



# PINOCCIO

THE WOODEN BOY



TCT On Tour

SHOW COMPANION  
ACTIVITY PACKET

# ABOUT THE SHOW

“Dreams are what you make them” in this new adaptation of the classic children’s fantasy. Geppetto, a lonely Italian toymaker, dreams of having a family, but when his wish is unexpectedly granted, he is shocked to be in the company of a talking puppet! When the two don’t quite get along, Pinocchio ventures off on his own... Now, it’s up to Geppetto to shape up and save Pinocchio from danger in this comedic cat-and-dog chase around Europe. Join Pinocchio as he learns important lessons in honesty and morality, while Geppetto has a few lessons to learn on growing up as well.

## History of the Wooden Boy

TCT is thrilled – and that’s no lie – about the opportunity to produce and perform another World Premiere show, but what about the original, original story of Pinocchio. Let’s dive into the original source material and see how it has evolved over the years and remains a literary classic to this day!

## A History of the Tale

The original version of the tale begins much like many versions – we meet a woodcarver that carves a **marionette** puppet that magically comes to life! However, this puppet is far from the puppet he wanted, a puppet that could dance, **fence**, and leap around like an acrobat. Instead of a polite young wooden puppet, Pinocchio is **mischievous** and doesn’t heed advice and rules from his father.

The original story was first published in 1883 and was called *The Adventures of Pinocchio*. It is one of the greatest works of Italian literature. The story has now been translated into over 260 languages, made into numerous film and TV adaptations, and the plot used as inspiration for countless other works. The author, Carlo Collodi, wrote a much darker tale than the 1940’s Disney animated classic. Pinocchio’s behavior and actions lead him to being punished in awful ways including kidnapping and **starvation**. At one point, he almost gets fried in a pan to top it all off!

The original tale brought to life the **iconic** moments where Pinocchio’s nose grows each time he tells a lie, but despite all the awful punishments he faces, he still doesn’t seem to learn that all his actions have consequences.

However, all the remakes seem to echo a similar thread, now strongly woven into the tale and that is that lying will always be wrong and will always result in difficult obstacles and situations.

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## Who Wrote The Adventures of Pinocchio?

*The Adventures of Pinocchio* was written by the Italian author Carlo Collodi. He was born Carlo Lorenzini in Florence in 1826. Carlo's mother, Angiolina, was from a small village in Italy named Collodi, which is how he came up with his **pen name**: Carlo Collodi.

Carlo spent his childhood in the village of Collodi and lived mostly with his grandmother. His first job out of school was in a book shop. He had selfish reasons for wanting to work there because his role model, Giuseppe Aiazzi, worked there as a manuscript specialist – someone who is responsible for choosing and collecting pieces of literature to store for the purpose of collecting human knowledge and works. Carlo was greatly inspired by Giuseppe. Giuseppe guided Carlo as he began his writing journey and started writing his own short stories. Fun Fact: Pinocchio is named in part for Giuseppe. PINO- from PINOcchio is a shortened, nickname, for the name GiusepPINO – which Giuseppe is an abbreviation of!

Also, the Tuscan-Italian word for “pine nut” (sometimes “pine cone” or “pine wood”) is partially from the Tuscan word Pinocchio - meaning constructed from pino (“pine tree, pine wood”) and occhio (“eye”).

After Carlo served in the first and second Italian Wars of Independence from 1848-1860, he started working as a translator for Fairy Tales. After many years of translating other authors' works, he created his own Fairy Tale in February of 1883 and was called *Le avventure di Pinocchio* (*The Adventures of Pinocchio*).

That story was adapted into an animated film by Walt Disney in 1940. The first-ever animated film to receive an Academy Award nomination was *Pinocchio*. Unfortunately, Collodi passed away before *The Adventures of Pinocchio* grew to success and is known worldwide.

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## Vocabulary Words

**marionette** - noun

1. a puppet worked from above by strings attached to its limbs.

**fence** - verb

1. fight with swords, especially as a sport.

**mischievous** - adjective

1. (of a person, animal, or their behavior) causing or showing a fondness for causing trouble in a playful way.

**starvation** - noun

1. suffering caused by hunger.

**iconic** - adjective

1. relating to or of the nature of an icon; regarded as a representative symbol of worth. A remembered symbol.

**pen name** - noun

1. an assumed name used by a writer instead of their real name.

## Reading Questions

Using the reading above, circle the correct answer for each question.

The first published version of the story in 1883 was called *The Tales of Pinocchio*.

