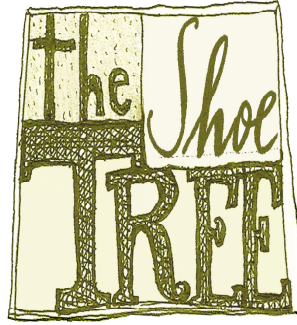


English is fun  
when it's sung! and the Pea Green Boat puppet company *present:*



### Teaching materials

Dear teacher,

We are happy to present *The Shoe Tree*, a puppet show for very young learners, based on a story about a boy who loses his shoe. Our aim is to capture the children's imaginations with the puppetry so English language learning becomes a motivating, fun and educational experience. This workpack includes activities to do before and after coming to the show. We hope you enjoy doing them!

Pea Green Boat puppet company

#### A CULTURAL NOTE

Shoe Trees are not only devices for shaping shoes. They are trees which have dozens of pairs of shoes hanging from their branches. They are found by the side of many roads in the US and have become a highway icon. A shoe tree starts with one dreamer, tossing his or her old footwear to catch on an out-of-reach branch. This may trigger a shoe tossing cascade. Many inscribe messages on the sneakers in permanent marker greetings, love poems and life accomplishments.

#### STORY RESUME

Tim can't find his left shoe anywhere. He searches for it high and low, until Mr. Grey tells him he will most probably find it in a shoe tree. Tim follows the man's instructions and hops off in search of his shoe. When he finally finds the shoe tree, he realizes it's a very special tree. The shoe tree can grant him a wish! Tim asks for his shoe back, then he asks for a rocket, and finally for his friend Tom. All 3 wishes are granted, and when Tim meets his friend Tom, who has just happened to lose his shoes because the tide has taken them away, he is only too happy to take him to the Shoe Tree where he is convinced Tom will find his shoes.

[www.englishisfunwhenitssung.net](http://www.englishisfunwhenitssung.net)

[www.peagreenboat.es](http://www.peagreenboat.es)

### **Activity 1.**

Print out the cards on page 3. Play snap with your pupils. Give out to children so they can colour and play snap in pairs.

### **Activity 2.**

#### **Comunal shoe tree poster.**

- Do an enlarged photocopy of the tree worksheet on page 4 . Children design and colour a shoe on paper which they will stick on the tree's branches. Older children may be encouraged to write a simple wish on the shoe.
- After the show: Photocopy the tree worksheet on page 4 for each child. Ask them to think of 3 wishes. They may draw them on the tree or on separate pieces of paper paste on the branches.

### **SONG**

#### **Hop, hop, hop**

*Hop, hop, hop, and hop  
Hop across the town  
Over the bridge  
And through the forest  
Up the hill and down*

Tim sings this song when he hops off to find the Shoe Tree. Sing this to the “row, row row your boat” tune. Do the actions using two fingers to simulate 2 walking legs. Change the lyrics if you wish by substituting “hop” for “run”, “jump” or “walk”.

