieces, all of which

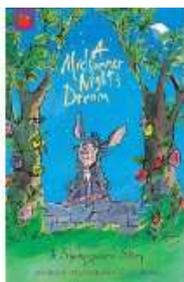
sparkle in the mind and fire the imagination. The poems and verse have been carefully selected to ensure that younger readers too may develop a love of the Bard and his words.

**Gina Pollinger** is a literary agent with clients including top children's writers Anne Fine and Michael Morpurgo. She was the recipient of the 1998 Eleanor Farjeon Award. She lives in London.

**Emma Chichester Clark** has illustrated a number of picture books and collections for Orchard Books, Andersen Press, Pavilion and Methuen, including *The Orchard Book of Greek Myths* and *The Orchard Book of Opera Stories*. She lives in Fulham.

*I have tried in this book to convey in miniature the richness, gusto, intelligence and scope of Shakespeare's poetry. I do hope that you will be encouraged to look beyond the quotations, to even more spectacular discoveries – this time in the live theatre. Then and there, you will experience Shakespeare in action, Shakespeare in the round, Shakespeare in all his glory!*

## Retellings of Shakespeare's Plays



**Andrew Matthews & Tony Ross**  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Shakespeare Story*  
Orchard 978-1841213323

The course of true love never did run smooth... A magical retelling of Hermia, Helen, Demetrius and Lysander's classic story - and of Titania, Oberon, and the impish fairy Puck, who meddles in their tangled web of love with hilarious consequences... The book includes notes on Shakespeare

and the Globe Theatre, and 'Love and Magic in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*'.

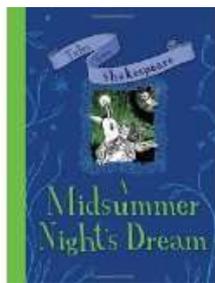
**Andrew Matthews** is a celebrated children's author, who has written over fifty books and has twice been nominated for the Smarties prize.

**Tony Ross** is one of today's most well-known and loved artists, and the award-winning illustrator of over 70 picture books. Tony lives in Cheshire.

*'I'll make you sorry for this, Titania!' he vowed... 'Puck? Come to me now!' A breeze sighed in the branches, as an elf dropped out of the air and landed at Oberon's feet. The elf was dressed in leaves that had been sewn together. His hair was tangled, his skin as brown as chestnuts, and when he smiled, his white teeth flashed mischievously. 'Command me, master!' Puck said. 'I mean to teach the Queen a lesson,' said Oberon. 'Go, search the earth and fetch me the flower called Love in Idleness.'*

Also available from Orchard are these Shakespeare retellings by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross:

Title	ISBN
<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	978-1841213385
<i>Hamlet</i>	978-1841213408
<i>The Tempest</i>	978-1841213460
<i>Macbeth</i>	978-1841213446
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	978-1841213347
<i>Henry V</i>	978-1841213422
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	978-1841213361



**C.A. Plaisted & Yaniv Shimony**  
***A Midsummer Night's Dream* QED 978-1848359406**

When four lovesick young Athenians get lost in the forest, a magical night awaits. Packed with mix-ups, enchanted potions, fairies and a mischievous hobgoblin, this humorous tale will hold you spellbound.

QED's Tales from Shakespeare retell some of Shakespeare's most popular and well-known plays. Clear and contemporary language makes these stories

easily accessible to young readers. Lively illustrations bring these popular plays to life and will captivate the imagination and interest of young readers. Throughout the book are short quotes from the play giving an inspiring taste of Shakespeare's actual words.

**C.A. Plaisted** has written more than 60 books for children. Before becoming a full-time write, Caroline worked as an editor of children's books and for the BBC. She now lives in Kent, UK.

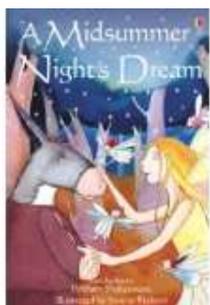
**Yaniv Shimony** is an illustrator, comic artist, graphic designer, character designer and graduate of Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem, where he still lives.