- A. True
- B. False

Each time Pinocchio tells a lie his \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. nose gets smaller.
- B. eyes cross.
- C. nose gets longer.
- D. ears turn into donkey ears.

What village was Carlo's mother from in Italy?

- A. Florence
- B. Palermo
- C. Collodi
- D. Sardinia

Carlo's first job after school was in a \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. Library
- B. Shoe Repair
- C. Printing Company
- D. Book Shop

The 1940's Walt Disney film was the first animated film to win an Academy Award.

- A. True
- B. False

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## Tree Types

In the story, Pinocchio is carved from a Pin Tree. Trees can be classified into two major groups – Deciduous Trees and Evergreen Trees.

Many wood carvers prefer to use a piece of White Pine as it's generally considered best for carving due to it being very easy to use tools and machines on while carving. It is also very easy to machine and one of the best woods for chainsaw carving.

However, some other woods that are often used include basswood, butternut, mahogany, cherry, oak, walnut, and cedar due to their soft texture and ease of carving.

Evergreen trees are trees that stay green all year round. An evergreen tree usually has leaves that are needle-like or scaly and has a broadleaf. Evergreen forests are often so dense with trees that sunlight doesn't each reach the ground. Many evergreen trees are classified as cone-bearing trees and often have oval shaped cones with seeds inside.

Some examples of an Evergreen are:



Cone cedar (Western red cedar)  
*Thuja plicata*



Balsam fir  
*Abies balsamea*



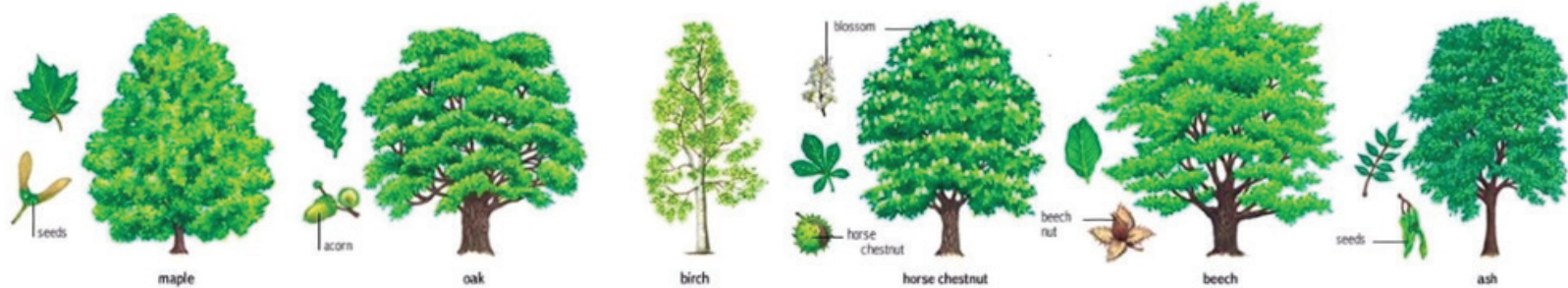
Noble fir  
*Abies procera*  
syn. *A. nobilis*



White fir  
*Abies concolor*

Deciduous trees on the other hand are trees that drop their leaves right before a colder/dryer season. These trees usually grow thin and have wide leaves that are used to catch as much sunlight as possible before all their leaves are gone. These trees can collect enough energy to last them during the entire length of the cold months! Deciduous forests are often more open in some places and a wide variety of ground plant life can be found. Deciduous trees usually have flowers called blossoms that turn into seeds and in some occasions will fruit.

Some examples of a Deciduous Tree are:



# ACTIVITY PACKET

## Venn Diagram Activity

Using the Venn Diagram, place the following the characteristics of Deciduous Trees and Evergreen Trees in the correct place and place the things they share in the center section.