#### **After the show**

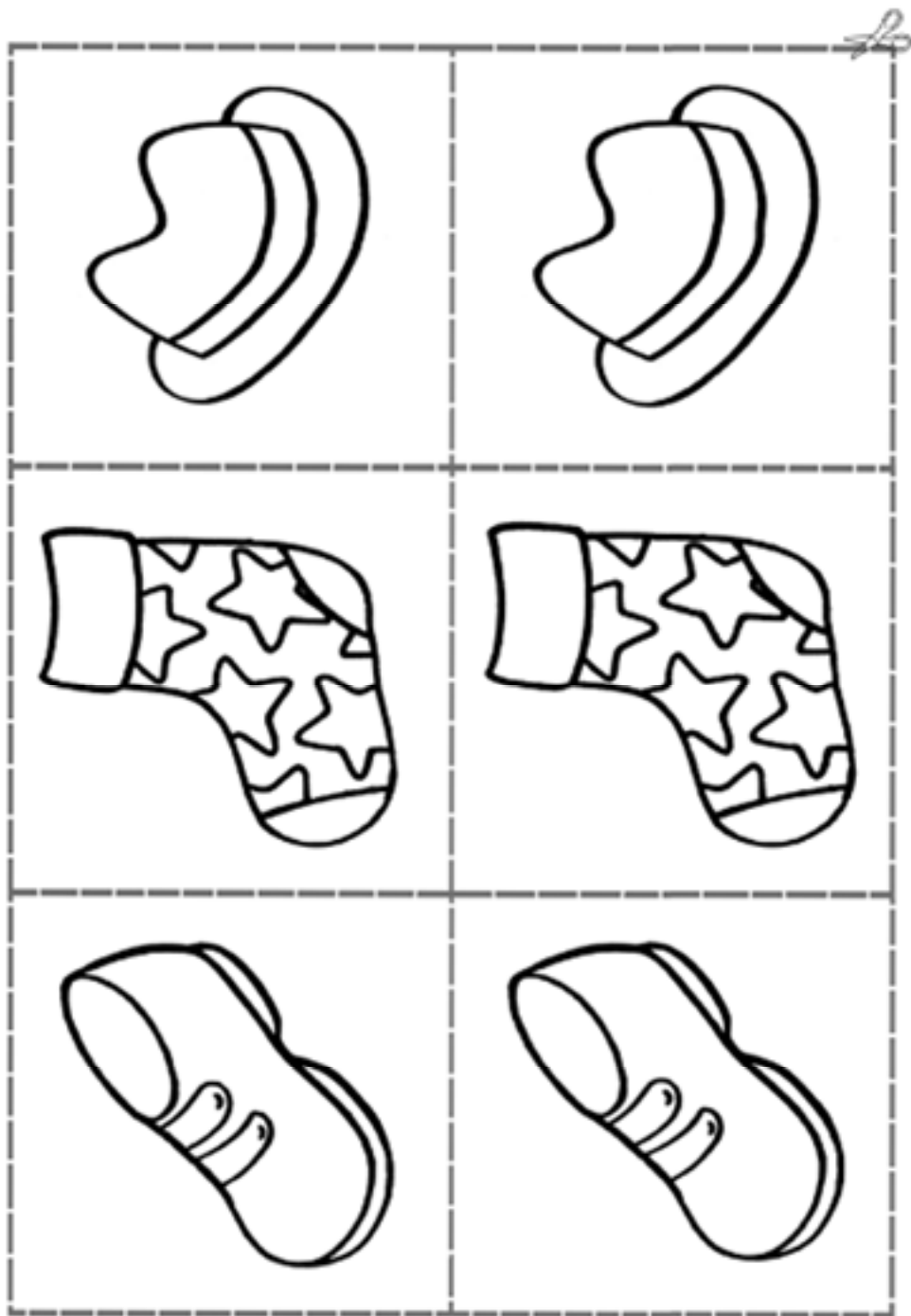
Children illustrate “The Shoe Tree” story and make a book to take home.

