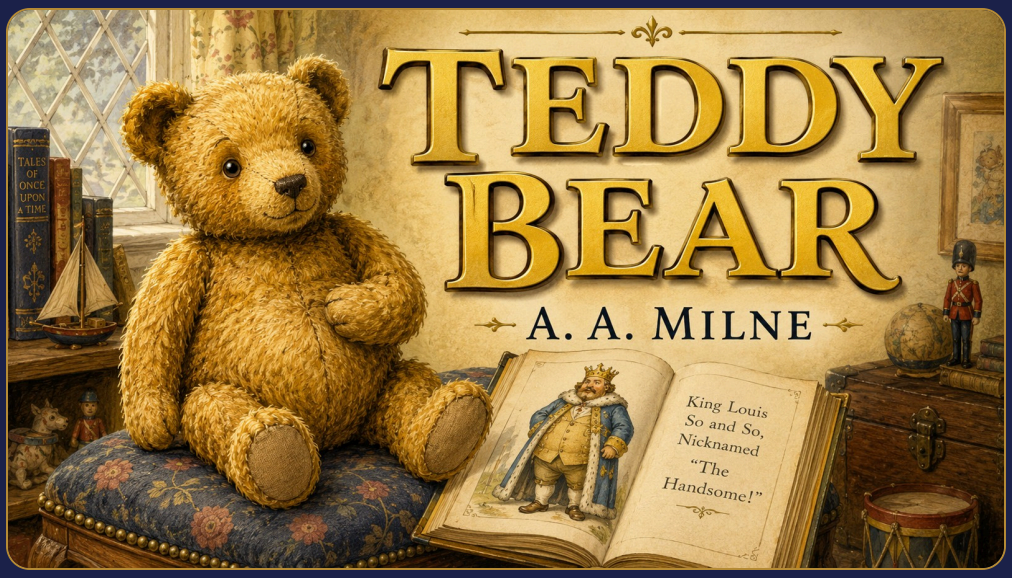
Storyland Classics

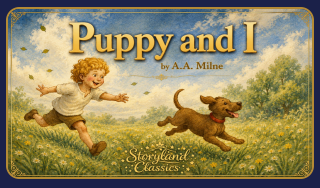
POETRY UNIT

A. A. Milne

10 poems from When We Were Very Young (1924)

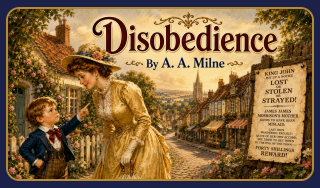


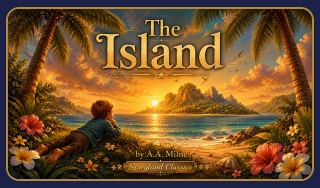


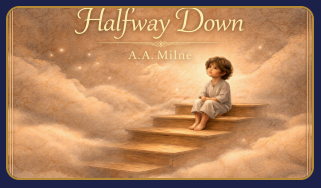
















Ages 4–8 ✦ Pre-K to Grade 2 ✦ Aligned to Common Core ✦ Classroom & Homeschool

This cover is for your screen. Print from page 2 to save ink.

FOR GROWN-UPS

How to Use This Unit

This unit is a complete two-week poetry study. Each poem has its own pages, and the unit adds a day-by-day plan, activities that connect the poems, readers' theater scripts, a wrap-up with a recitation rubric and certificate, and full-color poem posters.

What's inside

Two-Week Plan 3
Poems (5 pages each) 9
Poems Together 61
Activities 64
Readers' Theater 72
Wrap-Up 81
Color Poem Posters 84
Answer Keys 95

THE COMPILATION VIDEO

The poems are in the same order as the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation on YouTube (@StorylandClassics).

PRINT TIP

Print the poem pages in black and white. Save color ink for the cover and the poem posters.

