

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read about a writer

- Read *Edward Lear – Biography* and *Edward Lear Facts*.
- Which of these pieces of writing do you think gives the best information? Why? Which three facts about Edward Lear do you find most interesting?
- What other information would you like to research about Edward Lear? Write 3-4 questions. Use *Edward Lear – my questions answered* to do the research and write the answers.

2. Read and listen to a poem

- Read *The Owl and the Pussycat by Edward Lear*. Read it twice - in your head and out loud.
- Watch two very different animations of the poem
<https://vimeo.com/8159096>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YUuWSKm67c>
- Think about which of the two you prefer and why. Write about your opinions on *The Owl and the Pussycat Opinions*.

3. Now for some writing

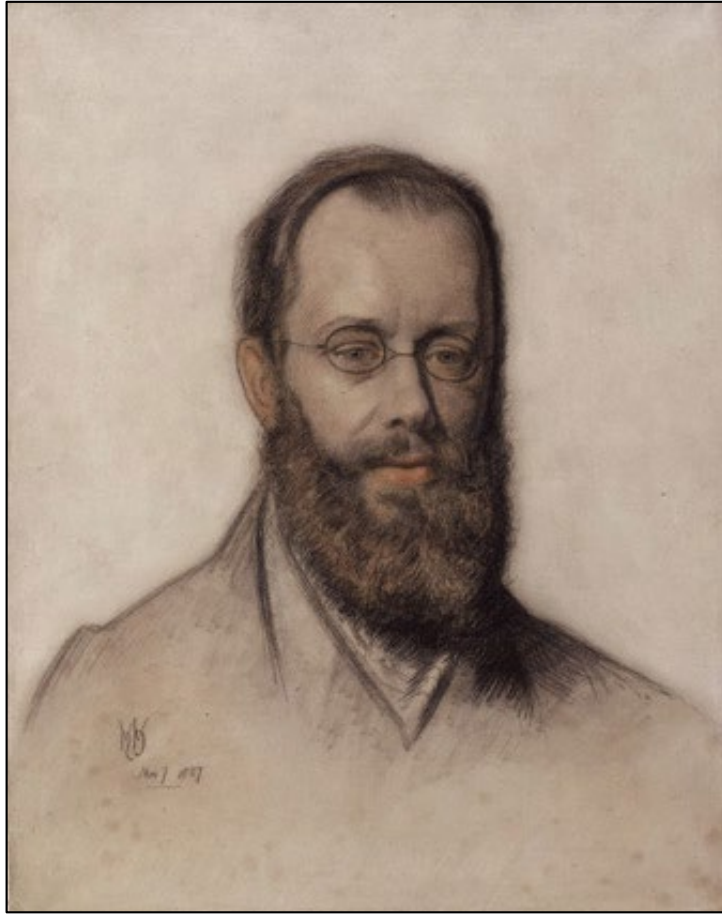
- Imagine your own magical journey. Answer the questions on *Magical Journey Planner*.
- Write about your magical journey. You can write it as a story or you could try writing it as a poem.

Well done. Show your writing to a grown-up. Find out from them where they would like to go on a magical journey.

Try the Fun-Time Extra

Choose one of the Owl and Pussycat *Events*. Illustrate it.

Edward Lear – Biography



Edward Lear lived from 1812 to 1888, in the Victorian period. He was good at all sorts of things. He illustrated books about birds and animals with beautiful drawings, and painted colourful pictures of all the places he travelled to in the world. He played the guitar and the flute and wrote lots of songs. He was also a well-known writer of stories and poems. He is most famous nowadays for writing ‘nonsense verse’ – quirky poems full of funny ideas and words that have a strong rhythm and lots of rhyming. Lear also liked writing a special kind of funny poem called a ‘limerick’.

Edward Lear - Five Facts



Because Edward Lear had so many brothers and sisters (twenty of them altogether!), he was mainly looked-after by his big sister, Ann. His tired Mum was too busy with all the other children!

Edward was a brilliant painter and musician. He illustrated books about birds and painted scenes from his travels. He played several instruments and wrote music to accompany his poetry.

Edward Lear was only 19 years old when he wrote his first book. Funnily enough, for someone who became famous for nonsense verse and limericks, it was a serious book about parrots.

When you mention limericks, everyone thinks of Edward Lear. In fact, Lear did not invent limericks and he never even called his poems limericks, preferring to say they were 'nonsense poems'.

Edward loved travelling. During his life he visited Italy, Greece, Egypt, Switzerland and Malta. He did all his travelling before cars, aeroplanes or coaches had been invented, so it took Lear weeks and weeks to get to these countries from England.

Edward Lear – my questions answered

First write your questions – you should have at least 3

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

Here are some useful websites

<https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/Edward-Lear/275413>

<https://primaryfacts.com/8193/edward-lear-facts-and-information/>

Write your answers here

The Owl and the Pussy-cat

The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea-green boat,
They took some honey and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
“O lovely Pussy, O Pussy my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!”



