



The full Audio version of Windscape is now available as free a teaching resource, suitable for children in class or at home.  
<https://we.tl/b-Z7EGJXbHbi>

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Follow the story, chapter by chapter along with activities, beginning on Page 3 of this document. (Please feel free to add or adjust)

This was pack was produced by Paul Murdoch as a free resource for schools in 2021. All 28 Audio chapters are relatively short and should help keep children engaged during 'home schooling'.

The book is also available on kindle and in paperback format, For further information contact [neetahbooks@gmail.com](mailto:neetahbooks@gmail.com)

## GENERAL CLASS ACTIVITIES

### 1. Plotting the story

Once the story is finished put the plot outlines below in the correct order. 1 -14

- Jenny's dad has a heart attack on the beach at Hushwish Bay
- They board the ferry for Uig but the ferry is diverted to Lochmaddy.
- Windy (Brad Miller) gives Jenny and Pavel a lift off the ferry in his car. They go to a bookshop to get a book for Jenny's dad.
- Mrs Murdoch has been to the bank and sorted out the insurance for the McLeods.
- They steal a small cruiser and set off down the River Clyde.
- Jenny and Pavel are captured by Flynn and his gang. They are tied up and left in a tunnel.
- Jenny and Pavel run away from Hill Top Farm in the middle of the night.
- Angus Murdoch has gone to the hospital to find Hamish McLeod. Jenny saves her dad just in time.
- Jenny and Pavel sneak onto a canvas-cover lorry and board the ferry for Oban.
- Jenny and Pavel escape the Mart and hide in the same cover lorry carrying a kit house. The sleep and wake up in Dumbarton.
- They travel on a bus from Lochmaddy to Lochboisdale.
- Jenny and Pavel meet McGovern on the ferry.
- Jenny and Pavel are captured on the station by Sandy and Angus Murdoch.
- Big Burdie comes to their rescue then Windy gives them a lift to the hospital.

### 2. Description

Choose a piece of description from the book and draw using your imagination.

### 3. Working together

The class chooses a scene, for example Hushwish Bay, and builds a freeze using pieces of harris tweed and other items you might find on Harris. e.g. wool, heather, grass, shells etc

### 4. Listening and Reading

As the children listen to the story they can summarise the chapters and characters and practice reading parts of the book. **See the chapter by chapter activities listed on Page 3**

### 5. How a Wind Turbine Works.

Ideally a local engineer would talk to the class about this but here is a diagram and a link to a YouTube video. [https://youtu.be/qSWm\\_nprfqE](https://youtu.be/qSWm_nprfqE)

## 6. Energy

Explore different kinds of energy with the class. Ideally visit a windfarm and a power station.

Carbon based :

Coal  
Gas  
Oil

Non Carbon based :

### **Wind power**

Hydro Electric  
Solar  
Nuclear  
Geothermal

## 7. Why is Carbon Free energy important?

The class should explore and discuss.

**What Is Carbon-Free Energy?** When **energy** sources are labeled **carbon-free**, the **energy** is produced by a resource that generates no **carbon** emissions, such as nuclear or large hydroelectric. Although these resources help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, they may impact the environment or the economy.

What is **Global Warming**? <https://youtu.be/n94lepehpm4>

What is **Climate Change**?

## 8. Windscape is a road journey down the west coast of Scotland.

The class can learn about the different islands and draw maps.

The story begins in Harris and ends up in a Dumbarton and Glasgow.

## 9. The Politics of Windscape

Voting and debate

The children can have a discussion about the pros and cons of wind farms and then vote for or against.

The children can also take the arguments and a voting slip home for their parents.

The result from Duns Primary was 50:50

## 10. Animation (optional)

The children can make plasticine models of the characters and animate a scene using a special camera.

## 11. An Author Visit (on line visit)

I can answer questions on the making of book and the characters.

I can see what the children have produced.

I can do an imagination workshop with the children over zoom. They will make up their own creature and give it characteristics, dialogue and add descriptions.

I can also chat about the follow up Jenny and Pavel adventure - **The Egg Thief** which looks at conservation in Scotland and politics elsewhere.



'Paul has also written 'Sunny', a book for children and young adults that looks at racism and sectarianism through an adventure story. He is currently working in a fantasy series called The Wizard Goldfish and has a book on exercise for the over 50's called 'Old Bloke Goes Running'.

As an ex-zoologist, he also writes a regular nature article for the Clydesider Magazine and is currently developing screenplays for TV and film. Screenplay and literary agent - **SMA Talent**'.

More info at [www.paulmurdoch.co.uk](http://www.paulmurdoch.co.uk)

## HOME ACTIVITIES

### Chapter by Chapter Activities

These activities are a 'starter for ten' and can be adapted/adjusted as required...

#### Chapter 1 - Hushwish Bay

*Topics to explore* : Find out what Fulmars and Kittiwakes are.

What is Marram Grass and what function does it have?

