

Verses and Curses: Spring in Poetry



Skills:

- Can understand simple poems and song lyrics provided these employ straightforward language and style.
- Can create simple poems about people.

Adults

Group

1 Look at these pictures. Describe what you see. How do the characters feel? What helps you understand their emotional state?

2 Do you enjoy spring? Would you say you're more similar to the character in Picture 1 or Picture 2?

3 Read these two poems and explain:

- How does the author describe spring in the first poem and in the second one? What's the difference?
- Which exact words help you understand the author's mood?

Poem A

Spring is Here

The sun is hot, the air is thick,
I'm sweating like a candle wick.
The flowers bloom, the bees all sting,
I wish that it would stop this spring!

The days are long, the nights are short,
I can't get any sleep, I snort.
No more peace and quiet to find,
Just noise and chaos left behind.

— additional verse — ex. 5

The trees are green, the grass is tall,
I'm allergic to them both, I bawl.
My eyes are red, my nose is runny,
This season really isn't funny.

So say hello to pollen and hay,
And sneeze your troubles all away.
The season of misery is here,
Let's hide inside and drink some beer!

Poem B

Spring is Here

The sun is high, the sky is blue,
We've had enough of winter's snow.
The flowers bloom, the birds all sing,
It's time to celebrate the spring!

The days are long, the nights are mild,
We're free at last from winter's child.
No more coats and hats to wear,
Just feel the warmth upon your hair.

— additional verse — ex. 5

The trees are green, the grass is too,
There's so much beauty to pursue.
The world is full of life and cheer,
Come join us in the atmosphere!

So say goodbye to frost and ice,
And welcome to paradise.
The season of rebirth is nigh,
Let's spread our wings and learn to fly!

to bawl - to cry noisily

pollen - a powder, produced by the male part of a flower

4

Decide whether the statements below describe the first or the second poem, or both:

1. The author appreciates the end of winter and the beginning of spring.
2. The author clearly expresses his/her attitude to spring.
3. The author describes spring as a time of discomfort.
4. The author mentions that nights have become shorter.
5. The author mentions the change in the length of days and nights.
6. The author says that both grass and trees are green.
7. The author invites the reader to engage in a certain activity.

5

Decide which poem you would like to complete. Take the corresponding template and fill it in with your ideas. Make sure your lines rhyme! Insert your creation into the poem and read the whole poem aloud to your class.

Poem A

Kids are shouting, " _____, yay!"
But now they're home, _____ day.
The ice cream _____,
_____.

Poem B

In every field, in _____,
Spring's magic dances, leaves its mark.
All kids are happy, _____,
_____.

Correct answers

3

The poems were generated in the “Create a Text” tool, the questions were created in “Open Questions”.

4

The statements were created in “Create True / False Statements”. Then the true statements were taken out and mixed.

1. B
2. Both
3. A
4. A
5. Both
6. B
7. Both

5

The verses were created in “Create a Text” and then the gaps were created in the “Fill in the Gap” tool.