*With her attendants following behind her, Titania flew away in anger. 'How dare she disappear like that!' Oberon said, turning to his loyal hobgoblin, Puck. 'She won't get away with this, Puck. I have an idea. There is a magic flower growing in this wood. It's known as Love-in-Idleness. 'Find that flower, Puck, and bring it back to me. If I place a drop of its juice in Titania's sleeping eyes, I can enchant her and get the boy back!'*

Also in this **QED Tales from Shakespeare** series are:

Reteller	Title	ISBN
Timothy Knapman	<i>Hamlet</i>	978-1784930004 (hbk)
	<i>Henry V</i>	978-1784930042 (hbk, publ March 2015)
	<i>Julius Caesar</i>	978-1784930066 (hbk publ March 2015)
	<i>Twelfth Knight</i>	978-1784930028 (hbk)
C.A. Plaisted	<i>Macbeth</i>	978-1848359413 (pbk)
	<i>The Tempest</i>	978-1848359437 (pbk)

**Timothy Knapman** has written plays, musicals, songs and children's books. His books include the successful *Mungo*, *Eleanor's Eyebrows* and the *Picture Book Pirates* and its sequels.



## Lesley Sims & Serena Rigiletti

### ***A Midsummer Night's Dream* Usborne 978-0746063330**

This is a simple retelling of Shakespeare's play, in chapter book form – from Series Two of Usborne Young Reading, for readers who are growing in confidence. It has clear text and coloured illustrations, with pictures and brief descriptions of the characters in the story.

**Lesley Sims'** *Visitor's Guide to Ancient Rome*, a spoof tourist guide to the city, won the Times Educational Supplement Senior Information Book

Award in 2000. Lesley works for Usborne as a managing editor.

**Serena Rigiletti** has illustrated many books for children worldwide, including the Italian editions of the Harry Potter series. She lives with her family in Italy.

*In a flash his jester Puck hovered before him. Puck was the most mischievous fairy of all. 'I want to trick Titania,' Oberon explained. 'I'm going to make her fall in love with the first thing she sees, even if it's a monkey!' Puck chuckled. 'That's the best spell I ever heard!' 'But I need a magic herb,' Oberon said. 'Can you find it for me as quick as you can?' 'I'll search around the earth in forty minutes!'*

Here are more titles in this **Usborne Young Reading** series of Shakespeare retellings:

Reteller	Title	ISBN
Anna Claybourne & Jana Costa (ill.)	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	978-0746069332
Conrad Mason & Christa Unzner (ill.)	<i>Macbeth</i>	978-0746096123
Louie Stowell & Christa Unzner (ill.)	<i>Hamlet</i>	978-0746096116

For internet links to websites where you can find out more about Shakespeare, [go to the Usborne Quicklinks website](#) and type the words **YR Shakespeare**.



## **Martin Waddell & Alan Marks *Shakespeare Retold: Macbeth***

### **Franklin Watts 978-0749677480**

A battle on a barren moor, three witches and a bloodsoaked room. A murdered king, a butchered friend, a ghastly ghost and lots of gore. Trees that walk, a fierce revenge, a severed head – this is the story of Macbeth.

The book has a cast list at the beginning, and at the end are notes and facts

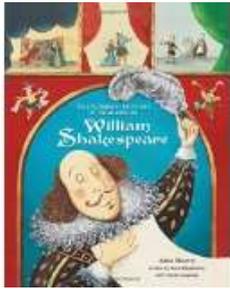
about the play and its historical setting.

**Martin Waddell** wrote *Farmer Duck* and *Can't You Sleep Little Bear?* which both won the Smarties Prize, and the bestselling *Owl Babies*. Martin lives in Northern Ireland.

