

# Story Quest

Complete  
1/5  
them all!

Adventures close to home



## Just the Ticket

### Burslem Park

Join Josh, Yasmin, Auntie Ana and Grandpa Matt  
on a Story Quest around Burslem Park!

Please check [storyquest.org.uk](http://storyquest.org.uk) for the latest  
government guidelines on exercising during COVID-19.

*Adventuring outside can be full of surprise  
Wonders await when you open your eyes!*

Join Josh, Yasmin, Grandpa Matt, Auntie Ana and four-legged Valiant as they explore Burslem Park.



**LOTTERY FUNDED**



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# Trail information



## Getting here

Please ensure you only come to Burslem Park if you can arrive on foot within government guidelines. Visit [storyquest.org.uk](http://storyquest.org.uk) or call 07849353729 if you need further guidance.

## How to take part

Visit [storyquest.org.uk](http://storyquest.org.uk) or call 07849353729.

## How long it will take

Around one hour, depending on:

- How quickly you solve the riddles
- How long you spend exploring this beautiful park

## Who can take part

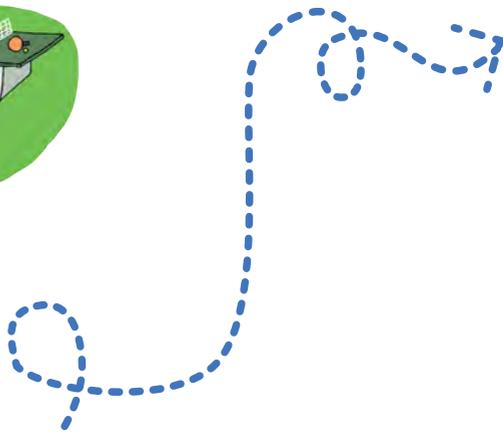
Everyone! Some parts of the route are uphill but there are concrete paths all the way, so wheelchairs and prams are welcome.

## What to wear

Comfortable shoes that you can run in.

## Extra things to bring

- A football
- A basketball
- Table tennis bats and a ball
- A skateboard





“When I was little Grandpa Matt used to sing to me all the time – and now I love singing! Grandpa Matt didn’t know any nursery rhymes so used to sing pop songs with my name in – my favourite was ‘Let Josh entertain you!’”



Park Road

Moorland Road

Hamil Road

Tennis Courts

Skate park

Basketball Court

Silver Hoops

Victorian Terrace Gardens

Viewpoint

Mosaic

Mayfly sculpture

Bandstand

Pagoda

Picnic benches

Table tennis

Memorial Gardens

Bowling Green

Pavilion Cafe

Start here

Finish here

Kickabout Area

Playground

Port Vale Football Club



# 1. Just the Ticket

“Thank goodness the Valiants scored that late winner!” said Yasmin as she, Matt and Josh left Vale Park stadium. “Now where did Auntie Ana say to meet her? I can’t wait to find out what her big news is.”

“Down here by the Vale Park entrance to Burslem Park,” said Grandpa Matt.

## OVER TO YOU!

Use these clues to identify two animals featured on the Stoke-on-Trent crest shown on the board:

1) I can’t help it if I get in a hump...

C ■ M ■ ■

2) I’m a bird of prey that hunts by day

E ■ G ■ ■



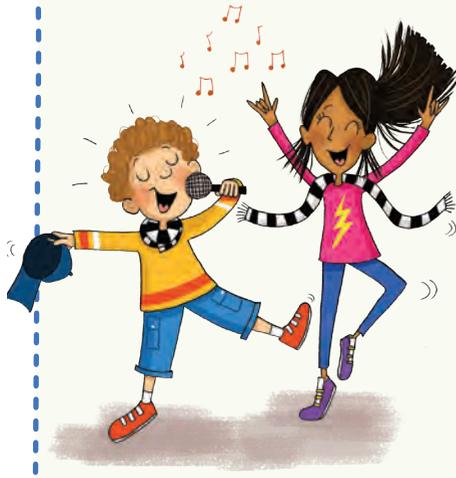
“You’re not going to believe this!” exclaimed Auntie Ana as she sped towards them with Grandpa Matt’s puppy Valiant scampering close behind. “I’ve won four tickets to Robbie Williams’ summer show!” she beamed, fanning them out. “We can all go!”

