



Explore the world around you

In the story Annie lives on the edge of a great marsh. Annie spends a lot of time in the marsh so she knows it very well.

On page 6 we find out about some of the things she knows:

She knew about the nests among the flags and rushes. She knew where to find the dark pools teeming with shrimps and scooters. She knew the calls of the seabirds, the sucking sounds of draining mud, the wind hissing in the sea lavender.

What can you find out about the world around you?

Go for a **walk** near your home, perhaps along your route to school, or to the local playground. Look around you and see what you can find. You might see plants or trees, birds or animals. Do you know any of their names?

Take a pencil and paper with you and make notes or sketches.

How does your area **change** over time? Big changes occur depending on the season, but even day to day there can be differences. Go for the same walk one day, or even one week, later and see what has changed since your last walk. Have some flowers blossomed or died? Are there different birds or animals around? Has the wind or rain changed anything?

If you would like to, you could write a short paragraph describing how the place you have walked would look and feel on a bright sunny summer's day and another describing how it might look and feel if you were walking there when it's dark or stormy in the middle of winter.

