

Word Meanings

puddles	small pools of water on the ground
tread upon	step on
sorry sight	a sad thing to see

Understand the Poem

A. Write True or False.

1. The little boy comes to play before it rains.
2. The little boy looks like the child in the poem.
3. The child and the little boy step in puddles.
4. The child does not step on the little boy's feet.
5. The child wishes for the little boy to play with him.

False

True

True

False

False

B. Answer these questions.

1. What makes the child feel sorry for the little boy?
2. Why does the child want to speak to the little boy?
3. What does the little boy never do?
4. Where does the child think the little boy is?
5. List the things the little boy does. Does he do everything the same way or differently from the child?

C. Discuss in class.

Who do you think the little boy in the poem is?

Know the Poem

D. Read these lines and answer the questions.

1. I often wonder how it is
That on a rainy day
 - a. Who was the speaker?
 - b. What was the speaker wondering?
2. He seems so very kind
 - a. Who was the speaker?



3. *So surely he must be*

In some strange land the other side

- a. Why did the speaker believe he was in 'some strange land'?
- b. Where did the speaker think the strange land was?

E. Colour the correct rhyming pairs from the poem.

day, play ✓

kind, find ✓

foot, feet

be, me ✓

sight, right ✓

me, tree

speaking, walking

town, upside-down ✓

F. Imagine that you are the child in the poem. Read the lines aloud in class.

Fun Time!

Read these lines from the poem *My Shadow* by R L Stevenson.

*I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head;
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.
The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow –
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an india-rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.*