*Words to explore* : Calloused, Turquoise, Monolith...

*Emotions* : How is Jenny feeling when her father is explaining where the wind turbines will be located?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

#### Chapter 2 - The Pyre

*Topics to explore* : kelp, protests...

What are gannets and do people still eat them in the islands of Harris and Lewis?

*Words to explore* : acrid, Factor, pyre, deluded...

*Emotions* : How is Belfield feeling when he eventually goes off for help?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 3 - The Murdoch's

*Topics to explore* : bullying, Polish people in Scotland - immigration?

Most common non-British nationalities in Scotland, 2018



*Words to explore* : forlorn, keepsakes, cairn, riled...

*Emotions* : How is Belfield feeling about meeting Sandy Murdoch?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 4 - The Letter

*Topics to explore* : Shepherd's pie, traditions on Harris.

What is a manila envelope and how does it get its name?

*Words to explore* : bristled, posh, humdinging, sneaky...

*Emotions* : How is Jenny feeling when she is looking at the letters in the piano stool?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 5 - The Pianist

*Topics to explore* : lambing, mineral tubs...

Who were Bach and Chopin?

*Words to explore* : pickled, furtive, jibe, lament...

*Emotions* : How is Sandy feeling when he finds Pavel in his house?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 6 - The Discussion**

*Topics to explore* : peat and peat bogs, crofting... the piece of music called 'Highland Cathedral'.

What percentage of Scotland's power comes from wind farms?

*Words to explore* : animated, guffawed, graze, slithered, cardiology...

*Emotions* : How is Mr Murdoch feeling when Sandy has a go at Pavel?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 7 - The Decision**

*Topics to explore* : Uig, Tarbert, Stornaway... where are these ports? (Draw a map to show this)

What is an idiom? Give an example of one from this chapter.

*Words to explore* : persisted, exasperated, insurance, windfall, debt...

*Emotions* : How does Jenny feel when she finds out Pavel has read her letter?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 8 - The Escape**

*Topics to explore* : Whaling, Barn Owl, dipping sheep, ticks,

What is a parasite?

*Words to explore* : incline, limb, wisps, tarpaulin, roost, resignation...

*Emotions* : When Pavel teases Jenny about vampires and ghosts, does he take it too far ?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 9 - Tarbert**

*Topics to explore* : Ferries around Scotland, Tarbert and its meaning in Gaelic.

What is an abbreviation? What is the word 'Rep' short for?

*Words to explore* : Tarmac, lochen, contours, lolling, rickety, strewn,

*Emotions* : How does Jenny feel when Pavel refers to her as Jean?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 10 - Boats and Birds**

*Topics to explore* : The Giant Skua, Gaelic, what children's programme had the character 'Windy Miller'?

'Don't tar them all with the same brush' - what does that mean ?

*Words to explore* : purser, inlet, religious, turbines, impact, cringed...

*Emotions* : How did Jenny feel when Pavel confronted Windy about the dangers of Wind Farms?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 11 - Lochmaddy**

*Topics to explore* : North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist, Barra...

What is a timetable?

'Don't tar them all with the same brush' - what does that mean ?

*Words to explore* : agitated, hem, effortlessly, flutter, porthole, gurgle...

*Emotions* : How did Windy feel when Jenny asked for a lift in his car?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 12 - Panic at Hilltop**

*Topics to explore* : The surname McLeod, duffle bag, the Spanish town of Javea...

What has the name Murdoch got to with gas?

*Words to explore* : blankly, mutt, Mademoiselle, dread, kilter, bobbled, natty, Imbecile...

*Emotions* : How does Mrs Murdoch feel when Angus becomes angry at Jenny's disappearance?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 13 - South Uist

*Topics to explore* : stone circles, a 'kit house', lamb's foot knife

What is the most famous stone circle on Lewis called?

What do you think the teacher said to the bus driver on her way off of the bus?

*Words to explore* : brackish, purred, peered, blurted, virtue, tangle, fog-horn...

*Emotions* : How does Pavel feel when the school teacher recognises Jenny?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 14 - McGovern

*Topics to explore* : racism, whales and dolphins, Manx Shearwater...

What types of whale can be found in the waters around Scotland?

*Words to explore* : mournfully, racist, withering, hindsight, gangway...

*Emotions* : How does the man on ferry feel when he realises Pavel is from Poland? How does Jenny feel when the man confronts Pavel? How does Pavel feel? What does this incident make you feel?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 15 - Feeling Sick

*Topics to explore* : Scottish slang... blether, crabbit,

What size were McGovern's feet?

*Words to explore* : peely-wally, pegged, bolted, wretch, strewn...

*Emotions* : How does Mrs Murdoch feel when she discovers Angus Murdoch has been holding back the McLeod's letters?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 16 - The Big Clue

*Topics to explore* : sea sickness, Oban Cathedral, Follies,

Windy refers to WPD (wind power density). What other considerations might there be when deciding to place a wind turbine?

