

# PART 5: THE MECHANICALS

## 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 The Mechanicals- the ordinary folk who are trying to do something extraordinary!

**['Home Learning Video 5: The Mechanicals' on our YouTube channel](#)**

*Make sure you ask permission before using YouTube!*

### TASK 1: A CREW OF PATCHES, RUDE MECHANICALS

**You will need:** your 'Dream Journal' or paper, a pen or pencil and colouring pens (if you have them), scissors and glue

In the video Joe introduces 'The Mechanicals', a group of villagers who are to meet in the woods to rehearse a play. But they are not professional actors. They are ordinary people who earn their living by carrying out their particular trade. [For a description of the Mechanicals see page 5]

- Cut out the name plate for each character (at the bottom of this page) and stick them into your Dream Journal (it's probably best to do this one at a time).
- Think of 3 tools or pieces of equipment that someone who does their job would need. You might want to do some research on the internet into the jobs to help you (but remember to ask permission first!). Draw a picture of the 3 tools or pieces of equipment and label them.

<b>PETER QUINCE</b> CARPENTER	<b>NICK BOTTOM</b> WEAVER
<b>FRANCIS FLUTE</b> BELLOWS MENDER	<b>TOM SNOOT</b> TINKER
<b>ROBIN STARVELING</b> TAILOR	<b>SNUG</b> JOINER

## TASK 2: IS ALL OUR COMPANY HERE?

**You will need:** One of the Mechanicals character templates, your Dream Journal or paper, scissors, glue, pens and some coloured pens or pencils (if you have them)

In the video Matt tells us about the play the Mechanicals are going to perform, called 'Pyramus and Thisbe'. Quince, who is going to be the director of the play, tells the group what parts they are to play.

[For the 'Pyramus and Thisbe' character list see page 8]

A. Choose one of the Mechanicals, cut out and stick their template into your Dream Journal. Make sure you know who they are going to play!

[For character templates see pages 6 and 7 and for the 'Pyramus and Thisbe' character list see page 8]

B. Think about the costume they might wear to play their character. On a separate piece of paper, draw and colour in their costume. You might want to place your paper over the top of the character template so that you can make sure you draw their costume to the correct size.

C. Carefully cut out their costume and stick it over the template so they are ready to perform their play!

*\*The Mechanicals would probably have to use whatever they have lying around to make their costumes... I wonder what they might use? For example, Snout's 'wall' costume might be made of old saucepan lids, because he is a 'tinker' who mends metal objects*

Label your costume design with as much detail as you can (including telling us what it is made of).

## TASK 3: BOTTOM'S "MOST RARE VISION"

**You will need:** your 'Dream Journal' or paper and a pen or pencil, colouring pencils (if you have them)

In the video, Matt and Joe tell us about how, whilst The Mechanicals are rehearsing their play in the woods, something very strange happens to Bottom, the weaver.

[For a written version of 'Bottom's transformation' see page 8]

When Titania wakes, she is in love with Bottom! She tells him that he must stay with her forever, and that her fairies will 'fetch thee jewels from the deep' and 'sing whilst thou on pressed flowers doth sleep'... basically she will give Bottom anything and everything his heart desires!

- A. Bottom may be a humble weaver, but he has big dreams! In the middle of a clean page of your Dream Journal draw a picture of Bottom (remember that at the moment he's a human with a donkey's head!) sitting on his 'flowery bed'.



Around your picture, draw and label all the things that Bottom asks the fairies for (you could draw each one in a thought bubble to show that he's thinking about them!)

- B. Bottom thinks he's a fantastic actor. Imagine that he asks the fairies to bring him an Oscar, a very famous award for his brilliant performance in the duke's play!

He's going to need to make an acceptance speech! Can you write one for him? It might start...

*Thank you! Thank you everyone for this wonderful award! I would like to thank...*



## TASK 4: THE NIGHT BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE

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

I wonder what the Mechanicals are feeling the night before their performance... Tomorrow they will perform the play for Duke Theseus at his court and he will decide if it is good enough to be performed on his wedding day!

