

POETRY COMPREHENSION- PRACTICE

Be Glad Your Nose Is on Your Face!

Be glad your nose is on your face,
not pasted on some other place,
for if it were where it is not,
you might dislike your nose a lot.

Imagine if your precious nose
were sandwiched in between your toes,
that clearly would not be a treat,
for you'd be forced to smell your feet.

Your nose would be a source of dread
were it attached atop your head,
it soon would drive you to despair,
forever tickled by your hair.

Within your ear, your nose would be
an absolute catastrophe,
for when you were obliged to sneeze,
your brain would rattle from the breeze.

Your nose, instead, through thick and thin,
remains between your eyes and chin,
not pasted on some other place—
be glad your nose is on your face!

By: Jack Prelutsky

1. What would be the problem if your nose were between your toes?

2. How does the poet describe having a nose on top of your head?

3. What does the poem say would happen if your nose were inside your ear?

4. What does the poet mean by "your nose would be a source of dread" if it were attached to your head?

5. What is the effect of repeating the line "Be glad your nose is on your face" at the end of the poem?

6. What would happen to your brain if your nose were inside your ear, according to the poet?

7. What is the name of the poet?



POETRY COMPREHENSION- PRACTICE

Mother does not want a dog

Mother doesn't want a dog.

Mother says they smell,

And never sit when you say sit,

Or even when you yell.

And when you come home late at night

And there is ice and snow,

You have to go back out because

The dumb dog has to go.

Mother doesn't want a dog.

Mother says they shed,

And always let the strangers in

And bark at friends instead,

And do disgraceful things on rugs,

And track mud on the floor,

And flop upon your bed at night

And snore their doggy snore.

Mother doesn't want a dog.

She's making a mistake.

Because, more than a dog, I think

She will not want this snake.

By: Judith Viorst

1. What are the reasons Mother gives for not wanting a dog?

2. What does Mother say you have to do if you come home late at night and there is ice and snow?

3. What literary device is used in this poem? Give an example

4. What does the dog do on the bed that Mother finds annoying?

5. What does Mother think about how the dog reacts to strangers and friends?

6. What surprising alternative pet does the speaker suggest at the end of the poem?

7. Do you think the speaker already has a snake?



POETRY COMPREHENSION- PRACTICE

The Visitor

it came today to visit
and moved into the house
it was smaller than an elephant
but larger than a mouse

first it slapped my sister
then it kicked my dad
then it pushed my mother
oh! that really made me mad

it went and tickled rover
and terrified the cat
it sliced apart my necktie
and rudely crushed my hat

it smeared my head with honey
and filled the tub with rocks
and when i yelled in anger
it stole my shoes and socks

that's just the way it happened
it happened all today
before it bowed politely
and softly went away

By: Jack Prelutsky

1. How was the visitor described in terms of size?

2. What did the visitor do to the speaker's sister?

3. How did the visitor behave toward the speaker's dad and mom?

4. Why did the speaker get mad at the visitor?

5. What unusual things did the visitor do?

6. How did the speaker react when the visitor smeared honey on their head?

7. What was the last action the visitor took before leaving the house?

