

Working with the Poem

Question 1: Read the lines in which the following phrases occur. Then discuss with your partner the meaning of each phrase in its context.

- (i) velvet grass
- (ii) drinking straws
- (iii) meadow houses
- (iv) amazing mound
- (v) fuzzy head

Answer: (i) Velvet grass indicates that the grass is as soft as velvet.

- (ii) Drinking straws means the butterflies who drink the nectar from the flowers seem as if they are drinking it with straws.
- (iii) 'Meadow houses' refer to the various habitats of animals, birds, and insects living in the meadow.
- (iv) 'Amazing mound' refers to the place made of mud where the ants live. It is a tall structure made by them beneath tall grasses or trees.
- (v) Fuzzy head indicates the flowers of the dandelion which now floats in the air when we blow it.

Question 2: Which line in the poem suggests that you need a keen eye and a sharp ear to enjoy a meadow? Read aloud the stanza that contains this line.

Answer: The line in the poem suggests that you need a keen eye and a sharp ear to enjoy a meadow

"Oh! Meadows have surprises And many things to tell; You may discover these yourself, If you look and listen well."

Question 3: Find pictures of the kinds of birds, insects and scenes mentioned in the poem.

Answer: Students should do this by themselves. They can collect the pics of butterfly, rabbit, ants, birds etc.

Question 4: Watch a tree or a plant, or walk across a field or park at the same time everyday for a week. Keep a diary of what you see and hear. At the end of the week, write a short paragraph or a poem about your experiences. Put your writing up on the class bulletin board.

Answer: During the summers, I observed the holy Basil plant placed in the courtyard dying, due to lack of water. So, I decided to water it regularly. I realised that the first few days, there was hardly any change in the plant. On the fourth day, tiny leaves emerged on its branches. Soon, those tiny leaves grew into full leaves and the entire plant seemed to have bloomed fully.

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