It's the night before the performance and the Mechanicals are going to write about how they are feeling in their diary... Choose which of The Mechanicals you are going to write as, and decide how they would be feeling the night before the performance.

[For the Pyramus and Thisbe character list see page 8]

- A. First, tell us what your Mechanical *expects*... (What will the duke's court be like? What will the duke himself be like?)
- B. Next, tell us what your Mechanical *hopes*... (How does he hope the performance will go? What does he hope the duke will say to them?)

- C. Finally, tell us what your Mechanical is *worried about...* (*Is he worried he'll forget their lines... that the ladies will be scared of the lion... that the Duke won't like their play?*)

## **TASK 5: THE ACTOR'S ARE AT HAND**

**You will need:** Home Learning Video 5 ('Pyramus and Thisbe' which begins at 5 mins and 10 seconds), your 'Dream Journal' or paper and a *pen or pencil*,

It probably won't come as a surprise to know that The Mechanicals play is terrible!

Imagine that you are Peter Quince, watching the final rehearsal before the performance for the Duke!

[For the Pyramus and Thisbe character list see page 8]

You're going to have one last chance to give the actors some advice for how to give a good performance! Write the following heading on a clean page of your Dream Journal (or paper):

### Quince's Director's Notes

Watch the play being performed by The Mechanicals in the video (played by Sue, Peter, Matt and Joe). What would Quince write in his director's notebook? He'll probably have plenty to tell the actors, such as *what they should do to play their characters well...*

You might comment on how they should:

- Use their *voice to show their body*
- Use their *body to show their character*
- Use *costume to show their character*
- *Say their lines to make the story clear*

[For the Pyramus and Thisbe script see pages 9 and 10]

**For more like this, visit [northwestdramaservices.co.uk/dreamathome](http://northwestdramaservices.co.uk/dreamathome)**

# RESOURCES FOR HOME LEARNING VIDEO 5: THE MECHANICALS

## A DESCRIPTION OF THE MECHANICALS

**Peter Quince**

*a carpenter* (someone who makes useful things from wood)

**Nick Bottom**

*a weaver* (someone who weaves cloth)

**Francis Flute**

*a bellows mender* (someone who mended bellows used to keep a fire going)

**Tom Snout**

*a tinker* (someone who mends household metal utensils like spoons, pots and pans)

