

Winter Wonderland

Crisp underfoot, my feet sink down deep,
As the white fluffy snow caves in.
A crunch and a slip as I steady my grip,
Let the wintry fun begin!

Icicles hang from the buildings above,
Shining and gleaming like glass.
Watery chimes that are frozen in time,
Reflecting the sun as I pass.

Bushes and plants with a powdery coat,
Shed puffs as a robin flies by.
A flurry of snow hits the garden below,
As the robin looks on from up high.

Snow starts to float through
the bitter grey sky,
A twirl as the lacy flakes fall.
Meeting by chance for a fluttering dance,
In a splendour of shapes big and small.

I look to the river that's frozen on top,
The slippery ice stops the flow.
A crack and a creak in the silence so bleak,
Send a warning of danger below.

The laughter of children is soft in the air
As snowballs exchange between friends.
A snowman to make, a carrot to take,
And a wish that the fun never ends.

My nose is now red, my fingers are numb,
Jack Frost has been spreading his cold.
So home I will head, to my warm cosy bed,
And the fire, a sight to behold.



Questions

1. In verse 1, why does the person need to steady their grip?

2. In verse 2, it says that icicles are like glass. Name one way in which icicles are like glass.

3. In verse 3, what is the 'powdery coat' that the bushes and plants are wearing?

4. In verse 6, why would the children need a carrot?

5. In verse 7, do you think the person in the poem is looking forward to going back inside?

Answers

1. In verse 1, why does the person need to steady their grip?

The person needs to steady their grip because they are walking on slippery snow and they could fall.

2. In verse 2, it says that icicles are like glass. Name one way in which icicles are like glass.

Accept any one from: Icicles are like glass because they are breakable; transparent; smooth; sharp; can sound like glass if knocked or broken; shine in the sun.

3. In verse 3, what is the 'powdery coat' that the bushes and plants are wearing?

Snow is the 'powdery coat' covering the bushes and plants.

4. In verse 6, why would the children need a carrot?

The children would need a carrot to make the nose of their snowman.

5. In verse 7, do you think the person in the poem is looking forward to going back inside? Explain your answer.

Children's own responses, such as: I think that the person is looking forward to going inside as they are cold (their nose is red and their fingers are numb) and they can warm up and dry out inside by the fire.

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Questions

1. In verse 1, what happens as the person walks across the snow?

2. In verse 2, it says that icicles are like glass. Name two ways in which icicles are like glass.

1. _____

2. _____

3. In verse 3, what are the 'puffs' that the bushes shed when the robin flies past?

4. In verse 6, what two things are the children doing whilst laughing and having fun?

1. _____

2. _____

5. The last line says 'And the fire, a sight to behold'. How is the poet feeling at the end of the poem? Why do you think this is?

Answers

1. In verse 1, what happens as the person walks across the snow?

As the person walks across the snow, their feet sink down into the snow, which caves in and crunches. They also slip.

2. In verse 2, it says that icicles are like glass. Name two ways in which icicles are like glass.

Accept any two from: Icicles are like glass because they are breakable; transparent; smooth; sharp; can sound like glass if knocked or broken; shine in the sun.

3. In verse 3, what are the 'puffs' that the bushes shed when the robin flies past?

Snow is covering the bushes and plants, and when the robin flies past it knocks little bits off in 'puffs'.

4. In verse 6, what two things are the children doing whilst laughing and having fun?

- 1. The children are making a snowman.**
- 2. The children are having a snowball fight.**

5. The last line says 'And the fire, a sight to behold'. How is the poet feeling at the end of the poem? Why do you think this is?

Children's own responses, such as: 'A sight to behold' means that the person is feeling pleased to see the fire. This is because they have been outside in the snow and are now cold ('my nose is now red, my fingers are numb') and the fire will dry them and warm them up.

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Questions

1. In verse 1, how do you know that this snow is fresh or has not been walked on already?

2. Where could the robin be at the end of verse 3? Explain your answer.

3. In verse 4, what are snowflakes compared to? Why do you think the poet chose this comparison?

4. What is the 'danger below' in verse 5?

5. In verse 7, what is the double meaning of the line 'Jack Frost had been spreading his cold'?

Answers

1. In verse 1, how do you know that this snow is fresh or has not been walked on already?

The feet 'sink down' and 'the snow caves in', which means it hasn't been walked on before as snow only squashes the first time you walk on it.

2. Where could the robin be at the end of verse 3? Explain your answer.

The robin is 'up high' so it could be in a tree or on a rooftop.

3. In verse 4, what are snowflakes compared to? Why do you think the poet chose this comparison?

Children's own responses, such as: Snowflakes are compared to lace in the line 'A twirl as the lacy flakes fall.' I think the poet chose this comparison because lace and snowflakes are both usually white, are delicate, and have intricate patterns that are a collection of thinner lines and holes.

This emphasises how delicate the snowflakes are.

4. What is the 'danger below' in verse 5?

The 'danger below' in verse 5 is the liquid water under the frozen top of the river. The person could fall in if the ice, which is cracking and creaking, broke; if this happened, the water could be deep, cold and dangerous.

5. In verse 7, what is the double meaning of the line 'Jack Frost had been spreading his cold'?

Nature has been personified as 'Jack Frost', which has made it possible to use the phrase 'spreading a cold', used by people to mean spreading germs. The double meaning is spreading cold as in putting frost on the area and also spreading his cold as in spreading germs, because many people say that if you stay out in cold weather, you will get a cold.