

PART 4: THE LOVERS

Home learning resources



If you have one, use your 'Dream Journal' notebook to record your work in this home learning resource. If you don't have one, you could make your own or use paper...

Watch our video to find out more about Hermia, Lysander, Helena and Demetrius, the four young people for who the course of true love never *did* run smooth...

'Home Learning Video 4: The Lovers' on our YouTube channel

Make sure you ask permission before using YouTube!

TASK 1: CREATING THE LOVERS

You will need: 4 sheets of paper and scissors (or 4 cut-out characters), colouring pens or pencils (if you have them)

In the video Sue, Matt and Joe tell us about Hermia, Lysander, Helena and Demetrius. the four young Athenians who are known in the story as 'The Lovers'.

- A. Cut out the 4 characters or draw your own (but draw them nice and big so that they can be cut out easily) and then cut them out.

[See the four character templates on pages 5 and 6]

**In the video Peter tells us that the one thing that we know is that Helena is quite tall and Hermia is short, so if you're drawing them yourself try to show this! You can draw Lysander and Demetrius however you think they might look!*

- B. Colour in your characters in any way you like and write their name on the scroll underneath them: Hermia, Lysander, Helena, Demetrius (you could write each character's name in a different style and colour) and add any details that you like - patterns on their clothes, for example!



TASK 2: SUCH A HEART AS YOU

You will need: your 'Dream Journal' or paper and a *pen or pencil*

In the video we hear a big argument that Helena and Demetrius have in the forest. Helena has followed Demetrius because she is in love with him, but he tells her that he doesn't like her at all and to go away.

Imagine that you are either Helena or Demetrius at the end of that scene.

- A. In your Dream Journal, write down as many words as you can think of that describe how your characters feeling
- B. Using a thesaurus or online dictionary, see if you can find 5 new words to add to your list
- C. In ancient Greece, sometimes people would leave gifts or offerings to a god or goddess in the hope of their wish being granted. If the wish was to do with love, the one to help would be *Aphrodite* the goddess of love! Here in the forest there are few objects that she might accept as an offering, so your character decides to write a letter to the goddess to beg her to help solve their problem. They sit down beneath the trees and begin to write...

*If you're writing as **Helena** you might tell Aphrodite...*

- *how she fell in love with Demetrius*
- *the things Demetrius has said and done, yet still she loves him*
- *what she would like him to do and say to her*
- *How your life with Demetrius could be if only he loved you back*

*If you're writing as **Demetrius** you might tell Aphrodite...*

- *the ways in which Helena is always getting on your nerves*
- *why you don't love Helena and who you really love (Hermia!)*
- *what you wish Helena would do instead of running after you*
- *how you would feel if only Hermia would love you back*

In your Dream Journal, write Helena or Demetrius' letter to Aphrodite. You could write your own or use the first line below to help you...

Most radiant goddess,

Please hear my prayer...

TASK 3: THE LOVER'S STORY

You will need: your four 'cut-out' characters, some space on the floor or table

In the video, you hear what happens to the lovers during the story, from beginning to end. A lot happens to them, so you might want to watch this part again.

*As we tell the story we move the characters around, so that we can understand their story better. So, if a character likes another character a lot we move them close together, but if they don't like each other as much we move them apart. We also show when characters are running after each other (because they seem to do a lot of that in the story!).

[For a written version of the lovers' story see page 7]

Now, using your own 4 cut out characters you can either:

A. Play the video again and move your own characters around as we tell the story

OR

B. Read for yourself or get someone to help you by reading the story out loud whilst you move the characters around

**You'll really get a sense of how complicated the lovers' story is and how much they move around and change their minds!*

TASK 4: THE COURSE OF TRUE LOVE

You will need: your 'Dream Journal' or paper and a pen or pencil

There is lots of love in this story. Love can be cruel and love can be kind... a bit like people! In fact, 'Love' could almost *be* a character in this story!

Let's say that love IS a person. Answer these questions and write them down. Be as imaginative as you like, and remember that love can change and be confusing!

- *What would love LOOK LIKE?*
- *What does love WEAR?*
- *How does love MOVE?*
- *What does love SAY?*

Now put your answers into sentences. The first sentence should be 'I am Love' and then each son your sentences should begin 'I' and each sentence should start on a new line. Here's an example poem:

*I am Love,
I wear a dazzling red sequinned coat made of smiles,
I wear a black silk scarf made from people tears,
I strut around on Wednesdays, but I creep on Fridays
I whisper the names of those who you are trying to forget.*

Draw a picture of your character of 'Love' if you like!