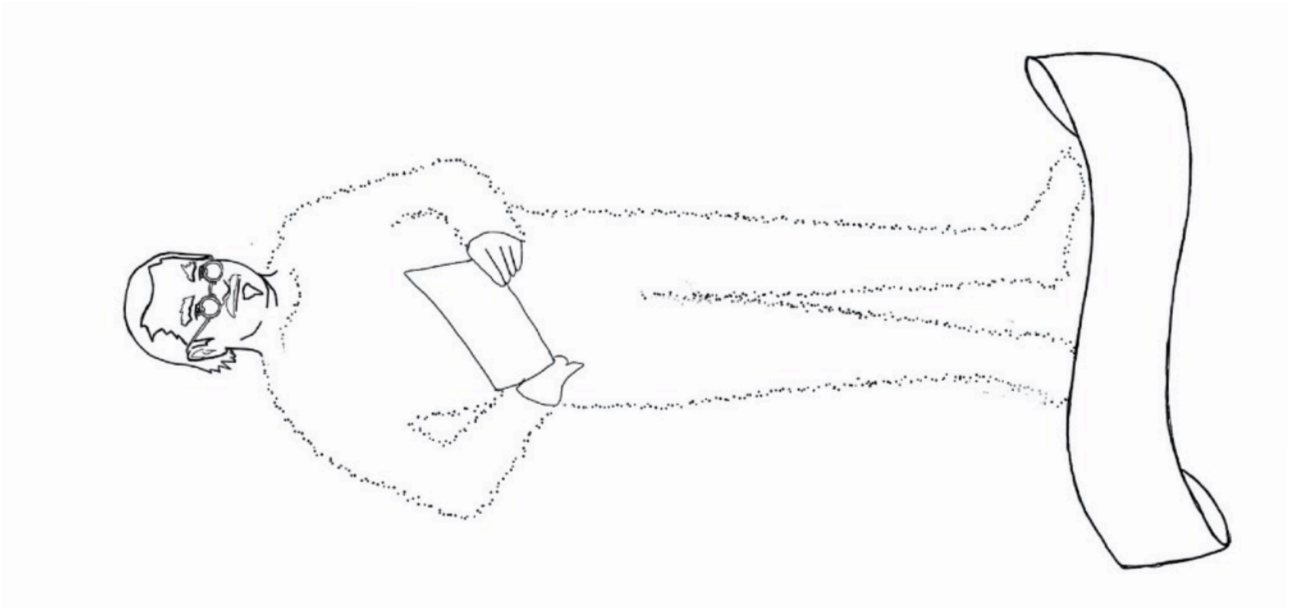
**Robin Starveling**

*a tailor* (someone who makes clothes)

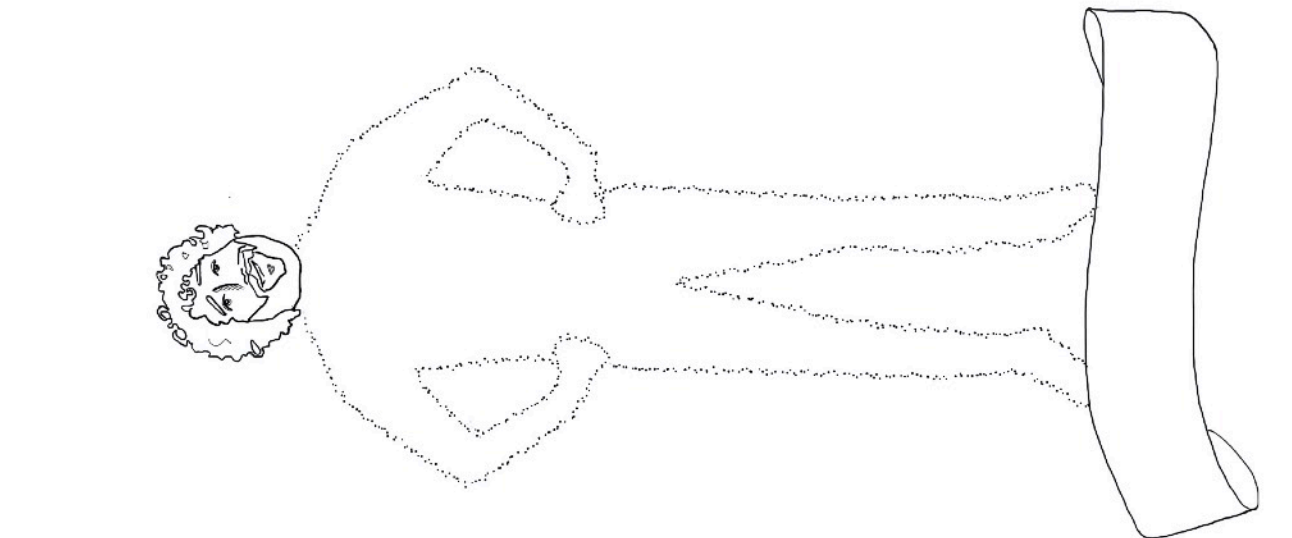
**Snug**

*a joiner* (a similar job to a carpenter, but involves 'joining' pieces of wood in a workshop)

