

**Disappearing Act**

**Chapter Three – Up a Tree**

Listen to chapter three and think about how the story is unfolding: [Chapter Three](https://studio.youtube.com/video/5cZUyvN3D6w/edit) **OR** read it yourself / readalong:



**Your task is to plan a story by answering as many of the the questions on the sheet below as you can.** Remember: you don’t need to print it out, a piece of plain or lined paper will work fine.



Base it on the work you’ve already done; the character you created and the diary entry. There’s a box at the bottom of the page for ‘things you want to include, clues, brilliant ideas and crazy plans’. In this box, you can make notes about anything that isn’t covered in the questions section. If it is a detective story think of the clues your character will find along the way. If it’s a funny story maybe you want to include a good joke? It could be something or someone who appears later in the story, a sea monster, a friend, a ghost, or shop owner. It could be that you are challenging yourself to include something you picked from a book, maybe something odd, like a cheese wheel (yes, I do mean a wheel of cheese)! There aren’t any lines so, if you want to draw instead, you have space.

**Challenge:** Another way of creating a story is to draw a map of where the story takes place. Below is one I drew for Disappearing Act before completing the book. It helped me understand where my characters lived, what they saw around them, the places they visited, and how they travelled.



Draw a map for your story. Think about where your story is set, where your main character lives; is it in a village, town or city? It could be an entire kingdom, island, country or planet. Also think about places you’d like them to go; a library, a post office, a sweet shop, or up a mountain. What is around them; a cinema, an airport, a space station? Consider how it will look, some maps look flat like a road map, while others are 3D like a satellite view. Are you looking at it from the side, above or below? Is there anything underground?

Remember, if you prefer not to draw, try a collage or write a description.

Note: You’ll find loads of great maps in books if you need more inspiration.