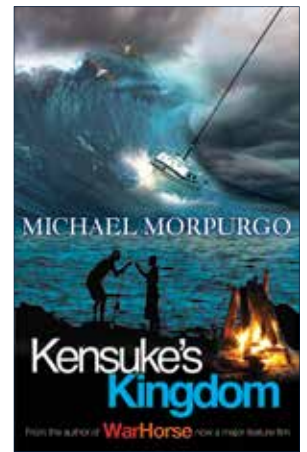


# michael morpurgo



## Kensuke's Kingdom



### **Kensuke's Kingdom – Japan tree**

*'Kensuke would spend many hours of every day kneeling at the table, painting. He painted on large shells...*

*Then one day, after hours of kneeling hunched over one of his paintings, he came over and gave it to me. It was a picture of a tree, a tree in blossom. His smile said everything. 'For you. Japan tree,' he said. 'I, Japanese person.' After that Kensuke showed me all the paintings he did, even the ones he later washed off. They were all in black and white wash, of orang-utans, gibbons, butterflies, dolphins and birds, and fruit...*

*On the table in front of him he put out three saucers: one saucer of octopus ink (for Kensuke, octopuses were not just for eating), one saucer of water and another for mixing.*

*Then one rainy afternoon – and when it rained, how it rained – I found he'd set out a shell for me, my own three saucers and my own paint brush.'*

*(Kensuke's Kingdom, Chapter 7, Page 104, Page 110)*

**Use books and the internet to look at some images of Japanese ink drawings.**

**Using a black ink pen design your own Japanese shell.**

