The all-new MagicTreeHouse.com brings the adventure of the beloved series to life, as young readers join Jack and Annie on exciting new missions through time and around the globe. On each mission they'll uncover clues and solve puzzles all based on the factual information found in the books. Players can play over 60 unique missions, earn Mission Medallions, fill up their Magic Tree House reading passports, watch videos, and more.

Join the free Magic Tree House Teachers Club today! Features include:

- **Resource Center** with teachers guides and printable activity sheets—searchable by book title and theme
- **Classroom Idea Forum** for finding and sharing curriculum hooks
- **Featured Articles** from authors, educators, and librarians
- **Magic Tree House Educator of the Year** submission information and gallery of winning entries
Creating Magic Tree House excitement in your classroom is the key to success in using the website. Use the following tips to help motivate your students:

• Set aside time every day to read aloud to your class from a Magic Tree House adventure. This will ensure a feeling of community in your classroom and provide a shared language among the students. As you read each book, stop along the way to refer to the accompanying Magic Tree House Research Guide for an opportunity to expand on concepts beyond the text. You will discover topics that interest your students and be able to personalize upcoming classroom activities.

• As Jack and Annie sequentially unravel the mysteries in the Magic Tree House adventures, they make many discoveries along the way to help solve riddles, break spells, and assist Morgan. As you read the books to your class, place the object they discover or the answer to the riddle they solve in a Magic Tree House backpack at the end of each adventure for the children to find.

• Encourage students to bring their own copy of the book and research guide you are reading in class to share with classmates as they follow along when you read. Provide a special area to display the books. This visual display creates a feeling of ownership with the Magic Tree House experience and stimulates anticipation.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:
The Magic Tree House Missions Game

The Magic Tree House Missions Game involves students in unique “missions” based on both the fiction and nonfiction books. A first clue will lead the children to select the Magic Tree House book that matches the clue and they are off on an exciting journey with Jack and Annie to solve a puzzle or break a code, earning rewards along the way! Here are a few ways to effectively use the game in the classroom as you extend the concepts across the curriculum:

First Mission
To get your class started, browse the new website on your classroom video display as a class, showing the children the many features available to them before allowing them to individually visit the website. Go on your first classroom “mission” together as you introduce the Magic Tree House Game. Younger students will benefit from a few group missions before playing the game on an individual basis. Be sure to cheer as the class correctly answers questions that will help the class break a code or solve a puzzle! After your students become familiar with the game, you can provide them ample opportunities to complete their missions at your computer center.

Mission Control
Provide each student with a Magic Tree House Welcome Kit, which includes a Mission Log, Master Librarian Card, bookmarks, and door dangler signs. You can print these out at teachers.randomhouse.com. Allow students time to make up a username and password for their Master Librarian Card. (Be sure to record this information in the event a card is lost.) Create a “Mission Control Center” in your classroom with a pocket chart or teacher-made poster with pockets for each student to house their Master Librarian Cards and Mission Logs. This will provide easy access to these materials as students complete each mission and will encourage participation.

Mission Accomplished!
Students will earn a silver medallion at the end of a mission if they solve the puzzle and haven’t made many mistakes along the way. A bronze medallion will be awarded to students who had difficulty answering questions. Children have the option to replay missions to upgrade their medallions. Silver medallions are upgraded to gold medallions for answering Morgan le Fay’s bonus question at the end of each mission.
Keep a treasure chest of gold coins earned by your students as they complete their missions. Purchase inexpensive plastic gold coins and a cardboard treasure box, which can be found at most party supply stores. Each time a child completes a mission earning a gold coin, they should put a plastic gold coin in the treasure box. When the class reaches a predetermined class goal, treat them with a special reward!