In the text it mentions 'Herculean proportions' - Who was Hercules?

*Words to explore* : dissolved, cistern, adopted, toddler, hostile, deference, starboard, ingenuity...

*Emotions* : How did McGovern feel when he was accused of being bad to Jenny by the woman with the toddlers?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 17 - The Bookshop**

*Topics to explore* : Bookshops - The oldest known **bookstore** still opened in France (and Europe) is the Librairie Nouvelle d'Orléans. Its owner in 1545 was Étienne Rouzeau. What else can you find out about book sellers?

Jenny says her dad likes 'fantasy and adventure books', what kind of books or stories do you like?

*Words to explore* : frogmarched, flailing, facade, lobbed, toppled, snitch...

*Emotions* : What emotions does Pavel experience as he drives in Windy's car with Jenny?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 18 - The Battle on the Brae**

*Topics to explore* : fables, saying thank you in Polish <https://youtu.be/L4kodGYaiSA>

Oban has a building that looks like a colosseum. Where is the original Colosseum? Who built it and when? What was it used for? Find out more about the one in Oban.

*Words to explore* : stowaway, sample, scanning, mutt, dunder-heed (dunderheed/dunderhead)...

*Emotions* : What did the older man in the bookshop feel after seeing Sandy at his glass door?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 19 - The Mart**

*Topics to explore* : Marts, auctions...

What animals are sold at auction marts in Scotland? Where is your nearest Mart?

*Words to explore* : donkey-jacket, baler twine, froth, podium...

*Emotions* : What could be going through Sandy's mind when he eventually unties Jenny and Pavel?



*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 20 - The Truck**

*Topics to explore* : different kinds of knots, Loch Lomond...

How old is Dumbarton Castle? What famous Scottish Hero was supposed to have been held there before being taken to his execution?

*Words to explore* : hitch, boggy, lay-by, struts, furious, snoring...

*Emotions* : Why does Jenny throw the letter away?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 21 - Dumbarton Rock**

*Topics to explore* : camels, granite, the River Leven, Formica.

What is the difference between a carrion crow and a hooded crow. (Draw)

*Words to explore* : corrugated, frayed, ignition, moored, throttle, carcasses...

*Emotions* : What is Jenny feeling as Pavel steals the cruiser in Dumbarton?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*



What's wrong with this picture?

## Chapter 22 - Some Old Trouble

*Topics to explore* : calamine lotion, life jackets, pantomimes...

What might have turned Sandy Murdoch into a bully? Translate - 'there's a dug in the drink'

*Words to explore* : estuary, thugs, mooched, cuff, juddered, gushing, sheen, manic...

*Emotions* : What is Flynn thinking as he negotiates with Angus Murdoch?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 23 - The Tunnel

*Topics to explore* : the word 'Ned', monuments...

What monuments do you have near your school?

*Words to explore* : shimmied, dolefully, squinted, cluster, chattering, wry...

*Emotions* : What is Lord most interested in when Jenny is trying to get Flynn's jacket?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 24 - Evil Intent

*Topics to explore* : sandstone, sewage plants, the River Clyde

The Clyde is a major river on the west coast of Scotland that passes through Glasgow, what's the big river on the east coast that serves Edinburgh?

*Words to explore* : intent, yobs, cronies, surreptitiously, stalk-still, loathing...

*Emotions* : What was the nurse thinking when Hamish pushed past her?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## Chapter 25 - Framed

*Topics to explore* : wrestling, Blackberry (type of mobile phone), Hummer...

Big Birdie is described as a gorilla - The Gorilla is the largest living primate. What is a primate?

*Words to explore* : retinue, henchmen, runts, 'hen', framed, glowered, double-take...

*Emotions* : What is Flynn feeling when he is framed by Pavel? What does Windy feel when he is told the truth?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 26 - The Right Bed**

*Topics to explore* : wheelchairs, disability, maternity ward,

What are the Paralympic Games?

*Words to explore* : flagging, prospect, abandoned, buckled, resolutely, lilting, accusatory, 'Pre-op'.

*Emotions* : What is Jenny feeling when she finds out that it wasn't her dad's empty bed?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 27 - The Showdown**

*Topics to explore* : porters, pulse, heart rate, blood pressure...

The hospital porters play a big part in this chapter. What other kinds of people might work in a hospital?

*Words to explore* : showdown, gown, mishmash, assumed, braced, bedraggled...

*Emotions* : What thoughts go through Jenny's head when she finds out the lady protester is Pavel's mum?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

## **Chapter 28 - The Summer Wind**

*Topics to explore* : peregrine falcon, shepherd's crook, the island of Mauritius...

What species of geese migrate to Scotland in winter?

*Words to explore* : obelisk, eyesore, triumphantly, skene, moderation, tumbling...

*Emotions* : Why might Jenny have forgiven Pavel?

*Summarise the chapter in a few sentences, draw a favourite scene, write out your favourite piece of description...*

*What's wrong with this picture?*