POEM	VIDEO	PAGES
Teddy Bear	0:11	9–14
Buckingham Palace	6:54	15–19
Puppy and I	9:10	20–24
The King's Breakfast	10:54	25–29
The Three Foxes	14:20	30–35
Disobedience	16:41	36–40
The Island	20:05	41–45
Halfway Down	22:00	46–50
Happiness	23:15	51–55
Vespers	23:42	56–60

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Two-Week Plan: Week 1

Each poem day: watch the read-aloud, read the poem together, talk through Let's Talk, then choose two more pages (Yes or No?, the word search or handwriting). About 20–30 minutes a day.

DAY	READ AND EXPLORE	PAGES	ALSO TRY
Day 1	"Teddy Bear" and "Buckingham Palace" Skill: Character: how Teddy feels and how his feelings change; Repetition: lines that come back in every verse	9–14, 15–19	Reread a favorite poem aloud
Day 2	"Puppy and I" Skill: Patterns: the same question asked again and again	20–24	Poetry Passport: add your first stamps
Day 3	"The King's Breakfast" Skill: Sequence: a message passed from one character to the next	25–29	Activity: Illustrate a Stanza
Day 4	"The Three Foxes" Skill: Silly plurals: words that end in "-ses" for fun	30–35	Activity: Rhyme Hunt
Day 5	"Disobedience" and "The Island" Skill: Rhythm and the sound of names; Imagery: action and sound words	36–40, 41–45	Activity: Write Your Own Verse

SHORT ON TIME?

Do one poem a day and skip the extras. Have more time? Add the Poem Poster for each poem to a class poetry wall as you go.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Two-Week Plan: Week 2

Each poem day: watch the read-aloud, read the poem together, talk through Let's Talk, then choose two more pages (Yes or No?, the word search or handwriting). About 20–30 minutes a day.

DAY	READ AND EXPLORE	PAGES	ALSO TRY
Day 6	"Halfway Down" Skill: Point of view: a favorite in-between place	46–50	Activity: LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!
Day 7	"Happiness" Skill: Repetition and shape: how words look on the page	51–55	Activity: A Name Like a King
Day 8	"Vespers" Skill: Narrator and character: the poem has two voices	56–60	Readers' Theater: choose parts and practice
Day 9	Poems Together: Sort the Poems, Compare Two Poems, The Poet's Patterns	61–63	Readers' Theater: dress rehearsal
Day 10	Wrap-Up: Which Poem Is It? and the poetry performance	81–83	Hand out certificates and hang the poem posters!

SHORT ON TIME?

Do one poem a day and skip the extras. Have more time? Add the Poem Poster for each poem to a class poetry wall as you go.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR TEACHERS

Standards Alignment

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, kindergarten to grade 2. Codes also appear at the bottom of each page.

STANDARDS	WHAT CHILDREN PRACTICE	WHERE IN THIS GUIDE
RL.K.1 RL.1.1 RL.2.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	Let's Talk and Yes or No?; Let's Talk
RL.K.2 RL.1.2	Retell stories and poems, including key details, and show understanding of their message.	Let's Talk
RL.K.3 RL.1.3	Identify and describe characters, settings and major events.	Let's Talk
RL.K.4 RL.2.4	Understand words and phrases, including rhyme, rhythm and words that appeal to the senses.	Let's Talk: Words to Know; Write Your Own Verse
RL.2.5	Recognize types of texts and describe the overall structure (beginning, middle and end).	Let's Talk
RL.2.6	Identify who is speaking and use a different voice for each character when reading aloud.	Readers' Theater (different voices)
RL.K.9 RL.1.9	Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters.	Poems Together; Poems Together; Compare Two Poems
RL.K.10 RL.1.10	Engage in group reading of poems and stories with purpose and understanding.	The Poem pages (reading together); The Poem (reading together)
RF.K.1b	Understand the organization of print (left to right, top to bottom).	Word Search
RF.K.2a	Hear and work with spoken words, rhymes and syllables.	Rhyme Hunt and Make New Rhymes; Rhyme Hunt activity
RF.1.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.	Word Search
RF.1.4b RF.2.4b	Read aloud with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression.	Readers' Theater; Recitation; Readers' Theater
SL.K.1 SL.1.1	Take part in conversations about the text with classmates and adults.	Let's Talk and Meet the Poet (discussion); Let's Talk (discussion)
SL.K.2	Ask and answer questions about a text read aloud or presented through media.	Read-aloud video (QR code)
SL.K.5	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.	Try It (drawing to add detail); Illustrate a Stanza
SL.K.6	Speak audibly and express ideas clearly.	Readers' Theater; Recitation
L.K.1a L.1.1a	Print upper- and lowercase letters and use common position words.	Handwriting Practice
L.K.2a L.1.2b	Use capital letters and end punctuation.	Handwriting checklist
L.K.4 L.1.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words and phrases.	Let's Talk: Words to Know
W.K.1 W.1.1	Use drawing and writing to share an opinion and give a reason.	My Favorite Line; My Favorite Poem; My Favorite Poem
W.K.2	Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose informative texts.	Try It
W.1.8	With guidance and support, recall information from experiences or gather information to answer a question.	Try It

