

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Rhythm, Rhymes, and Word Choice

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Forest That Sang

There's a forest deep where the trees can sing,
They hum and they twirl and they ring-a-ding-ding.
Their branches sway with a swoosh and a song,
"Come dance with us—you can't go wrong!"

Lila stepped in with her cat named Doodle,
Wearing striped socks and a sparkly poodle.
The trees clapped leaves in a friendly cheer,
"We've waited for you all year, all year!"

"Sing, sing, under moonlight's glow!
Let your feet tap fast and your heartbeat slow."
The forest sang in a voice so sweet,
That Lila couldn't help but move her feet.

She danced in a circle, she spun in a whirl,
She giggled so loud she startled a squirrel.
The trees sang louder, the moon climbed high,
The stars blinked softly across the sky.

At last, the forest gave one final rhyme:
"Thank you for sharing your rhythm and time."
Lila bowed low, Doodle gave a purr,
And off they skipped through leaves that stirred.



Name: _____

The Forest That Sang

1. What type of writing is this story?

- A. A poem with rhyming and rhythm
- B. A true story about a forest
- C. A recipe for dancing
- D. A letter to a cat

2. Why do the trees repeat the line "We've waited for you all year, all year!"?

- A. To help Lila know she is welcome
- B. To scare Lila away from the forest
- C. To show the trees are sleepy
- D. To make the forest sound cold

3. Fill in the blank:

Lila visited the forest with her cat named _____.

4. What are some of the phrases the author repeated, and how do they add to the feeling of the story?

5. How do the rhyming lines and sounds help make the forest seem magical?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: K

Lexile Level: 330L-480L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Introducing the Text

"Today's story is a poem about a magical forest where the trees sing and welcome a girl named Lila. As we read, listen closely for rhyming words and repeated phrases. These parts help create the rhythm and feeling of the poem. We'll talk about how these special word choices add meaning to the story."

Vocabulary: forest, rhythm, whirl, rhyme, magical

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about poems? How are they different from regular stories?
 2. What do you think a singing forest might sound like?
 3. Have you ever danced to music or rhythm?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What words repeat in the poem?
 2. How do the trees act in the story?
 3. What happens when Lila begins to dance?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do rhyme and rhythm make the forest feel alive?
 2. Why do you think the author chose to write this story as a poem?
 3. How did the repeating lines help you understand the mood or feeling?
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Activity Idea

Students can create a "Sound Garden Mural." On chart paper, they draw a magical forest and write short rhyming phrases or repeated lines on the trees, leaves, and moon (e.g., "Sway and sing!" or "Dance with light!"). Then students take turns reading their mural aloud as a group performance with rhythm sticks or hand claps to bring their forest to life.