**Alan Marks** has illustrated numerous children's books including *Storm* by Kevin Crossley-Holland, which won the Carnegie Medal, and *Thomas and the Tinnars* by Jill Paton Walsh which won the 6 to 8 years category of the Smarties Prize.

*So brutal was the slaughter of Macduff's family that even Lady Macbeth was horrified. The ghosts of those Macbeth had murdered screamed in her mind, driving her mad. In her guilt and despair she walked and talked in her sleep... She saw blood and smelt blood, though the blood existed only in her mind.*

## Books about Shakespeare



**Anna Claybourne**

***The Comedy, History and Tragedy of William Shakespeare***  
**Franklin Watts 978-1445131870**

Published in the year of the 450th anniversary of his birth, this is a first introduction to William Shakespeare - his life, times and plays - from his school life in Stratford-upon-Avon to living in Elizabethan London and co-owning the Globe theatre. The light-hearted but authoritative text

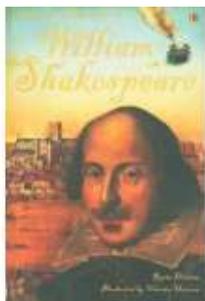
combines with Adria Meserve's magical illustrations to capture the world of the Tudor theatre. The book also contains clever and extremely useful short summaries of some of Shakespeare's best-loved plays - including comedies such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, histories such as *Henry V* and tragedies such as *Macbeth*.

This is a beautiful, entertaining and accessible picture book about the world's most famous writer.

**Anna Claybourne** has written over 150 children's books on all kinds of subjects, from sharks, black holes and splitting the atom to how to draw, Shakespeare's life, and Greek myths and legends.

**Adria Meserve** writes and illustrates picture books, including *Smog the City Dog*. She teaches art in North London.

*'William Shakespeare was born in Stratford upon Avon on April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1564. He was the first son of John Shakespeare, a glove-maker and important local citizen, and Mary, the daughter of a successful farmer. Neither parent could read or write. Because his father was an alderman (a local councillor), Shakespeare had a free education at the King Edward VI Grammar School in Stratford.'*



**Rosie Dickins & Christa Unzner**

***William Shakespeare*** **Usborne 978-074609002**

This is a new title in "Young Reading Series Three", which is aimed at children whose reading ability and confidence allows them to tackle longer and more complex stories. It describes the life of the Bard, from his childhood in Stratford-Upon-Avon to his career as a playwright and performer and the influence which his great works continue to hold today.

It is illustrated by Christina Uzner, alongside photography of real-life

locations connected to Shakespeare.

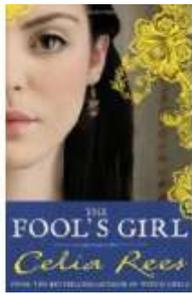
**Rosie Dickins** lives in London, where she now works for Usborne Publishing. She is the author of over forty fiction and non-fiction children's books, including award-winning art books.

Christa Unzner is an author and illustrator of children's books. These include *Tara the Air Fairy*, and *Aelin the Water Fairy*.

*'Maybe, with all that schooling, you could work as a teacher?' said his father. 'And I could use some help making gloves, too.'*

*William sighed. 'Still, at least I'll finally have some spare time,' he thought to himself. 'Maybe I could do some acting then. I could even write my own plays...'*

## Fiction about Shakespeare



### **Celia Rees *The Fool's Girl* Bloomsbury 978-0747597346**

Violetta and Feste have come to London to rescue the holy relics taken from the church in Illyria by the evil Malvolio. Their journey has been long and their adventures many, but it is not until they meet the playwright William Shakespeare that they get to tell the entire story from beginning to end! But where will this remarkable tale ultimately lead Violetta and her companion? And will they manage to save themselves, and the relics from

the very evil intentions of Malvolio?

Inspired by *Twelfth Night* – a romantic adventure story for young people.