FOR TEACHERS

Skill Focus by Poem

Each poem's Let's Talk page starts with one skill to notice. The Try It activity practices it.

POEM	SKILL FOCUS
Teddy Bear	Character: how Teddy feels and how his feelings change
Buckingham Palace	Repetition: lines that come back in every verse
Puppy and I	Patterns: the same question asked again and again
The King's Breakfast	Sequence: a message passed from one character to the next
The Three Foxes	Silly plurals: words that end in "-ses" for fun
Disobedience	Rhythm and the sound of names
The Island	Imagery: action and sound words
Halfway Down	Point of view: a favorite in-between place
Happiness	Repetition and shape: how words look on the page
Vespers	Narrator and character: the poem has two voices

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

AUTHOR STUDY

Meet the Poet

A. A. Milne

1882–1956 ✦ The poet who wrote Winnie-the-Pooh

A. A. Milne was born in London, England, in 1882. He wrote plays, stories and funny pieces for magazines. When his son, Christopher Robin, was little, Milne began writing poems about the things a small child sees, wonders about and plays. They were collected in *When We Were Very Young* in 1924, and children have loved them ever since. A few years later he wrote *Winnie-the-Pooh*, about Christopher Robin and his toy bear.

Questions About the Poet

1. In what city was A. A. Milne born?

2. Who was Christopher Robin?

3. What famous bear did Milne write about?

THINK ABOUT IT

Many of these poems are about Christopher Robin, Milne's own son. Which poems do you think he was in? What clues tell you?

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

POETRY PASSPORT

My A. A. Milne Passport

Each time you finish a poem, add a stamp or sticker and check the boxes. Can you visit every poem?

