

Learning outcomes

- To learn about internal rhymes
- To familiarise with the concept of a chorus in poems
- To comprehend that the sun signals the start of day for all

Summary: The speaker saw a pretty little boat early in the morning. She got into it and the boat floated away.

Each wave with its foamy top looked as if it were wearing a nightcap.

The ripples caused by the moving boat disturbed the fishes who were woken from their deep sleep. The confused fishes thought they were late in getting up.

The dark green lobster, however, was annoyed that his sleep was disturbed so early in the morning.

Just then, the sun came up and woke all the fishes up. The lazy fishes were not too happy upon being woken up from their sleep, but the speaker by then had reached the shore and could hear no more.

Students read to comprehend the poem

Play the audio track. / Read the poem aloud. Explain the poem and question students to check comprehension.

Ask students:

When did the speaker get into the boat? Why did the speaker call the foamy tops of waves night caps and not just caps? (because it was very early in the morning and they looked like they were just out of bed) How does the speaker describe the caves? Which of the fishes

thought they were late? Which sea creature was not happy on being woken up so early? When was the right time for the fishes to wake up? (when the sun came up)

Post-reading

Divide the class into five groups. Let each group recite a stanza and one of the groups recite the chorus.

Make sure that students recite the poems using appropriate expressions.

STUDENTS' BOOK ANSWER KEY**A Song****Comprehension**

A. 1. b 2. a 3. c 4. b

B. 1. *Suggested answer (accept any logical answer):* The speaker is an adventurous person. When the speaker saw a pretty boat, she jumped into it and floated away. This shows that she was adventurous.

2. *Suggested answer (accept any logical answer):* The fishes and the lobster were wrong to be angry with the speaker. The speaker did not wish to wake them up but her boat woke the fishes and the lobster by accident.

Enjoying the poem

- A.**
1. All the fishes were asleep in their caves cool and deep,
 2. The lobster darkly green soon appeared upon the scene,
 3. Quoth he, "May I be boiled, if I'll have my slumber spoiled,
 4. Just then up jumped the sun, and the fishes every one
- B.**
1. The chorus says that every little wave had its nightcap on after the first three verses. After the last verse, the first line of the chorus says that every wave took its nightcap off and courtesied to the morning.
 2. (*suggested answer, accept any logical answer*) In the last verse of the poem, the sun comes up and the waves take their nightcaps off because it is no longer night. They courtesy to the sun because it has come up.

Vocabulary

1. morning
2. sleep
3. small wave

QUESTION BANK

A Song

A. Answer the questions.

1. What do the words 'daybreak the hills was adorning' mean?

Ans: The words 'daybreak the hills was adorning' mean that the light of the rising sun was falling on the hills.

2. How has the speaker described the waves? (A song)

Ans: The speaker says that the waves with their foamy white tops looked like they were wearing white nightcaps as it was still very early in the morning.

B. Choose the right answer.

The _____ was upset at being woken up so early. (A song)

- a. lobster
- b. minnow
- c. skate

Ans: a

C. Read the line and answer the questions.

And pearly drops his claws were adorning.

- a. Who is being spoken about?
- b. What do the words 'pearly drops' refer to?

Ans: a. The green lobster is being spoken about.

b. The words 'pearly drops' refer to the drops of water on his claws.