TASK 5: JOYS AND FRESH DAYS OF LOVE

You will need: Pens, paper, card, some craft materials (but it don't worry if you don't have any!)

The course of true love *DEFINITELY* doesn't 'run smooth' for Hermia, Lysander, Helena and Demetrius. At the climax of their story, when everything is confused and they are all angry & love sick what advice would we give them? What could they do differently in order to be happier and feel better about themselves?

Can you think of 3 happy, positive things the you could suggest to the characters to help them feel better about things? Here are some ideas we had, but you can think of your own:

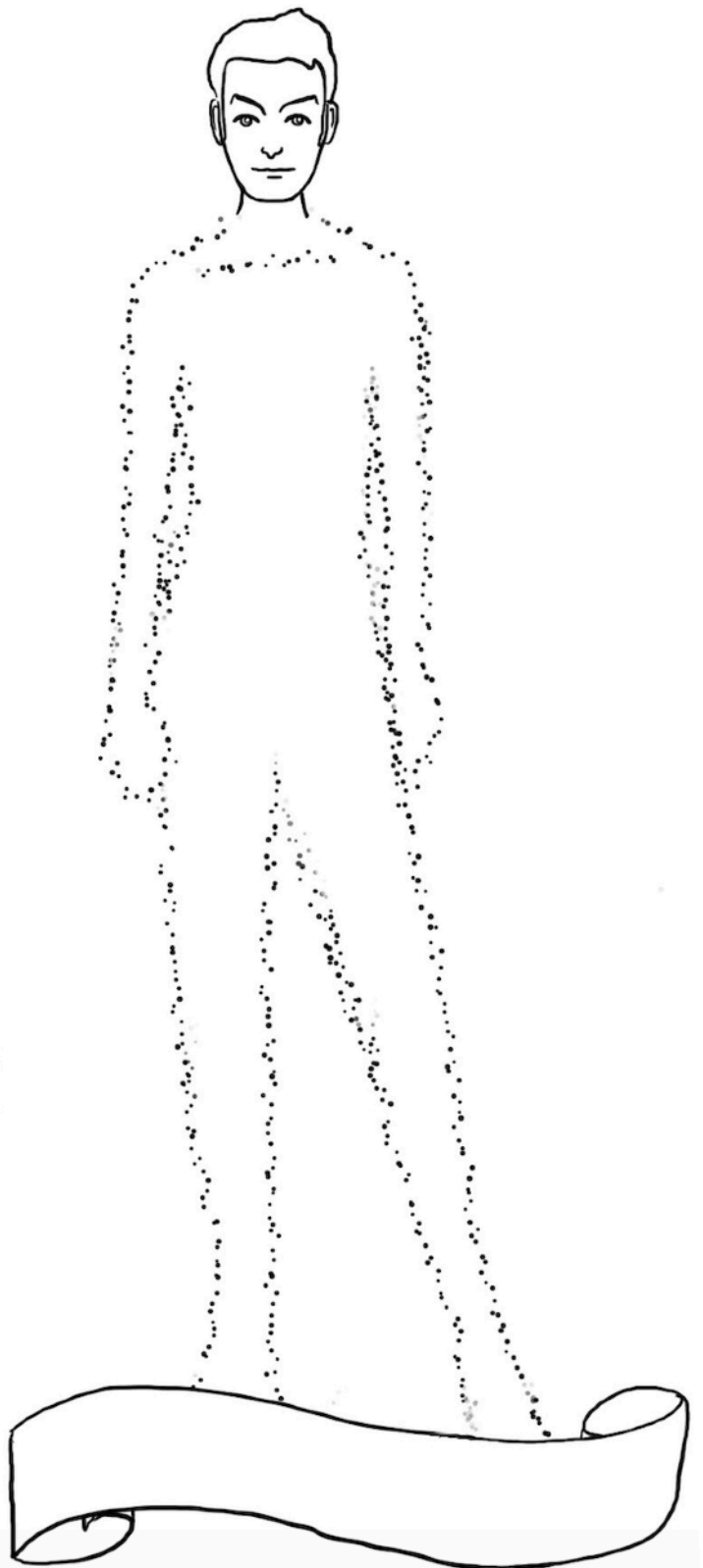
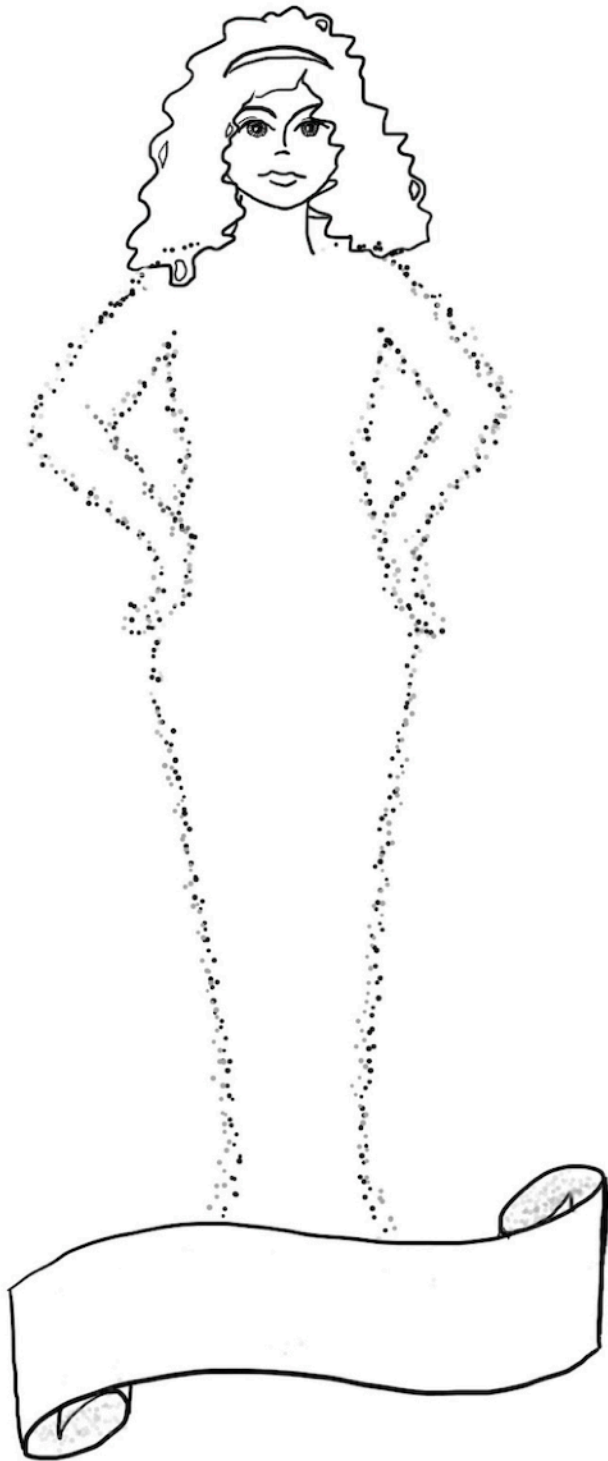
- Be mindful! Notice something from nature and watch it closely - like a bird hopping around some grass!
- Do a kind thing for someone or help someone else who needs it - like giving directions to someone who is lost!
- Go for a walk or spend time somewhere that you feel happy and safe
- Say thank you to someone who has done something for you
- Spend half an hour doing something you really enjoy

