

**'The Deep Dark Wood'** by Algy Craig Hall and Ali Pye

Year group: 1 and 2

Published by: Orchard Books

**Synopsis and reasons for selection:**

*This is the deep dark wood.*

*Everyone knows it's full of witches and trolls and even giants – not to mention the big bad wolf!*

*Wait a minute! What's that sweet little girl doing here? She doesn't belong in the deep dark wood!*

*But this deep dark wood is full of twists and turns, and all is not quite what it seems....*

**This is a wonderfully atmospheric book, full of fun and mischief. Younger children will love the unexpected twists and turns and sense of humour throughout.**

*The questions in this guide are merely intended as supplementary prompts – allow the children to ask questions, explore and read longer sections of the book independently and initiate discussions. They will be much more engaged and enthused.*

***Because the novel study guide is to be used to aid discussion between the adult and children, we feel there isn't a necessity for an answer booklet.***

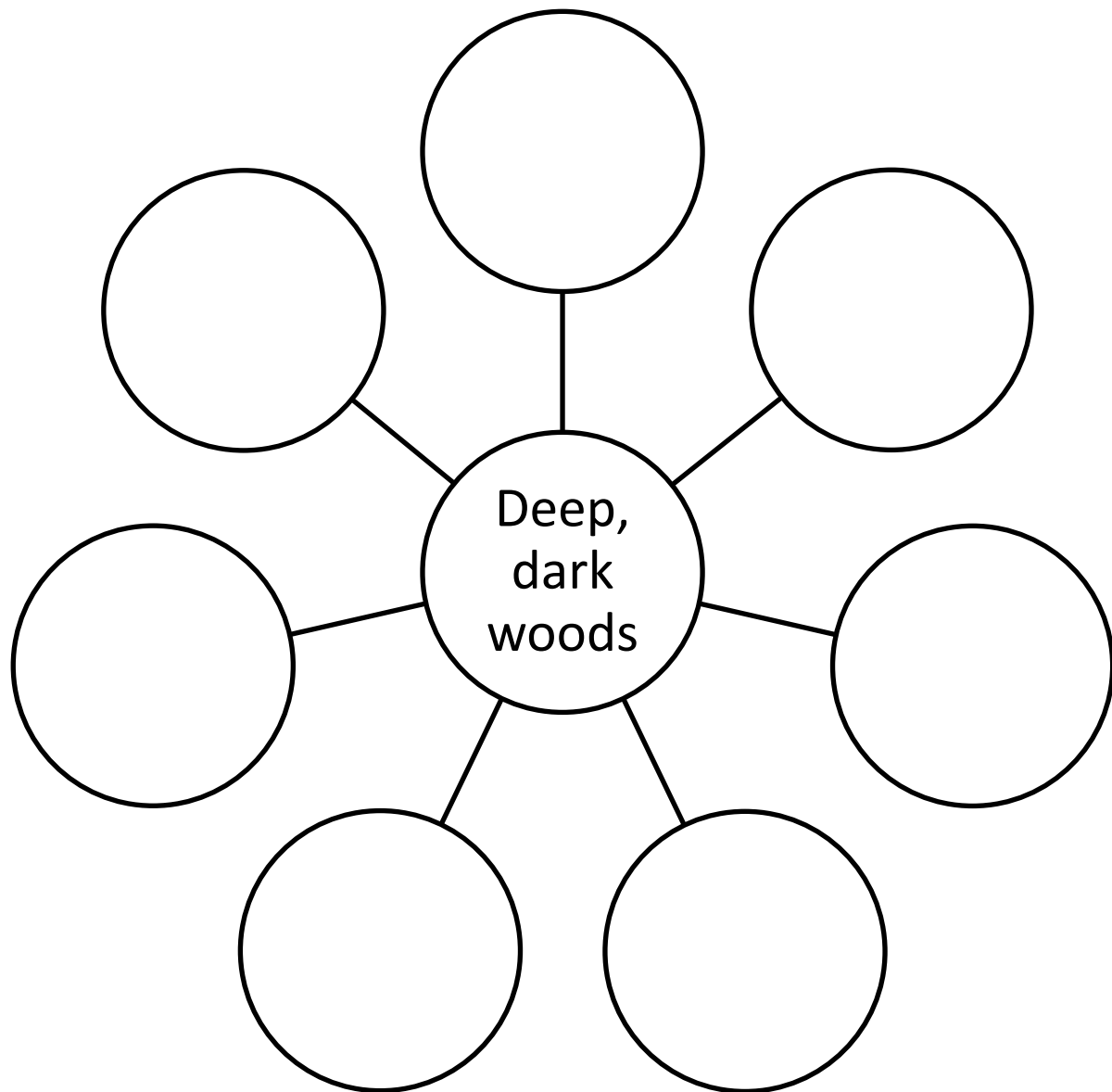
***The guide provides questions and spaces for the children to record their ideas and answers but is not intended to be used as a test.***