This passport belongs to _____

Teddy Bear

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Buckingham Palace

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Puppy and I

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

The King's Breakfast

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

The Three Foxes

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Disobedience

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

The Island

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Halfway Down

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Happiness

stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

Vespers

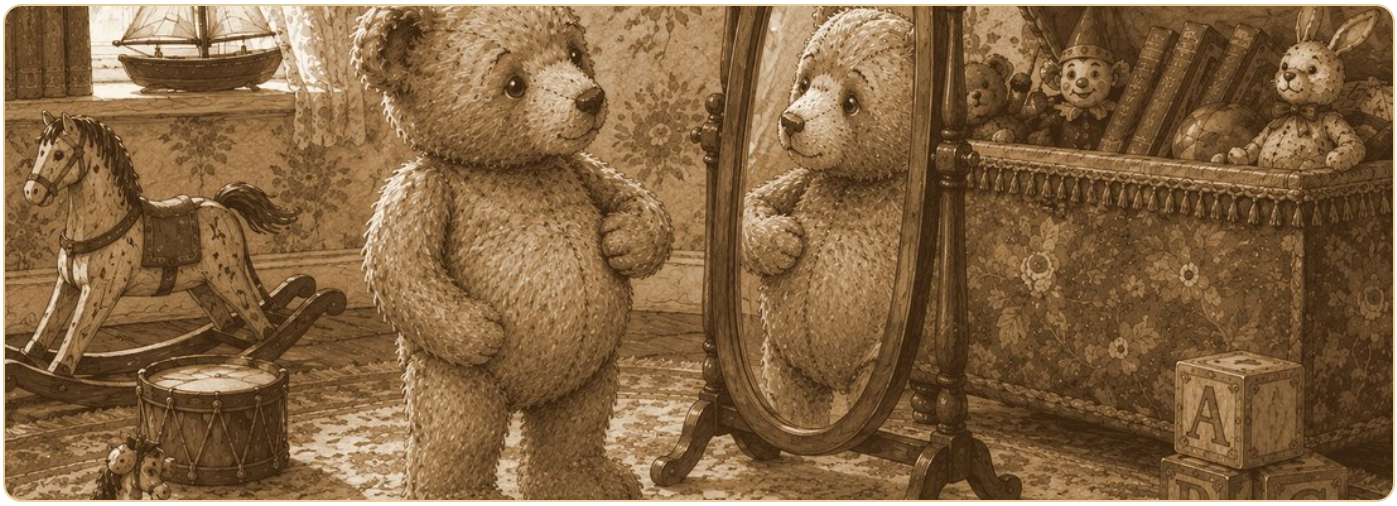
stamp or sticker

- [ ] I listened
- [ ] I read it with a grown-up
- [ ] I can say a verse

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

THE POEM

Teddy Bear



A bear, however hard he tries,
Grows tubby without exercise.
Our Teddy Bear is short and fat
Which is not to be wondered at;
He gets what exercise he can
By falling off the ottoman,
But generally seems to lack
The energy to clamber back.

Now tubbiness is just the thing
Which gets a fellow wondering;
And Teddy worried lots about
The fact that he was rather stout.
He thought: "If only I were thin!
But how does anyone begin?"
He thought: "It really isn't fair
To grudge me exercise and air."

For many weeks he pressed in vain
His nose against the window-pane,
And envied those who walked about
Reducing their unwanted stout.
None of the people he could see
"Is quite" (he said) "as fat as me!"
Then, with a still more moving sigh,
"I mean" (he said) "as fat as I!"

Now Teddy, as was only right,
Slept in the ottoman at night,
And with him crowded in as well
More animals than I can tell;
Not only these, but books and things,
Such as a kind relation brings—
Old tales of "Once upon a time,"
And history retold in rhyme.

One night it happened that he took
A peep at an old picture-book,
Wherein he came across by chance
The picture of a King of France
(A stoutish man) and, down below,
These words: "King Louis So and So,
Nicknamed 'The Handsome!'" There he sat,
And (think of it!) the man was fat!

Our bear rejoiced like anything
To read about this famous King,
Nicknamed "The Handsome." There he sat,
And certainly the man was fat.
Nicknamed "The Handsome." Not a doubt
The man was definitely stout.
Why then, a bear (for all his tub)
Might yet be named "The Handsome Cub!"

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

THE POEM, CONTINUED

"Might yet be named." Or did he mean
That years ago he "might have been"?
For now he felt a slight misgiving:
"Is Louis So and So still living?
Fashions in beauty have a way
Of altering from day to day.
Is 'Handsome Louis' with us yet?
Unfortunately I forget."

Next morning (nose to window-pane)
The doubt occurred to him again.
One question hammered in his head:
"Is he alive or is he dead?"
Thus, nose to pane, he pondered; but
The lattice window, loosely shut,
Swung open. With one startled "Oh!"
Our Teddy disappeared below.

There happened to be passing by
A plump man with a twinkling eye,
Who, seeing Teddy in the street,
Raised him politely to his feet,
And murmured kindly in his ear
Soft words of comfort and of cheer:
"Well, well!" "Allow me!" "Not at all."
"Tut-tut! A very nasty fall."

Our Teddy answered not a word;
It's doubtful if he even heard.
Our bear could only look and look:
The stout man in the picture-book!
That "handsome" King—could this be he,
This man of adiposity?
"Impossible," he thought. "But still,
No harm in asking. Yes I will!"