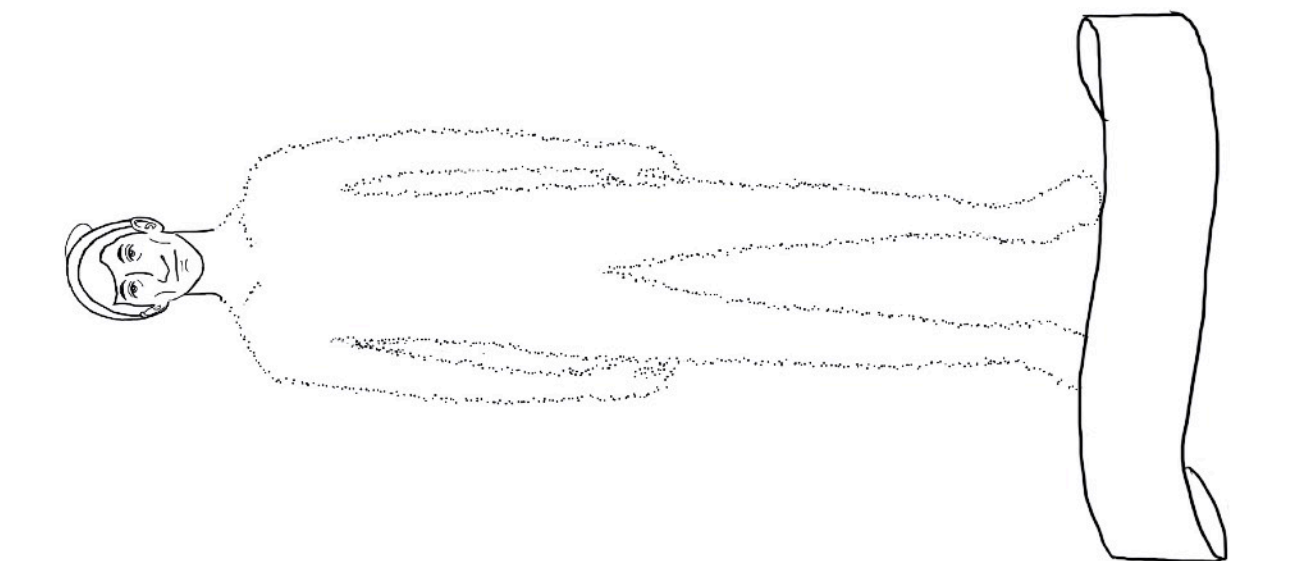
# THE MECHANICALS CHARACTER TEMPLATES



Quince

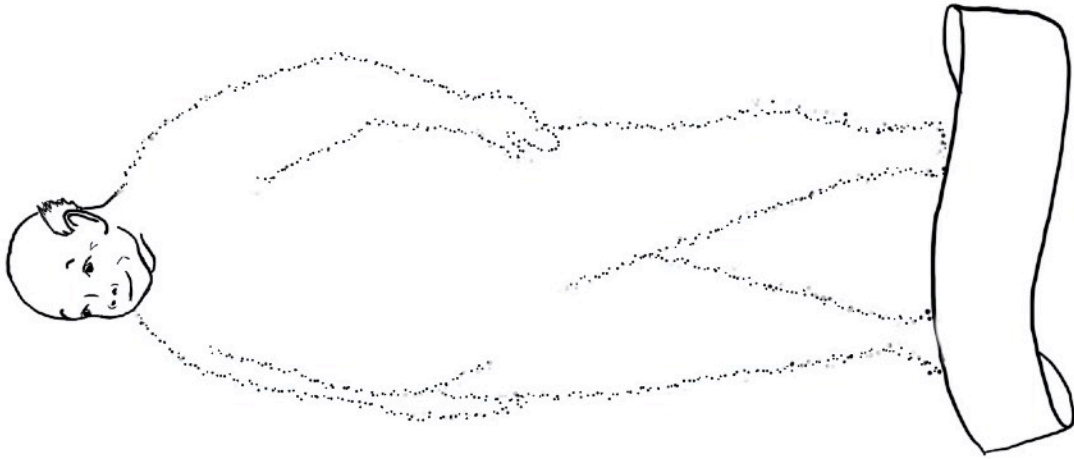


Bottom

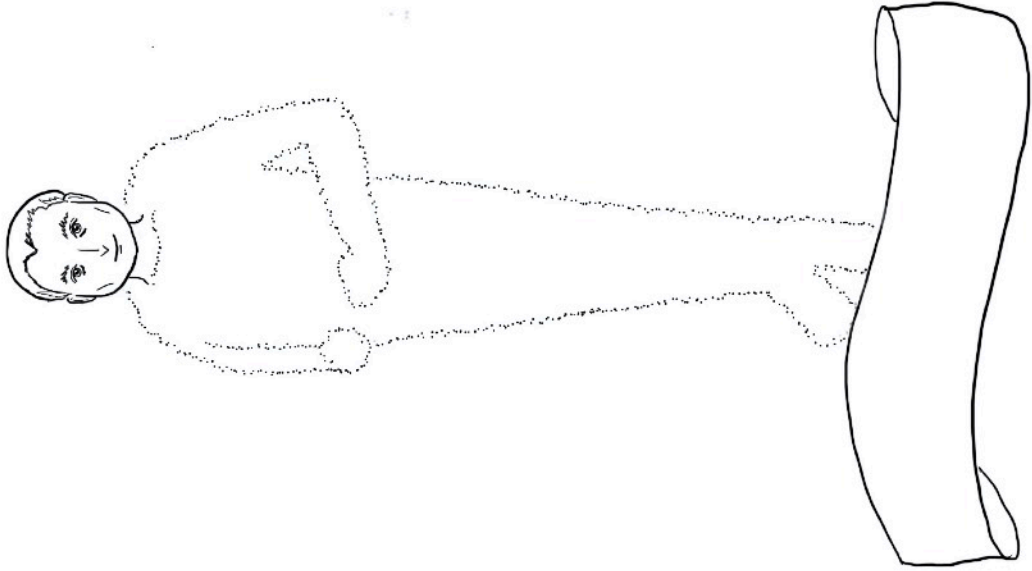


Flute

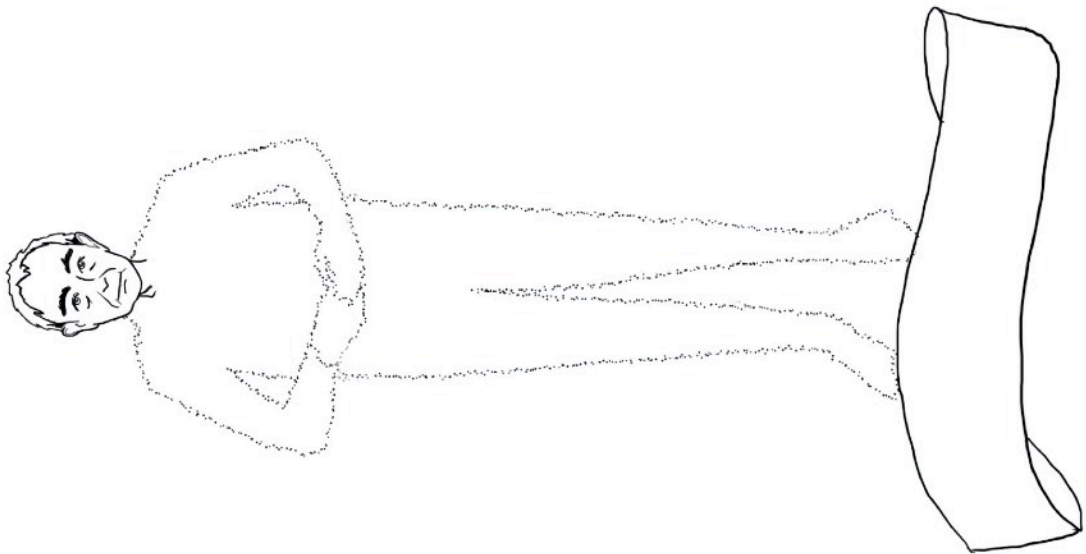
# THE MECHANICALS CHARACTER TEMPLATES



Snout



Starveling



Snug

## PYRAMUS AND THISBE CHARACTER LIST

Actor		Character
<b>Nick Bottom</b> the <i>weaver</i>	=	<b>Pyramus</b> (‘a most lovely gentleman like man’)
<b>Francis Flute</b> the <i>bellows mender</i>	=	<b>Thisbe</b> (‘the lady that Pyramus must love’)
<b>Tom Snout</b> the <i>tinker</i>	=	<b>Wall</b> (a wall)
<b>Robin Starveling</b> the <i>tailor</i>	=	<b>Moonshine</b> (the moon)
<b>Snug</b> the <i>joiner</i>	=	<b>Lion</b> (a lion)
<b>Peter Quince</b> the <i>carpenter</i>	=	Director & Narrator

## BOTTOM’S TRANSFORMATION

The next night while the mechanicals are rehearsing their play they are spotted by Puck. He has been given the task of finding some horrible creature for Titania to fall in love with. Oberon has poured a drop of juice from a magical flower into her eye and when she wakes she will fall in love with the first creature that she sees! And Puck decides that that creature will be Bottom!