**Celia Rees** divides her time between writing, talking to readers in schools and libraries, and teaching creative writing. She has written over twenty books for older children and teenagers. Her books have been short listed for the Guardian, Whitbread and W.H. Smith Children's Book Awards. *Witch Child* won the prestigious Prix Sorcières in France in 2003, and the Di Cento Prize in Italy.

*Master William Shakespeare, poet, player, and sometime mage, had been on his way home from the theatre after seeing a particularly poor performance of one of his plays. The crowd had been slow to settle, churlish and sullen, given to outbursts of insults, mewing and hissing, accompanied by a certain amount of bottle throwing. And who could blame them, when those whom they had come to see were stiff-limbed and leaden-footed, late to arrive on stage and slow to leave it. The heroine needed a shave...*

**For more reading** – fiction and non-fiction about Shakespeare, and retellings of Shakespeare's plays – see the booklist produced especially for Shakespeare week by the Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians (ASCEL) – and also the further reading ideas below.

Author	Title	Publisher	ISBN
	<b>Non-fiction about Shakespeare</b>		
Clive Gifford	<i>So You Think You Know Shakespeare?</i>	Hodder	978-0340931264
Celeste Mannis	<i>Who Was William Shakespeare?</i>	Puffin	978-0448439044
Michael Rosen & Robert Inkpen	<i>Shakespeare: His Work and His World (out of print)</i>	Walker	978-0744555813
	<b>Retellings of Shakespeare plays</b>		
Lois Burdett	<i>Shakespeare Can Be Fun – series Incl. Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Firefly Books	978-1552091241
Leon Garfield & Michael Foreman	<i>Shakespeare Stories Shakespeare Stories II</i>	Puffin Puffin	978-0140389388 978-0140389395
Charles & Mary Lamb	<i>Tales From Shakespeare</i>	Wordsworth	978-1853261404
Geraldine McCaughrean	<i>Stories from Shakespeare</i>	Orion	978-1858813882
Edith Nesbit	<i>Shakespeare's Stories for Young</i>	Dover	978-0486447629

	<i>Children</i>		
	<b>Fiction about Shakespeare &amp; his plays</b>		
Veronica Bennett	<i>Shakespeare's Apprentice (out of print)</i>	Walker	978-1844281480
Caroline Cooney	<i>Enter Three Witches</i>	Scholastic	978-0439711579
Antonia Forest	<i>The Player's Boy (out of print)</i>	Faber	978-0571095162
Barbara Mitchelhill	<i>The Road to London</i>	Andersen	978-1849394079
Diana Wynne Jones	<i>The Magicians of Caprona (echoes of Romeo &amp; Juliet)</i>	Harper Collins	978-0007267682

## Shakespeare Wordsearch answers

X	T	E	I	L	U	J	D	N	A	O	E	M	O	R	G
D	G	A	X	V	N	M	B	C	Z	A	S	A	F	G	Z
G	V	J	L	O	U	T	E	Q	W	R	Y	C	B	P	V
Z	C	C	B	M	N	V	C	Z	A	D	G	B	C	G	M
A	A	B	D	G	S	H	A	K	E	S	P	E	A	R	E
U	W	O	E	Q	T	W	R	Y	I	P	F	T	B	A	U
O	G	T	C	H	R	F	S	Z	C	F	B	H	Y	M	B
L	U	T	X	H	A	G	D	A	F	Z	X	B	F	M	V
G	L	O	B	E	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	B	C	A	C
J	Q	M	G	M	F	N	F	V	C	Z	A	D	X	R	X
T	W	F	V	D	O	F	S	Q	H	T	F	P	Q	S	Z
E	Z	X	Y	Z	R	A	D	F	C	F	A	H	Z	C	A
L	C	B	R	F	D	N	L	J	T	D	I	Q	P	H	W
M	E	T	N	U	O	L	J	G	I	S	R	C	G	O	Q
A	N	N	E	H	A	T	H	A	W	A	Y	F	V	O	R
H	Z	X	H	X	B	M	K	G	F	D	R	W	V	L	Y