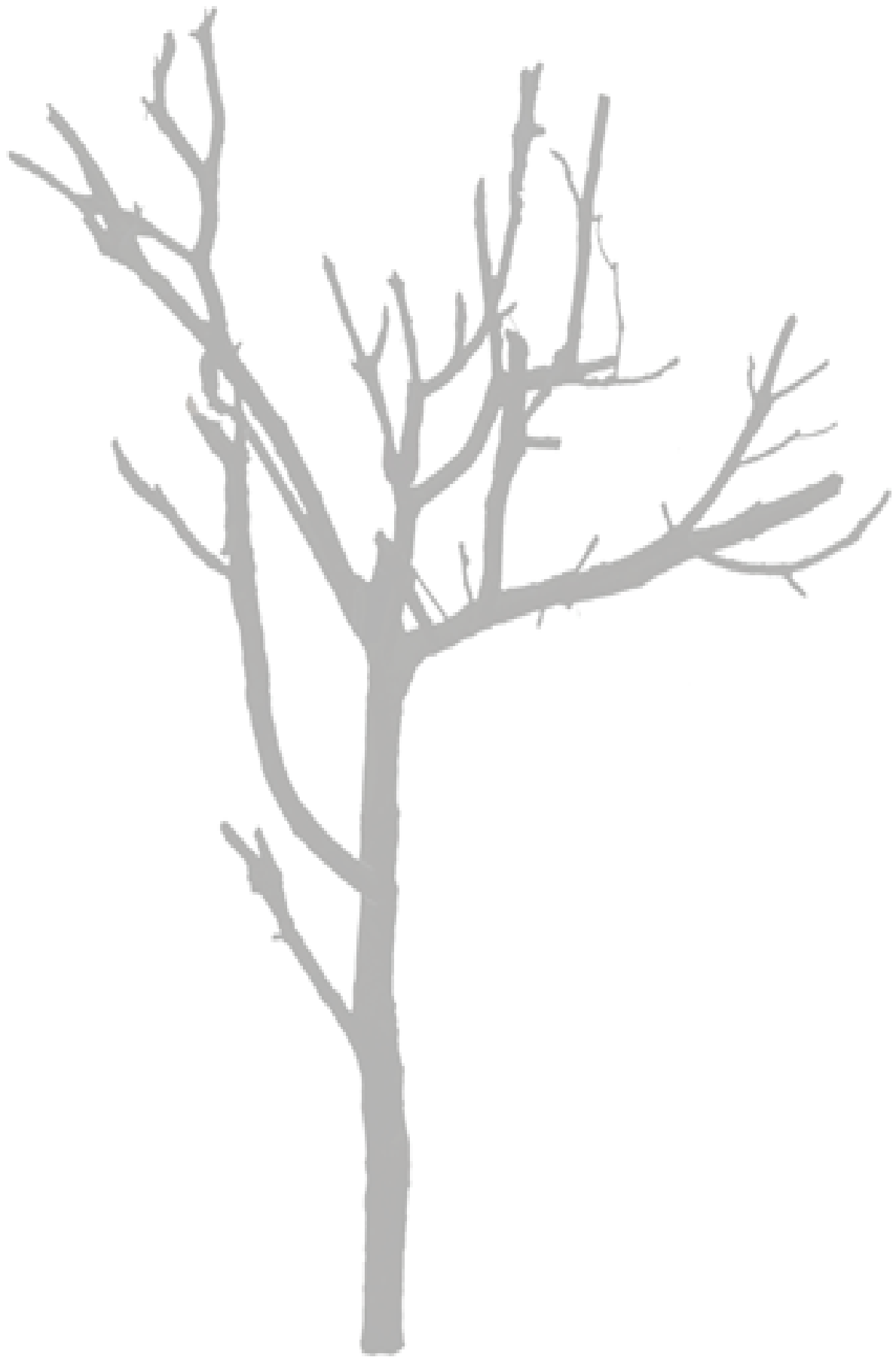
Photocopy the cover on page 5, preferably on coloured card. Fold 2 sheets of A4 paper into two and place inside the book. Number pages 1 to 8.

Here are some suggested captions for each page:

1. *Tim wakes up. He can't find his shoe.*
2. *“You'll find your shoe in the Shoe Tree”, said Mr. grey.*
3. *Tim hops up the hill and down.*
4. *“You have to make a wish”, said the tree.*
5. *Tim finds his shoe.*
6. *Tim flies off in a rocket.*
7. *Tim talks to the Sea shell.*
8. *Tim finds Tom. “Come with me, we'll go and find your shoe”.*

Alternatively, let the children work out their own sequence of scenes.







# The Shoe Tree

drawings by:.....