“These tickets are just the ticket!” joked Grandpa Matt. “What wonderful news, and what a coincidence. I heard Robbie was at the match today.”

“Let me see!” exclaimed Josh, taking one of them. “And let me entertain you!” he blasted, doing his best Robbie impression.

## OVER TO YOU!

Sing a rendition of your favourite song, and be sure to throw in some funky dance moves!



Just then, a great gust of wind whipped the ticket from Josh's hand.

"Looks like this is turning into another of our adventures," said Grandpa Matt as Josh and Yasmin raced after the ticket along the right hand path. "Don't take your eyes off it, kiddos!" he shouted. "As I always say,

***Adventuring outside can be full of surprise Wonders await when you open your eyes!"***

## OVER TO YOU!

3) Solve this riddle to work out where the wind is wafting the ticket:

*I have two legs, but never run.  
Eat snacks on me, like rolls and buns!  
What am I?*



Ana and Matt hastened after Yasmin and Josh and caught up with them near the picnic tables to the right of the lake (did *you* solve the riddle, Story Questers?).

"Grab it before it ends up in the water!" Yasmin warned.

As the tips of Josh's fingers touched the ticket, it flew up, up and away towards the far end of the lake. Rushing around the lakeside path, they watched it settle among a cluster of daffodils at the foot of a signpost.

## OVER TO YOU!

Time yourself running along the path to the tall black and red Burslem sign.

4) Rearrange the letters in the anagram below to form one of the words on the sign.

EYNTCENAR



As soon as Josh and Yasmin reached the sign, the ticket took off *again* with Valiant chasing after it.

“No time to waste!” yelled Yasmin as she led everyone onto the uphill path. They turned right at the crossroads and wound around the outer edge of the park.

Opposite the park entrance along Moorland Road, Grandpa Matt paused to catch his breath.

“I’ll be with you in a bit,” he panted, leaning on an information board. “Going up the bank takes it out of me.”

Y	M	D	M	L	U	Y	R	P	R
S	P	P	O	N	A	C	G	L	L
Z	A	V	S	K	R	K	T	A	T
K	G	R	A	L	B	N	E	Y	D
O	O	Q	I	O	I	P	R	G	D
I	D	B	C	D	O	P	K	R	O
C	A	N	J	G	F	E	M	O	C
E	F	Q	S	E	B	T	U	U	Y
C	V	I	E	W	P	O	I	N	T
W	X	C	N	N	X	U	Z	D	V

## OVER TO YOU!

Find six park locations listed on the board in this word search.

Pagoda

Mosaic

Lodge

Lake

Playground

Viewpoint

“I’ve lost sight of it,” sighed Josh as he and Yasmin raced up the steep path and reached the basketball court.

Just then, the ticket fluttered through some silver hoops before vanishing from sight.

## OVER TO YOU!

Find the silver hoops near the basketball court.

If you brought a ball, why not shoot some hoops?

Begin by aiming for the larger hoop before challenging yourself to fire your ball through the smaller one.

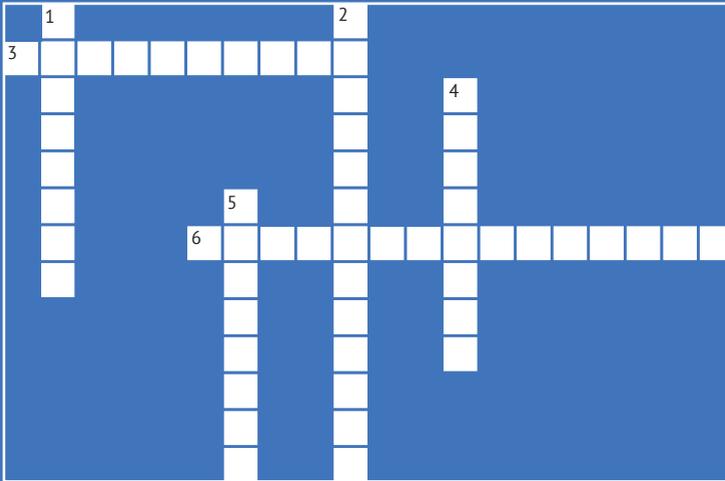
“Maybe it blew into the skate park,” suggested Yasmin.

