Mary Pope Osborne Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:
- Mary Pope Osborne questions worksheet (pages 2-3)
- 18 Mary Pope Osborne fact cards (pages 4-8)
- scissors and scotch tape

Preparation:
Print the fact cards on card stock or brightly-colored paper and cut them apart along the dotted lines.

Make copies of the question worksheet (2-sided).
Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 Mary Pope Osborne fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the back of your classroom door, on the sides of student desks, on the chalkboard, or wherever you like.

Activity:
Students receive a copy of the question worksheet. They have to search the room and find all of the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management Tips:
You may want to make this a silent activity so students don’t share answers with each other.
You can have the kids work alone or with a classmate.

Don’t be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it’s more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the side of your computer monitor
- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they’re done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Mary Pope Osborne Scavenger Hunt Activity

Fact Card 1: How many books are in the *Magic Tree House* series?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 2: What was the title of the first book in the *Magic Tree House* series?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 3: Where was Mary Pope Osborne born?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 4: What was the title of Mary Pope Osborne’s first published book?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 5: How many brothers and sisters does Mary Pope Osborne have?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 6: *Magic Tree House* books have been translated into ___ different languages.
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 7: How many copies of *Magic Tree House* books have been sold all over the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 8: In books 29 and above, Jack and Annie go on missions for a magician named....
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 9: *Magic Tree House* book #8 takes place in the year...
__________________________________________________________________
Mary Pope Osborne Scavenger Hunt Activity

Fact Card 10: Where does Magic Tree House #14 take place?
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 11: Who do Jack and Annie meet in Magic Tree House #22?
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 12: What holiday do Jack and Annie celebrate in book #27?
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 13: Why hasn’t Mary Pope Osborne ever visited Frog Creek, Pennsylvania?
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 16: How many Magic Tree House books did Mary Pope Osborne originally plan to write?.
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 17: In real life, does Mary Pope Osborne claim to be more like Jack or more like Annie?
______________________________________________________________

Fact Card 18: Mary Pope Osborne’s dog, Bailey, is a character in which M.T.H. books?
______________________________________________________________
Mary Pope Osborne was born in Fort Still, Oklahoma. Her family moved many times when she was young. By the time she was 15 years old, she had lived in 13 different houses.

Mary Pope Osborne is the author of the *Magic Tree House* series of books. There are over 55 books in this series.

*Dinosaurs Before Dark* was the first book in the *Magic Tree House* series. It was first published in 1992.

Mary Pope Osborne's first published book was titled, *Run, Run As Fast As You Can*. It was not a *Magic Tree House* book.
Mary Pope Osborne has a twin brother, a younger brother, and an older sister.

Magic Tree House books have been translated into more than 30 different languages.

Over 130,000,000 copies of *Magic Tree House* books have been sold all over the world.

*Magic Tree House* books can be divided into two parts. In books 1 through 28 Jack and Annie go on adventures in a magical tree house. Books 29 and above are called Merlin Missions. In these books Jack and Annie go on special missions for a magician named Merlin.
In *Magic Tree House #8: Midnight on the Moon*, Jack and Annie travel into the future. Much of the book takes place in the year 2031.

In *Magic Tree House #22: Revolutionary War on Wednesday*, Jack and Annie meet the first president of the United States, George Washington.

In *Magic Tree House #14: Day of the Dragon King*, Jack and Annie travel to ancient China.

In *Magic Tree House #27: Thanksgiving on Thursday*, Jack and Annie travel back to the year 1621. They celebrate Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians.
In 2015, Mary Pope Osborne published the first *Magic Tree House Super Edition* book.

M.T.H. super editions are longer than the original *Magic Tree House* books.

In the *Magic Tree House* series, Jack and Annie live in Frog Creek, Pennsylvania. Mary Pope Osborne made up the name of this town.

Sal Murdocca is the illustrator who draws the pictures for the *Magic Tree House* series.

Mary Pope Osborne planned to write only four *Magic Tree House* books. She received many letters from fans asking for more. Now she has published over 55 books.
Mary Pope Osborne had a dog named Bailey. She is a character in Magic Tree House books #17 through 20.

Mary Pope Osborne does not have a favorite M.T.H. character. She loves both Jack and Annie, but she says she is more like Jack in real life.
### Mary Pope Osborne Scavenger Hunt Activity

**Fact Card 1:** How many books are in the *Magic Tree House* series?

*55 (As of April 2017, there are 55. Number 56 is scheduled to be released soon. There may be more by the time you read this.)*

**Fact Card 2:** What was the title of the first book in the *Magic Tree House* series?

*Dinosaurs Before Dark*

**Fact Card 3:** Where was Mary Pope Osborne born?

*Fort Still, Oklahoma*

**Fact Card 4:** What was the title of Mary Pope Osborne’s first published book?

*Run, Run As Fast As You Can*

**Fact Card 7:** How many copies of *Magic Tree House* books have been sold all over world?

*Over 130,000,000*

**Fact Card 8:** In books 29 and above, Jack and Annie go on missions for a magician named....

*Merlin*

**Fact Card 9:** *Magic Tree House* book #8 takes place in the year...

*2031*
Mary Pope Osborne Scavenger Hunt Activity

Fact Card 10: Where does Magic Tree House #14 takes place?
ancient China

Fact Card 11: Who do Jack and Annie meet in Magic Tree House #22?
George Washington

Fact Card 12: What holiday do Jack and Annie celebrate in book #27?
Thanksgiving

Fact Card 13: Why hasn’t Mary Pope Osborne ever visited Frog Creek, Pennsylvania?
She made up the name of the town.

Fact Card 16: How many Magic Tree House books did Mary Pope Osborne originally plan to write?.
four

Fact Card 17: In real life, does Mary Pope Osborne claim to be more like Jack or more like Annie?
Jack

Fact Card 18: Mary Pope Osborne’s dog, Bailey, is a character in which M.T.H. books?
Magic Tree House Books 17 through 20