

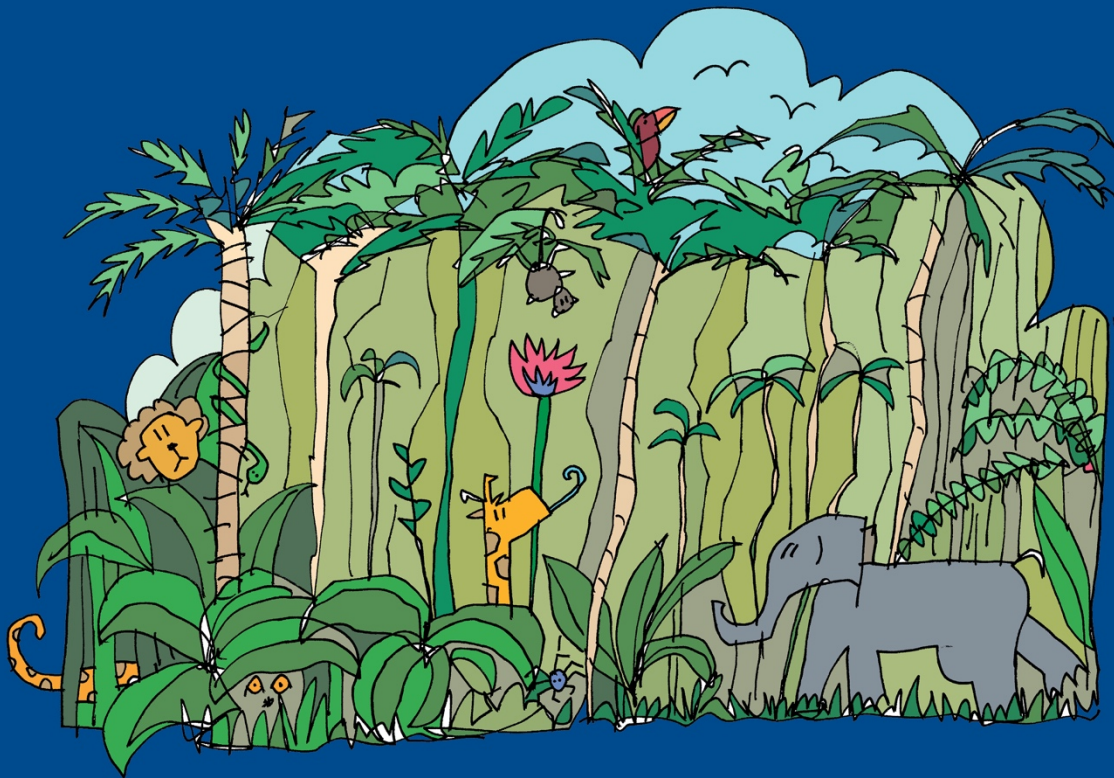


TalkforWriting™

Talk for Writing Home-school booklet

# Journey to the Jungle!

by Maria Richards



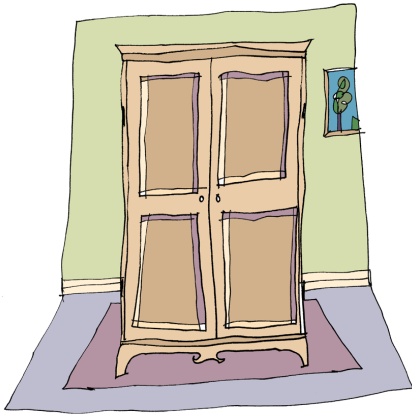
© Copyright of Maria Richards and Talk for Writing 2020.  
Permissions: Sharing the web link / URL to where this booklet sits on the Talk for Writing website with colleagues and parents is encouraged, but no part of this publication should be re-uploaded elsewhere online, reproduced or altered without permission.  
[www.talk4writing.com](http://www.talk4writing.com)





I'm your explorer and guide, so  
let's get on and discover new  
lands together!

Welcome to my world of exploring! You'll find lots of fun things to work through that will help you with your writing skills and build on the work you do at school.



Do you know *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* – the story of Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy who discover the world of Narnia through the back of a wardrobe?

