

Read the poem below then answer the questions that follow.

### **The Silly Squirrel's Secret**

Six sleepy squirrels sat silently,  
Studying small, sweet seeds.  
Suddenly, a swift shadow swooped,  
Scattering several scattered seeds!

The squirrels scampered, scratching soil,  
Searching for some savory snacks.  
Surviving such scary, sudden swoops,  
Safely seeking shelter's tracks.

Questions:

Look for the answer. (Literal)

1. How many squirrels are mentioned in the poem?
2. What were the squirrels studying?
3. What caused the seeds to scatter?
4. What action did the squirrels take after the shadow swooped down?

Think about the answer. (infer, evaluate, predict)

5. Why do you think the squirrels were “sleepy” at the beginning of the poem?
6. What might have created the swift shadow that swooped down on the squirrels?
7. How do you think the squirrels felt when the seeds were scattered?
8. Do you think the squirrels acted appropriately in response to the sudden swoop? Why or why not?
9. What is your opinion on the use of alliteration in this poem? How does it affect your reading experience?
10. If the squirrels find their seeds, how might their behaviors change afterward?
3. What do you think the squirrels will do to prevent future seed scattering?
4. If another shadow appears, how do you predict the squirrels will react based on their earlier experience?