As there are many lovely pictures in this book it is important to invite the children to examine them carefully. You could encourage the children to use a magnifying glass or photocopy and enlarge a certain part of an image. Throughout the book, encourage the children to investigate:

- Page layout
- How the illustrations are framed
- The use of colour
- How the text is written – some words are in capitals and some are written at an angle, across the page
- The facial expressions of the characters

### Before reading....

What might a deep, dark wood be full of? Who might live there?  
Can you think of any stories that feature a deep, dark wood?  
Record your ideas as a group on this bubble map (Hyerle).



## **Student questions**

### **Before reading**

What is the title of the book?

Which characters can you see on the front cover?

Who might the little girl be? What might she be doing?

What sort of book might it be?

Who is the author/illustrator?

Who might like this book?

### **Pages 1 and 2**

V: Can you think of some adjectives to describe the woods?

R: What animals can you see?

P: Where might the path lead to?

### **Pages 3 and 4**

R: There are lots of fierce creatures in the woods. There are...(tick three)

<input type="checkbox"/>	witches
<input type="checkbox"/>	goblins
<input type="checkbox"/>	trolls
<input type="checkbox"/>	giants
<input type="checkbox"/>	wizards

V: Can you find a word that is similar in meaning to 'ferocious' or 'savage'?

### **Pages 5 and 6**

E: What do you notice about the colours used on these pages?  
What impact do they have?

E: How do these pages make you feel?

V: Can you think of three words to describe the big bad wolf?

### **Pages 7 and 8**

P: What might happen to the little girl?

P: Where might the girl be going?

I: What might the big bad wolf be thinking and feeling?

### **Pages 9 and 10**

E: How does the illustrator use colour and shadow to make the wolf look scary?

R: What can you see in the background of this picture?

R: Where is the little girl going?

E: Why does the wolf say, "you tasty...I mean, sweet little girl..."?

I: Does the girl look afraid of the wolf?

### **Pages 11 and 12**

V: What does the phrase 'licking his chops' mean?

R: What does the wolf offer to do? Why do you think he does this?

### **Pages 13 and 14**

R: Who comes to frighten the girl first of all?

V: Can you think of three words to describe the witch?

R: How does the wolf scare the witch away?

P: Who do you think will come along to scare the girl next?

### **Pages 15 and 16**

R: Which two adjectives does the girl use to describe the troll?

V: Can you find two words that rhyme on page 16?

E: Do you think the wolf is brave?

### **Pages 17 and 18**

R: What does the wolf do to scare the giant away?

E: Why does the author write 'WOW!'?

I: What might the giant be thinking and feeling?

### **Pages 19 and 20**

E: What do you notice about the house?

E: Why does the wolf think it is a funny place for a little girl to live?

P: Who do you think the girl's best friend is?

### **Pages 21 and 22**

R: Who is the girl best friends with? Were you surprised by this?

I: What might the wolf be thinking and feeling?

V: Can you write a sentence to describe the monster?

## Pages 23 and 24

E: What might the moral of this story be?

S: Can you order these events from 1-5? One has been done for you.

	One day the big bad wolf finds a little girl in the deep dark woods. He agrees to walk her to her friend's house.
	The wolf scares away a mean witch.
	The wolf finds out the girl is friends with a scary monster and runs away.
	Then he scares away a smelly old troll.
	The wolf scares away the giant and gets ready to eat the little girl and her friend.

## Student Booklet



### Pages 1 and 2

What animals can you see?




Where might the path lead to?


### Pages 3 and 4



There are lots of fierce creatures in the woods. There are...(tick three)

<input type="checkbox"/>	witches
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<input type="checkbox"/>	giants
<input type="checkbox"/>	wizards



### Pages 5 and 6



Can you think of three words to describe the big bad wolf?


### Pages 7 and 8



What might the big bad wolf be thinking and feeling?

A large, cloud-like thought bubble with a scalloped border. Inside the bubble are six horizontal lines for writing. At the bottom left of the bubble are three small circles of increasing size, suggesting a trail of thought.




### **Pages 9 and 10**

Where is the little girl going?




### **Pages 11 and 12**

What does the wolf offer to do? Why do you think he does this?




