

Name: _____

Date: _____

Poetry Worksheet

Read the poem below before answering the following questions.

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod

— Eugene Field- 1850-1895

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod one night
Sailed off in a wooden shoe,—
Sailed on a river of crystal light
Into a sea of dew.
“Where are you going, and what do you wish?”
The old moon asked the three.
“We have come to fish for the herring-fish
That live in this beautiful sea;
Nets of silver and gold have we,”
Said Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.

The old moon laughed and sang a song,
As they rocked in the wooden shoe;
And the wind that sped them all night long
Ruffled the waves of dew;
The little stars were the herring-fish
That lived in the beautiful sea.
“Now cast your nets wherever you wish,—
Never afraid are we!”
So cried the stars to the fishermen three,
Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.

All night long their nets they threw
To the stars in the twinkling foam,—
Then down from the skies came the wooden shoe,
Bringing the fishermen home:
‘Twas all so pretty a sail, it seemed
As if it could not be;
And some folk thought ’twas a dream they’d dreamed
Of sailing that beautiful sea;
But I shall name you the fishermen three:
Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.

Wynken and Blynken are two little eyes,
And Nod is a little head,
And the wooden shoe that sailed the skies
Is a wee one’s trundle-bed;
So shut your eyes while Mother sings
Of wonderful sights that be,
And you shall see the beautiful things
As you rock in the misty sea
Where the old shoe rocked the fishermen three:—
Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod was a popular children’s song. It was originally titled “Dutch Lullaby”.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions:

A. Read to understand



Complete the summary of the poem below. Fill the space with a word from the list below.

List: adventures, catch, dreaming, fantasy, moon, nets, sailing, sky, stars, wooden

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod is a poem in the form of a _____ where it describes three children called Wynken, Blynken, and Nod. The three children sailed off in a _____ boat one night to fish in the night sky. The _____ in the night appeared to them as herring fish. The children used their golden and silver nets to catch the fish. The _____ sees the children and asks them what they were doing there. To which the children replied that they were _____ the sky to _____ the stars (or fish). Then, the _____ sings a song that ruffled the _____ making it difficult for the children to catch the stars. The children cast their _____ whole night and eventually return from their _____ with their catch. At the end of the poem, we learn that the poem is just a fantasy story of a single little child who was _____.

Name: _____

Date: _____

B. Literal questions

1. Who wrote this poem?

2. When was the poem written?

3. What is the theme of this poem?

4. What are the names of the characters in the story?

5. Why did the poet write this poem?

6. What are the children catching?

7. Were the children afraid of the sea? How do you know this?

C. Discuss

1. What is a lullaby?

2. Does a lullaby send you to sleep?

3. What happens when you fall asleep?

Name: _____

Date: _____

D. Inferential questions

1. Describe the fish in the poem?

2. Why does the moon laugh at the children in the story?

3. Describe the children's character?

4. What happens when the moon sings?

5. What are the symbols in this poem?

Name: _____

Date: _____

6. What does the following words mean:

a. foam _____

b. misty _____

c. crystal _____

d. dew _____

7. According to stanza four, where is the child and what is he doing?

8. What does the mother tell the child to do?

9. How are Wynken and Blynken different from Nod?

E. Read to appreciate

10. How does this poem appeal to the senses?

Name: _____

Date: _____

11. List the rhyming words from the poem for the following words.

Stanza one rhymes	Stanza two rhymes
Stanza three rhymes	Stanza four rhymes

12. What is the rhyming scheme for this poem?

13. Why does the phrase “*misty sea*” means?

14. What is the tone of this poem?

15. What type of figure of speech is demonstrated in lines 3, stanza 1, “*a river of crystal light*”?

Name: _____

Date: _____

16. Which stanza reveals the truth behind the story? What truth is revealed in that stanza?
