

Winter Treasures Teacher Manual



Appendix 1

The following pages are masters for the three pre-trip letters to the class from Epash (numbered 1-3 on the bottom of the first page of each letter) to be put out for the children before the trip. The final letter from Epash is to you and provides additional information about Epash. Please refer to page 11 for instructions on how and when to use the letters.

Winter Treasures



Dear Class,

My name is Epash. I am a creature from another time when there were many different kinds of magical creatures. I am called a shape shifter because I can change into different shapes in nature. Sometimes you can find me in the shape of a tree, or maybe in a bush, or maybe in the shape of a snow bank. You may have seen me and didn't know it because I am very shy. I almost never move when people are around. I am the last shape-shifter here who is free to move. I am an endangered species. All my friends have been stuck as regular shapes in nature and I need help to bring another shape-shifter back to life. I am lonely and I need a shape shifter friend.

I am writing you to ask if your class will come and help me. I have heard through my animal friends that you all try to care for all living things. To help me, you need to come to the Fleming Park and have fun searching for shape treasures

outside on a winter day. Are you good treasure hunters? Would you be willing to help? Please write back if you would like to come and help. I have sent a small precious gift for each of you in the bag. It is a natural shape. I hope you like it.

If you would like to come, please write back to me. Tell me a little bit about how you can help and why you might want to. Tell me why you are good at searching for treasures in nature. My friend at the Adventure Earth Centre will bring the letters to me. Then I will write again and give you more information about treasure hunting and how you can help. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,



Epash

Winter Treasures



My Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for agreeing to come visit me. I am really excited that you will be able to help me for a whole day. We will have lots of fun and it is so important for me. Winter is the hardest time because few people come out to explore and look for shapes in nature. I am the last shape shifter around here still able to change and play, so I am looking forward to your visit. You all sound like good treasure hunters, so I am hopeful that you will be able to find and bring to life some other shape shifters who are stuck in nature.

I do have a few very good human friends that come treasure hunting in the park a lot. They will be good guides for you when you come and they have the proper outfit and tools for treasure hunting. You will be able to make some of the treasure hunting tools yourself. Since I am shy, one of my treasure hunter friends was real helpful and he agreed to pass on some treasure hunting tips to you on the

video. I hope it helps you to understand my situation and to prepare for your trip. It can be very cold some days so make sure your treasure-hunting outfit is warm. The guide will give you directions. Work hard to get ready.

Your special friend,



Epash

Winter Treasures



My Dearest Friends,

I hope you have been able to make your treasure hunter tools and are almost ready for the trip. Are you excited? I am so excited that I have been telling my friends in the forest about it. Look for some of my plant and animal friends while you are here.

It has been beautiful here these last few days and I think you will have a great time exploring for treasure shapes. It 's cold though. Make sure your warm treasure hunter outfit is ready, because you will be outdoors exploring most of the day.

You can try to find me in the forest when you arrive. I am shy and scared of loud noises, so please whisper when you come in. I am looking forward to meeting you and I hope you will be able to bring a shape-shifter friend to life through your treasure hunting.

Best wishes from your excited friend,



Epash