"Are you," he said, "by any chance
His Majesty the King of France?"
The other answered, "I am that,"
Bowed stiffly, and removed his hat;
Then said, "Excuse me," with an air,
"But is it Mr. Edward Bear?"
And Teddy, bending very low,
Replied politely, "Even so!"

They stood beneath the window there,
The King and Mr. Edward Bear,
And, handsome, if a trifle fat,
Talked carelessly of this and that . . .
Then said His Majesty, "Well, well,
I must get on," and rang the bell.
"Your bear, I think," he smiled. "Good-day!"
And turned, and went upon his way.

A bear, however hard he tries,
Grows tubby without exercise.
Our Teddy Bear is short and fat,
Which is not to be wondered at.
But do you think it worries him
To know that he is far from slim?
No, just the other way about—
He's proud of being short and stout.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 0:11 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Teddy Bear

SKILL FOCUS

Character: how Teddy feels and how his feelings change

WORDS TO KNOW

tubby – short and round • exercise – moving your body to keep strong • ottoman – a soft footstool or box seat

1. Why is Teddy worried at the start of the poem?

2. What does Teddy find in the old picture-book?

3. Who helps Teddy up after he falls out of the window?

TRY IT

Teddy worries that he is too fat. Write a kind note to Teddy telling him why he is just right the way he is.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "Teddy Bear." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. Teddy Bear is short and fat. Yes No
2. Teddy gets lots of exercise. Yes No
3. Teddy sees a picture of a King of France in a book. Yes No
4. The King in the book is thin. Yes No
5. Teddy falls out of the window. Yes No
6. A plump man helps Teddy up. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

_____

_____

I like it because _____

_____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Teddy Bear

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

N	O	Y	A	D	P	R	P	F	P
B	K	V	A	E	W	V	J	F	Y
F	I	D	W	I	N	D	O	W	K
P	N	P	B	E	A	R	J	I	I
F	G	F	U	U	U	S	T	C	G
B	L	A	R	F	A	T	E	Y	C
C	C	B	B	O	O	K	D	W	P
S	S	T	R	E	E	T	D	E	F
J	W	K	V	S	C	N	Y	O	K
M	S	F	R	A	N	C	E	E	H

WORD BANK

- ☐ TEDDY
- ☐ BEAR
- ☐ KING
- ☐ FRANCE
- ☐ FAT
- ☐ BOOK
- ☐ WINDOW
- ☐ STREET

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Teddy Bear

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Our Teddy Bear is short and fat.

Our Teddy Bear
is short and fat.

He’s proud of being short and stout.

He’s proud of being
short and stout.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

Buckingham Palace



They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
Alice is marrying one of the guard.
"A soldier's life is terrible hard,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
We saw a guard in a sentry-box.
"One of the sergeants looks after their socks,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
We looked for the King, but he never came.
"Well, God take care of him, all the same,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
They've great big parties inside the grounds.
"I wouldn't be King for a hundred pounds,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
A face looked out, but it wasn't the King's.
"He's much too busy a-signing things,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
"Do you think the King knows all about me?"
"Sure to, dear, but it's time for tea,"
Says Alice.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 6:54 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Buckingham Palace

SKILL FOCUS

Repetition: lines that come back in every verse

WORDS TO KNOW

palace – a very big, grand house where a king or queen lives • guard – a soldier who keeps watch over a place • sentry-box – a small hut where a guard stands

1. Where do Christopher Robin and Alice go?

2. What do they look for, but never see?

3. What does Alice say at the very end?

TRY IT

Write a new verse! Fill in: "We saw _____." Then write what Alice would say about it.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "Buckingham Palace." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. Christopher Robin goes to the palace with Alice. Yes No
2. They see the King. Yes No
3. Alice says a soldier's life is terrible hard. Yes No
4. A guard stands in a sentry-box. Yes No
5. Alice wants to be King. Yes No
6. At the end it is time for tea. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