When Bottom goes off into the trees to get ready for his entrance, Puck casts a spell on him which transforms his head into that of a donkey! When the other mechanicals see Bottom’s donkey head they run away in terror. Bottom is very confused. At that moment, Titania wakes and falls instantly and completely in love with Bottom.



## **PYRAMUS AND THISBE - THE SCRIPT**

Quince      **Gentles, perchance you wonder at this show,  
But wonder on, till truth makes all things plain...**

*Exit Quince. Enter Wall.*

Wall          **In this same interlude it doth befall  
That I, one Snout by name, doth present a wall  
Through which the lovers, Pyramus and Thisbe  
Did whisper, often very secretly!**

*Enter Pyramus and Thisbe.*

Pyramus      **O wall! O sweet and lovely wall  
That stands between her father's ground and mine  
Show me thy chink to blink through with mine eye (Wall obeys)**

Thisbe        **O wall! Often hast though heard my moans  
For parting my fair Pyramus and me!**

Pyramus      **I see a voice! Thisbe!**

Thisbe        **My love? 'Tis my love I think!**

Pyramus      **Will thou meet me as Ninny's tomb?**

Quince        (From off stage) **Ninus' tomb, man!**

Pyramus      **Will thou meet me at Ninus' tomb?**

Thisbe        **'Tide life, 'tide death, I come without delay.**

Wall          **Wall so. Wall go!**

*Exit Wall, Pyramus and Thisbe. Enter Lion.*