### **Pages 13 and 14**

Who comes to frighten the girl first of all?

--



## Pages 15 and 16

Can you find two words that rhyme on page 16?

--



Do you think the wolf is brave?


### Pages 17 and 18



What might the giant be thinking and feeling?

A large, cloud-shaped thought bubble with a scalloped border. Inside the bubble are six horizontal lines for writing. To the bottom left of the main cloud are three smaller circles of increasing size, connected by a line, suggesting a trail of thought.

### Pages 19 and 20

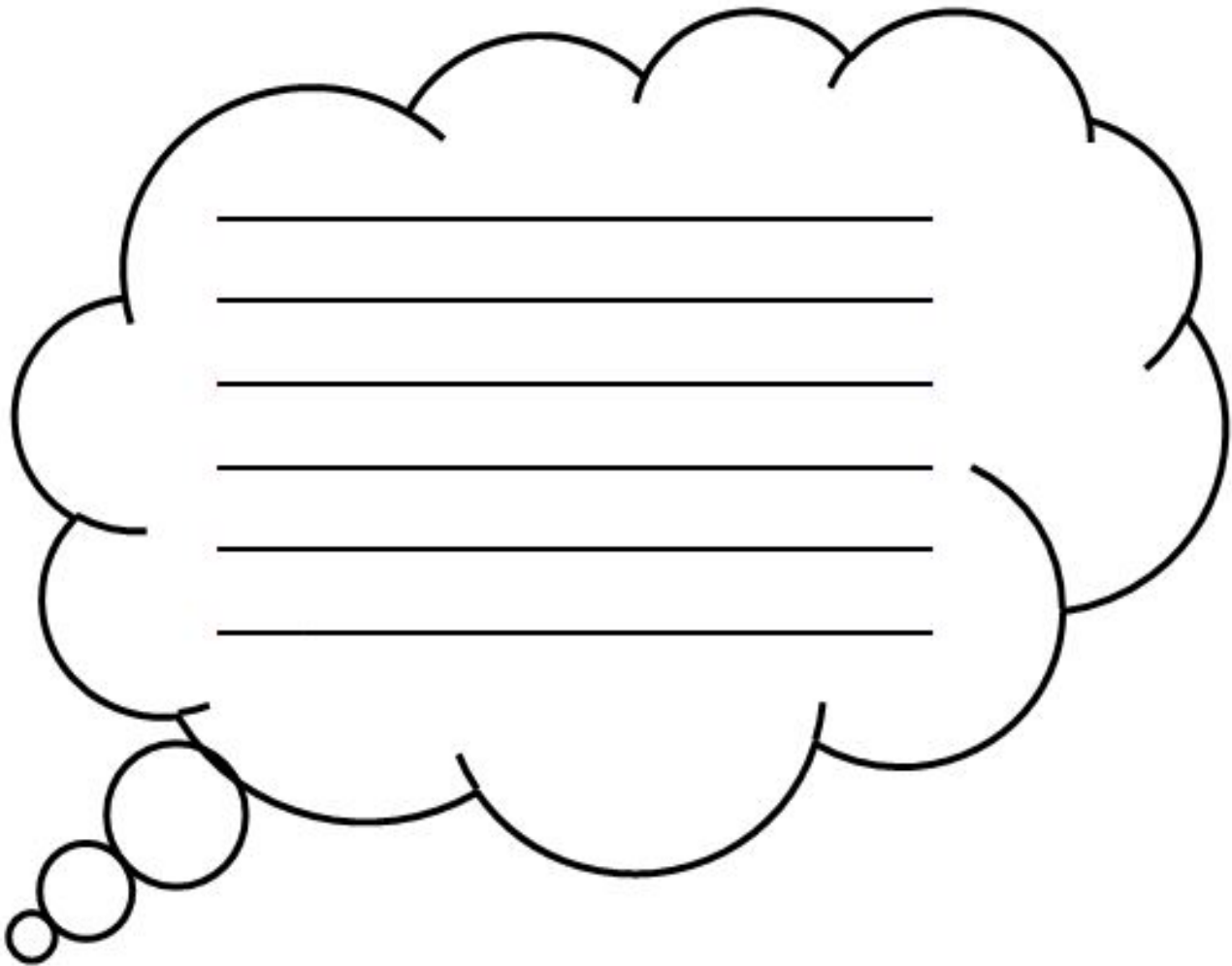


Who do you think the girl's best friend is?


## Pages 21 and 22



What might the wolf be thinking and feeling?





### Pages 23 and 24

Can you order these events from 1-5? One has been done for you.

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