“I reckon we should head to the viewpoint,” Josh replied. “We might be able to see it from there.”

# OVER TO YOU!

To find the viewpoint, turn left off the main path next to the skate park, then turn left again and follow the path towards the green flag.

Now locate the long information board. Read the fascinating facts and use the words in bold to help you complete this crossword.



## Down

1. A local school that opened in 1894
2. A landscaped spoil heap originates from here
4. Where the golden angel stands in Burslem
5. Built in 1950

## Across

3. The location of St Margaret's church
6. A local hospital

"Over here!" called Auntie Ana from near the green flag.

She and Grandpa Matt went back towards the path, passing an entrance into the Victorian terrace garden. Further ahead they could see a table tennis table and memorial garden.

Faster than a trio of tigers, Josh, Yasmin and Valiant caught up with Auntie Ana and Grandpa Matt.

"It's off again!" Josh exclaimed.

All five of them raced after the ticket, following the main path that runs along the bowling green.

## OVER TO YOU!

Time yourself dashing from the table tennis table to the end of the bowling green.

“It’s heading towards the playground,” hollered Grandpa Matt.

## OVER TO YOU!

Walk past the toilets and turn left at the end of the path. Make your way to the playground to try out the funny fish, the amazing motorbike, the sensational sailboat and **MUCH MORE!**



By the time they reached the playground, a fresh gust of wind had sent the ticket swirling up into a tree to the left of its entrance, close to a dad and his children who were all wearing Port Vale scarves.

“HELP!” bellowed Grandpa Matt, as the family turned to see what the commotion was. “Could you do us a favour and rescue that paper from the tree before it blows away again?”

“Gotcha,” said the dad. Then he lifted up his son to fetch it down.

## OVER TO YOU!

Find a tree and see how high you can jump while imagining that you're trying to retrieve your own runaway Robbie ticket.

"Thanks so much. You're a life saver!" said Josh as the boy ran over and handed him the ticket.

"That's okay," the boy replied.

"Let's hope the ticket is *back for good*," called the man with a cheeky grin as he and his family made their way out of the park.

"Couldn't agree more!" Ana smiled. "You're angels!"

"Talking of angels and being 'back for good', that man seemed strangely familiar," frowned Yasmin.

"I know what you mean," Ana agreed. "Wait a minute... It couldn't have been him, could it? I mean, it couldn't have been the one and only Robbie Williams."

"That might explain why he was wearing a cap on a grey day like today," gasped Josh. "He was incognito."

"They've gone now, so we'll never know for sure," shrugged Grandpa Matt. "But one thing *is* for sure - we're all going to his summer show!"

"I think you'd better *take that*," said Josh, as he returned the ticket to Ana.

Amidst a chorus of groans (and a few barks from Valiant), followed by a chorus of '*Angels*', they strolled back down towards the entrance with the flyaway ticket safe in Auntie Ana's pocket.



# We hope you enjoyed your Story Quest!

Here are some fun activities to try at home.

## 1. Be an author like Arnold, or pen a pop song like Robbie!

Write about your hometown, either a paragraph of description like Arnold Bennett, or a few verses of song lyrics, like Robbie.

## 2. Make some moves

As well as singing and song-writing skills, pop stars also need loads of stamina for their stage shows. Strengthen your own stamina by inventing a dance routine – it can be any style you want, from super cool street dance to beautiful ballet.

## 3. Take a selfie!

Share a photo of yourself reading on the Stoke Reads Facebook page.