Lion          **You ladies, you, whose gentle hearts do fear  
the smallest monstrous mouse that creeps on floor  
May now, perchance both quake and tremble here  
When lion roughing wildest rage doth roar!**

**Then know that I one Snug the joiner am!**

*Enter Moon.*

**Moon**      ***All that I have to say is to tell you this is the moon,  
and I the man in the moon and this dog my dog.***

*A sign saying 'Ninus' Tomb' is revealed*

**Thisbe**      **'This is Ninny's tomb. Where is my love?**

**Lion**      ***ROAR!***

*Thisbe casts off her mantle (cloak) and runs away. Lion exits after her. Enter Pyramus.*

**Pyramus**      *(seeing the mantle)* **What dreadful dole is here?  
Thy mantle good  
What, stained with blood?  
Come, tears, confound;  
Out sword, and wound  
the pap of Pyramus.  
Thus die I, thus, thus, thus... *(Pyramus falls down dead)***

**Now am I dead  
Now am I fled  
My soul is in the sky.  
Tongue lose thy light!  
Moon take thy flight! *(Exit Moon)*  
Now die, die, die, die, die!**

*Enter Thisbe who sees Pyramus in the tomb.*

**Thisbe**      **Asleep my love?  
What dead my dove?  
These yellow cowslip cheeks  
His eyes were green as leeks  
Come trusty sword!  
Farewell friends  
Thus Thisbe ends  
Adieu, Adieu, Adieu *(Thisbe falls down dead)***

*Enter Lion.*

**Lion**      **The end!**