Pussy said to the Owl, “You elegant fowl!
How charmingly sweet you sing!
O let us be married! Too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?”
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the Bong-Tree grows
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood
With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.

“Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling
Your ring?” said the Piggy, “I will.”
So they took it away, and were married next day
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.
They dined on mince, and slices of quince,
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,
They danced by the light of the moon,
The moon,
The moon,
They danced by the light of the moon.

Edward Lear

The Owl and the Pussycat Opinions



What I liked about the first video

What I disliked about this video

What I liked about the second video



What I disliked about this video

Which one I thought was best and why

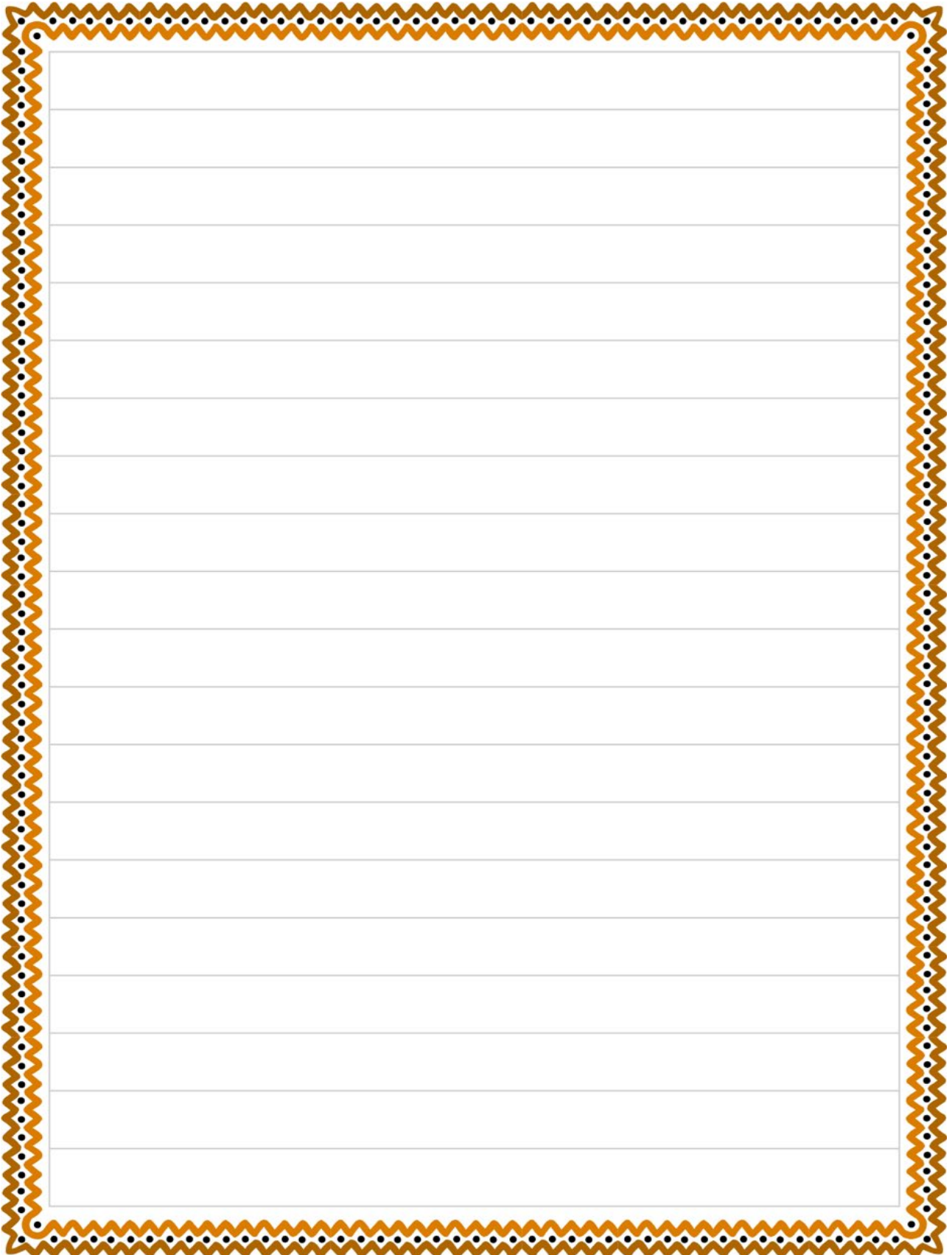
The Owl and the Pussycat is one of the most famous and well-loved poems in English. What do you think it is about it that has kept it so popular?

Magical Journey Planner

Where would you go?	
Who would you take?	
How would you get there?	
What would happen?	

Your magical journey

Write about your magical journey here.

A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black zigzag border. The interior of the rectangle is filled with horizontal lines, providing a guide for writing. The border is composed of a repeating pattern of orange zigzags and black dots.