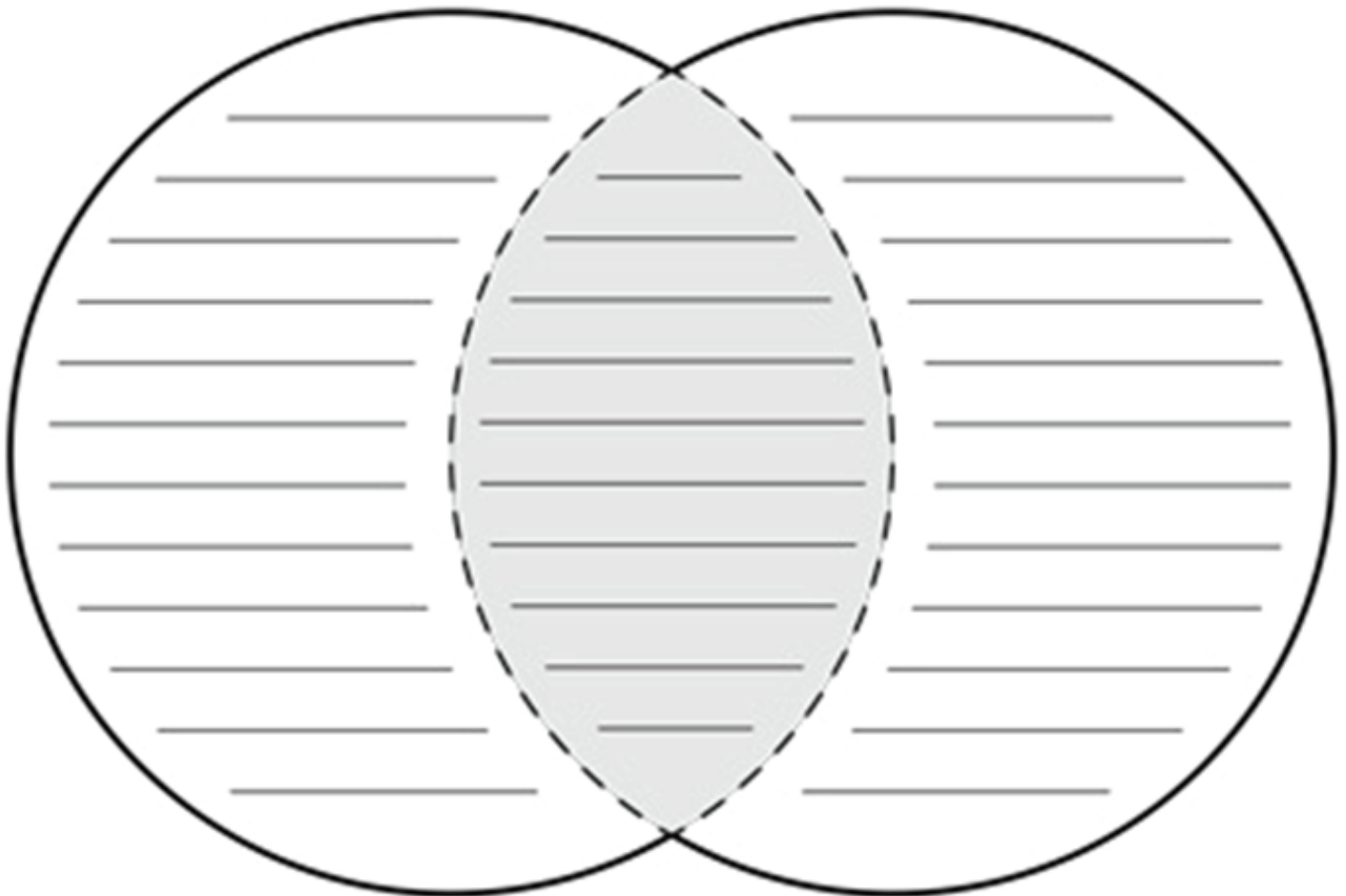
Characteristics  
Drop Leaves  
Keeps Leaves  
Needle-Like Leaves

Wide Leaves  
Cones  
Flowers

Needs Sunlight  
Needs Water  
Found in forests

**Deciduous Trees**

**Evergreen Trees**



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## Word Search

Find the following words hidden below. Look left, right, up, down, and diagonally.

Marionette, Woodcarver, Deciduous, Pine, Evergreen, Blue Fairy, Pinocchio, Italy, Collodi, and Whale.

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

# ANSWER KEY

## Venn Diagram

**Deciduous Section**  
Drop Leaves  
Wide Leaves  
Flowers

**Evergreen Section**  
Keeps Leaves  
Needle-Like Leaves  
Cones

**Same Section**  
Needs Sunlight  
Needs Water  
Found in Forests



### Reading Questions

1. **B. False.**
2. **C. Nose gets longer.**
3. **C. Collodi.**
4. **D. Book Shop.**
5. **B. False.**

### Standards

- RI.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- 3.LS.2: Individuals of the same kind of organism differ in their inherited traits. These differences give some individuals an advantage in surviving and/or reproducing.