Decide on your ideas (or use some from our list if you like them). Write the ideas on different bits of paper or card and draw a picture to represent each one. You could stick them up around your room if you like.

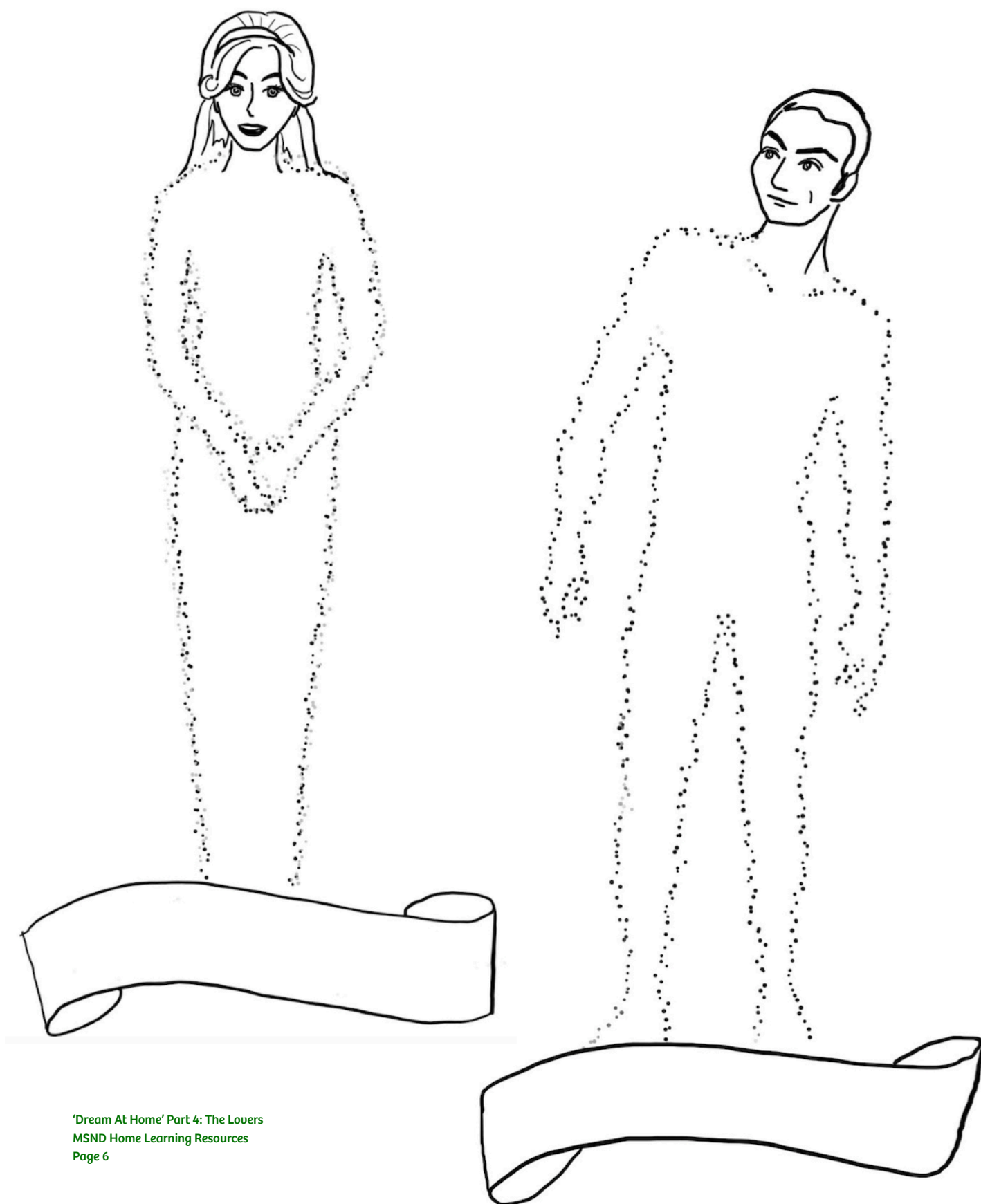
Can you invent a playlist for the four lovers - a collection of happy songs with a positive message!

RESOURCES FOR HOME LEARNING VIDEO 4: THE LOVERS

THE LOVERS - HERMIA AND LYSANDER TEMPLATES



THE LOVERS - HELENA AND DEMETRIUS TEMPLATES



THE LOVERS' STORY

- Hermia wants to marry Lysander and Lysander wants to marry Hermia.
- Hermia's father wants her to marry Demetrius, but Hermia doesn't love Demetrius
- Hermia's best friend Helena loves Demetrius, but Demetrius doesn't love Helena
- To escape her father's demands, Hermia and Lysander run away to the forest to be together
- Demetrius decides to follow Hermia and Lysander and Helena decides to follow Demetrius
- In the forest, Oberon sees Helena and Demetrius arguing. He tells Puck to give Demetrius a love potion (while he 's asleep) so that he will love Helena, but Puck accidentally gives it to Lysander instead! Lysander wakes up and sees Helena and falls in love with her!
- So now, Hermia loves Lysander, but Lysander loves Helena. Hermia is very upset and angry with them both.
- Puck gives the potion to Demetrius to make him love Helena. This time it works!
- But now Lysander and Demetrius are both in love with Helena ,and neither of them loves Hermia. Helena thinks everybody is playing a trick on her and is very upset
- Helena and Hermia have a big argument
- Puck sorts everything out by reversing Lysander's love spell, so that he loves Hermia again.
- Puck leaves Demetrius under the love spell so that he stays in love with Helena - and she is delighted!
- Hermia's father changes his mind and they all get married - Hurray!

For more like this, visit northwestdramaservices.co.uk/dreamathome