★ If you have access to the Internet, type this into Google and discover Narnia with Lucy:

<https://cutt.ly/2yvlvOq>

Would you believe me if I told you that I have a wardrobe that takes me to magical places? I have been a jungle explorer for many years. I have explored the Cloud Jungle in Peru, the wild jungles of Borneo and even the Ancient Waipoua Forest in New Zealand. However, six years ago, I bought a beautiful wardrobe at a market and when I got it home, I discovered that it was not just beautiful, but magical too! Every week, on a Sunday evening, if I step into the wardrobe, I'm transported to a magical jungle that is out of this world. Come and discover these new lands with me!

## Visiting a jungle

★ Exploring jungles is very exciting. Every time I go through my wardrobe and discover a new one, I write in my 'Jungle Log'. It is a bit like a diary and it is where I write down what has happened on my visits. Here is my entry from my visit to the Atlanti Jungle in Oreno, an amazing place where the sky is yellow and the soil pink.

Listen to a recording of the text below here:

<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/jungle/s-4Ye8khPyx1x>

## **Jungle Log: 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2020**

Today has been an amazing day of discovery! I woke early and got ready for my trek into the Atlanti Jungle. I was excited and couldn't wait to see what lay ahead of me. I packed my rucksack and put on my sturdy walking boots. I made sure my camera was working because I wanted to record as much of the day as possible. I left the camp at 6am.

First, I trudged through the dense forest and collected samples of the plant life. My favourite was a thorny bush. It had tiny, yellow flowers growing on it, which smelt like ice cream! Next, I studied some of the mesmerising insects that were crawling up the rough bark of every tree. One insect looked like a caterpillar but had 2 sets of wings and tiny hands on the ends of its 20 legs. Excitedly, I photographed as many creatures as I could because I wanted to show my explorer friends what I had discovered.

After a short tea break, I measured the circumference of the tallest trees to work out how old they were. One measured 10 metres around and was so tall that I couldn't see the top of it. It reminded me of the beanstalk in a famous children's story. Next, I trekked to a clearing and found a beautiful plunge pool. The water was turquoise and tiny neon fish were splashing on the surface. I tried to catch one, but they were too fast for me. Then it was time for a rest. I lounged on pink grass, soaking up the purple sun beams and listened to the strange jungle noises around me.

Finally, I headed back to camp because the sun began to set. It sets quickly in Oreno and I was worried I might get lost. When I got to my tent, I unpacked my rucksack and stored my plant samples safely. I'm really looking forward to where my wardrobe will take me next week!

©Maria Richards 2020



## What do the words mean?

★ Let's take a look at the meaning of some of the words in my diary.

Word:	Definition:
discovery	something that is found or learned for the first time
trek	a long, challenging journey on foot
sturdy	strong and solid
trudge	to walk slowly
circumference	the distance around something circular
dense	packed together with not much space around
mesmerising	something that holds your complete attention
turquoise	a greenish-blue colour



## Use an example

★ Look at the definitions above. Draw a picture in each box below that could represent the word in the box.

sturdy	trudge
dense	mesmerising



## Which synonym?

★ Synonyms are words with the same or similar meanings. Match the synonyms below this table to the target words.

★ Can you find any more synonyms to add into the table?

Target word	Synonyms
discovery	
trek	
sturdy	
trudged	
circumference	
dense	
mesmerising	
turquoise	
<b>Which Synonyms match the target words?</b>	
fascinating edge hard-wearing hike finding plod thick blue-green	

## Anything else?

- ★ Read my diary again. Underline any other words you don't know the meaning of. Can you find out what they mean? You could ask someone else in your home to tell you, use a dictionary or search the internet. Write your definitions out on a separate piece of paper and try to use them in a sentence.



## What can you remember now?

- ★ Underline the correct definition of the words below.

Does **mesmerising** mean 'something that is boring' or 'something that is really exciting'?

Is **turquoise** close to the colour blue or close to the colour red?

Does **trek** mean 'to run quickly' or 'to go on a difficult journey'?

Does **discovery** mean 'something you do all the time' or 'finding something for the first time'?

- ★ Challenge: Now write some sentences using any of our new words. I have done one for you:



The sky looked turquoise this morning.

---

---

---

---

---