

Guided Reading Tasks

Task 1: Answer the following questions about the poem 'The Sound Collector'.

1. Who is the sound collector? Use evidence from the text.
2. How do the colours black and grey help to hide the sound collector?
3. What is the poet describing in the line 'Crunching of the flakes'?
4. Give two examples of rhyming couplets used in the poem.
5. Why does the poem end with life will never be the same?

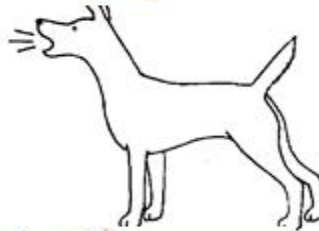


The Sound Collector

A stranger came this morning
Dressed all in black and grey
Put every sound into a bag
And carried them away
The whistling of the kettle
The turning of the lock
The purring of the kitten
The ticking of the clock



The popping of the toaster
The crunching of the flakes
When you spread the marmalade
The scraping noise it makes



The hissing of the frying-pan
The ticking of the grill
The bubbling of the bathtub
As it starts to fill



The drumming of the raindrops
On the window-pane
When you do the washing-up
The gurgle of the drain

The crying of the baby
The squeaking of the chair
The swishing of the curtain
The creaking of the stair



A stranger called this morning
He didn't leave his name
Left us only silence
Life will never be the same.



by Roger McGough



Task 2: Answer the following questions about the poem 'Winter Wonderland'.

1. In verse 1, why does the person need to steady their grip?
2. In verse 2, it says that icicles are like glass. Name one way in which icicles are like glass.
3. In verse 3, what is the 'powdery coat' that the bushes and plants are wearing?
4. In verse 6, why would the children need a carrot?
5. In verse 7, do you think the person in the poem is looking forward to going back inside? Explain your reason.

Winter Wonderland

Crisp underfoot, my feet sink down deep,
As the white fluffy snow caves in.
A crunch and a slip as I steady my grip,
Let the wintry fun begin!

Icicles hang from the buildings above,
Shining and gleaming like glass.
Watery chimes that are frozen in time,
Reflecting the sun as I pass.

Bushes and plants with a powdery coat,
Shed puffs as a robin flies by.
A flurry of snow hits the garden below,
As the robin looks on from up high.

Snow starts to float through
the bitter grey sky,
A twirl as the lacy flakes fall.
Meeting by chance for a fluttering dance,
In a splendour of shapes big and small.

I look to the river that's frozen on top,
The slippery ice stops the flow.
A crack and a creak in the silence so bleak,
Send a warning of danger below.

The laughter of children is soft in the air
As snowballs exchange between friends.
A snowman to make, a carrot to take,
And a wish that the fun never ends.

My nose is now red, my fingers are numb,
Jack Frost has been spreading his cold.
So home I will head, to my warm cosy bed,
And the fire, a sight to behold.



Task 3: Performance Poetry

Choose your favourite poem and perform it to your family. Is it 'The Sound Collector' or 'Winter Wonderland'? Here are some tips on how to perform a poem. Click on the link or scan the QR code. <https://watchkin.com/b292fad21e>



Task 4: Log on to Reading Plus and complete the comprehension activities.

Site code: rpthorn10

Your username and password are stuck in your diary.

<https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/login>

