

Read the short story and answer each question.



Benji and the Wind

Benji ran outside with a bright blue kite.
The wind whooshed by—it felt just right!
He shouted, "Fly, fly, sky so high!"
But the kite flopped down with a woosh and a sigh.

He tugged the string, he gave a hop,
The kite went up... then gave a plop.
"It's not working," Benji frowned.
The wind blew leaves across the ground.

"Try again," called Grandma May,
"Big dreams can fly if you don't run away."
Benji grinned and held on tight.
He ran and ran with all his might.

The wind kicked up, the kite took flight—
Dancing, soaring, what a sight!
"Fly, fly, sky so high!"
Benji laughed as the kite touched the sky.

Name: _____

Benji and the Wind

1. What kind of text is this story?

- A. A poem with rhymes and repeated lines
- B. A science report about the wind
- C. A news article about weather
- D. A letter to Grandma

2. What does the line "Fly, fly, sky so high!" help show?

- A. Benji's favorite snack
- B. The rhythm of Benji's footsteps
- C. Benji's excitement about flying the kite
- D. The color of the kite

3. Fill in the blank:

Benji smiled when his kite began to _____.

4. What words or lines are repeated in the story, and why do you think the author used them?

5. How does the rhythm and rhyme help you understand Benji's feelings as he tries to fly the kite?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: J

Lexile Level: 290L-440L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Introducing the Text

"Today we're reading a poetic story about a boy and his kite. This story uses rhyming and repeated lines to help us feel what Benji is feeling. As we read, let's look for patterns in the words and think about how they help us understand the story."

Vocabulary: kite, wind, rhyme, repeat, soar

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What is a poem? What are some things poems often include?
 2. Have you ever tried flying a kite? What was it like?
 3. How do rhyming words make a story sound different from regular sentences?
-

During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you notice about how the words sound at the end of each line?
 2. What problem is Benji having at the beginning?
 3. What helps Benji succeed by the end?
-

After Reading Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the author repeated the line "Fly, fly, sky so high!"?
 2. How did the rhyme and rhythm help you imagine what was happening?
 3. What do you think this story tells us about trying again after something doesn't work?
-

Activity Idea

Let students create their own short poem or chant using repeated lines and rhyming words about something they enjoy (like jumping, swimming, or building). Then, turn it into a "Poetry Performance" where each student presents their poem aloud with motions or props to match the rhythm and energy of their writing.