A Noted Mission
During each mission, students are given the opportunity to take free form notes in a notebook, just as Jack does in the Magic Tree House adventures. This will help them remember vital information needed to complete a successful mission, as well as practice their skills in note-taking, summarizing, and paraphrasing. To help develop effective note-taking skills in your students, provide each student with a small notepad and pencil during your Magic Tree House read-aloud time. Instruct them to make simple notes about things they think are important in each chapter. Stop after each chapter to allow time for sharing and comparing notes. Have a large piece of chart paper to record responses. Decide as a class what the most important point in the chapter was, and put a check mark beside it.

Mission Memories
Provide children with opportunities to expand their online experiences by keeping an “End-of-Mission Journal.” Recalling facts about their mission in a sequential order and writing about their favorite part of each mission will sharpen their critical thinking skills and provide them with a way to share experiences with classmates.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:
My Library and Passport
Students are able to select any fiction or nonfiction Magic Tree House book from the website’s library and read an excerpt or add the book to their online reading passport or wish list.

It’s in the Bag!
Display Magic Tree House books on a display shelf in the same manner as they appear on the “My Library” section of the website. Set up a system where children can check the books out to read at home, encouraging them to check out the fiction and corresponding nonfiction together. Send the books home in a Magic Tree House Book Bag where you can also include activities related to the book from the Teacher Resource Center. Inexpensive cloth tote bags can be purchased at craft supply stores for this purpose. You may choose to decorate the bags for each adventure using related graphics applied with iron-on transfer material also available at craft stores. Enlist a committee of parent volunteers to help you create the bags.
CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS: Tree Mail

Tree Mail is a feature of the website that will give children updates on the latest Magic Tree House news. They can send Tree Mail to Mary Pope Osborne, who will periodically answer their questions through video segments. Teach your students to be effective communicators by building higher-level questioning skills with the following activities:

You’ve Got Mail!

Provide opportunities for your students to develop their letter-writing skills as they prepare to send Tree Mail to Mary Pope Osborne! Start with a friendly letter mini lesson:

- Begin by sharing books and websites with students that give good examples of a friendly letter.
- Allow children to bring letters they have received from friends and relatives to share with the class. Be sure to share letters you have received and express the enjoyment you get from receiving mail.
- Brainstorm a class list on why we write letters. Find the examples of letters written in some of the Magic Tree House books, such as the letter of invitation in Christmas in Camelot, and discuss their purposes.
- Introduce the five parts of a friendly letter—date, greeting, body, closing, and signature—by modeling writing a friendly letter on chart paper or on an overhead transparency.
- Assist your students in designing a Magic Tree Mailbox for the classroom. Allow them to write Tree Mail to each other and place their letters in the mailbox to share with classmates. They might also enjoy designing their own Magic Tree House stationary!
- Next, have your students use the template on the website to write their friendly letters to Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce. After proofreading, students can submit their online Tree House Mail!

Stamp of Accomplishment!

Online passports allow students to collect stamps on the books they read in class and on their own. Use this opportunity to teach more about the places Jack and Annie visit by allowing them to create a travel bag to take along on their journeys. Make travel bags out of two pieces of large construction paper rounded on the corners. Staple or glue around the outside edges, leaving the top open. Attach a “handle” to the edges of the top of the bag. As they earn each passport stamp online, also have some stamps printed out in advance for them to cut out and glue on their travel bags.

Provide copies of a world map to include in students’ travel bags. At the top of the map, be sure that they include the name of the Magic Tree House book and the name of the corresponding continent/country that is the setting for the book. Have them trace Jack and Annie’s journey from Frog Creek, Pennsylvania, to the appropriate country they are visiting with a pencil or marker and then color the continent. Challenge them to answer questions about the continent/country using the Research Guide, an atlas, and other resources. Such questions might include: In what hemisphere is this continent located? How large is the continent? What is the population? What is the climate like? What languages are spoken there? What types of transportation could you use to travel there? What landforms are found on this continent?

Prepared by Paula Henson, Christian Academy of Knoxville, Tennessee, and the 2007 Magic Tree House Educator of the Year.