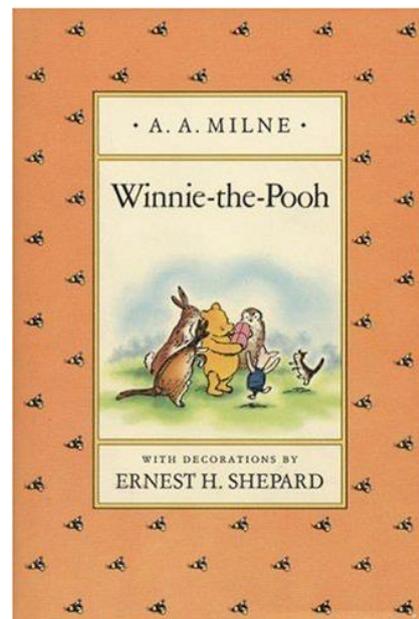




18th January is National Winnie the Pooh Day!

National Winnie the Pooh Day on January 18th commemorates author A.A. Milne's birthday in 1882. He brought the adorable, honey-loving bear to life in his stories, which also featured his son, Christopher Robin.

Winnie the Pooh was named after a bear that lived in London Zoo during World War I and is the inspiration of a collection of books starting with Winnie-the-Pooh in 1926. E.H. Shepard beautifully illustrated the books.



Each character played a unique role in the books; Christopher Robin, the sensible human friend, Winnie the Pooh, practical and simple, Piglet, faithful and fearful, Kanga the mother figure, Roo the playful baby, the bouncy, trouble-making Tigger, the very cautious Eeyore, the wise Owl or impetuous, cranky Rabbit all have wonderful adventures in the Hundred Acre Woods.

In the 1960s, Disney bought the rights to the Winnie-the-Pooh characters dropping the hyphen from Pooh's name. The illustrations were a bit different too.



10 Ways to Celebrate Winnie the Pooh Day!

1. Read your favourite Winnie the Pooh book; "When We Were Very Young," "Now We Are Six," "The House at Pooh Corner"

2. Go for a walk and play Poohsticks;

What you need:

- You will need two or more players, each armed with a stick of their choosing.
- You also need a bridge over moving water.

What to do:

- Stand on the bridge over moving water.
- Make sure you've already checked which way the water is flowing so that you throw your sticks in on the right side, and that they'll get carried underneath the bridge with the current.
- On the count of three everyone must throw their poohstick into the water below.
- The stick that floats underneath the bridge fastest wins.

3. Make a honey sandwich and talk about bees;

Isn't it funny
How a bear likes honey?
Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!
I wonder why he does?

4. Dress like a bear

5. Have a Teddy Bears' Picnic



6. Watch a Winnie the Pooh movie

7. Share your favourite Winnie the Pooh quote;

"A hug is always the right size" - Pooh

"The things that make me different are the things that make me, me" - Piglet

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think" - Christopher Robin

"Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart" - Pooh

"A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside" - Pooh

"Some people care too much. I think it's called love" - Pooh

"Rivers know this: There is no hurry. We shall get there some day" - Pooh

"Any day spent with you is my favorite day. So, today is my new favorite day" - Pooh

"It never hurts to keep looking for sunshine" - Eeyore

"I wonder what's going to happen exciting today?" - Piglet

"If the string breaks, then we try another piece of string" - Owl

"Tiggers never go on being sad" - Rabbit

"It's so much more friendly with two" - Piglet

"What could be more important than a little something to eat?" - Pooh

"Oh, bother" - Pooh

8. Find an interesting Winnie the Pooh fact, such as; *the actual Winnie the Pooh toy was bought from Harrods for Christopher Robin's 1st birthday in 1921*

9. Plan a visit to the World Poohsticks Championship in Whitney, Oxfordshire in June

10. Finally, one extra special way to celebrate Winnie the Pooh is to visit Pooh Corner in Ashdown Forest, Hartford, East Sussex, where the book was written. You can pick up a map to follow in the characters' footsteps, and even play a game of Poohsticks on the original bridge