_____

_____

I like it because _____

_____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Buckingham Palace

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

F	H	T	E	A	J	V	S	N	O
A	R	O	B	I	N	E	O	L	L
L	K	V	N	A	M	F	L	C	V
I	C	A	R	T	T	P	D	W	V
C	S	B	V	B	N	A	I	G	A
E	O	I	T	K	S	L	E	G	H
A	C	W	M	Y	R	A	R	U	E
D	K	K	I	N	G	C	I	A	T
S	S	R	B	F	E	E	A	R	L
S	N	E	U	P	I	L	Y	D	R

WORD BANK

- ☐ PALACE
- ☐ GUARD
- ☐ ALICE
- ☐ KING
- ☐ SOLDIER
- ☐ SOCKS
- ☐ TEA
- ☐ ROBIN

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Buckingham Palace

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

They’re changing guard at Buckingham Palace

They’re changing guard
at Buckingham Palace

Christopher Robin went down with Alice.

Christopher Robin
went down with Alice.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

THE POEM

Puppy and I



I met a Man as I went walking;
We got talking,
Man and I.
"Where are you going to, Man?" I said
(I said to the Man as he went by).
"Down to the village, to get some bread.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met a Horse as I went walking;
We got talking,
Horse and I.
"Where are you going to, Horse, to-day?"
(I said to the Horse as he went by).
"Down to the village to get some hay.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met a Woman as I went walking;
We got talking,
Woman and I.
"Where are you going to, Woman, so early?"
(I said to the Woman as she went by).
"Down to the village to get some barley.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met some Rabbits as I went walking;
We got talking,
Rabbits and I.
"Where are you going in your brown fur coats?"
(I said to the Rabbits as they went by).
"Down to the village to get some oats.
Will you come with us?" "No, not I."

I met a Puppy as I went walking;
We got talking,
Puppy and I.
"Where are you going this nice fine day?"
(I said to the Puppy as he went by).
"Up in the hills to roll and play."
"I'll come with you, Puppy," said I.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 9:10 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Puppy and I

SKILL FOCUS

Patterns: the same question asked again and again

WORDS TO KNOW

walking – moving along on your feet • village – a small town • bread – food baked from flour

1. Who does the child meet on the walk? Name them in order.

2. What does the Woman want from the village?

3. Where is the Puppy going?

TRY IT

Add a new animal to the poem! Fill in: "I met a _____ as I went walking." Where is it going, and what will it get?

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "Puppy and I." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The Man is going to the village to get bread. Yes No
2. The Horse goes with the child. Yes No
3. The Woman is going to get barley. Yes No
4. The Rabbits have brown fur coats. Yes No
5. The Puppy is going to the village. Yes No
6. The child goes with the Puppy. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

I like it because _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Puppy and I

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

C	K	D	C	H	L	F	J	M	D
W	A	T	T	K	L	P	G	C	G
O	J	I	R	A	H	M	A	N	S
M	S	F	A	Y	B	R	E	A	D
A	K	D	B	D	N	H	C	D	G
N	Y	P	B	O	E	A	K	B	T
Y	Y	J	I	B	F	Y	V	S	C
Y	H	P	T	P	M	W	J	A	S
H	O	R	S	E	U	H	A	K	O
P	U	P	P	Y	A	O	A	T	S

WORD BANK

- ☐ MAN
- ☐ HORSE
- ☐ WOMAN
- ☐ PUPPY
- ☐ RABBITS
- ☐ BREAD
- ☐ HAY
- ☐ OATS

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS RF.K.1b · RF.K.3c · RF.1.3

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Puppy and I

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

I met a Puppy as I went walking;

I met a Puppy

as I went walking;

"I'll come with you, Puppy," said I.

"I'll come with you,

Puppy," said I.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

THE POEM

The King's Breakfast



The King asked
The Queen, and
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid:
"Could we have some butter for
The Royal slice of bread?"
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid,
The Dairymaid
Said, "Certainly,
I'll go and tell
The cow
Now
Before she goes to bed."

The Dairymaid
She curtsied,
And went and told
The Alderney:
"Don't forget the butter for
The Royal slice of bread."
The Alderney
Said sleepily:
"You'd better tell
His Majesty
That many people nowadays
Like marmalade
Instead."

The Dairymaid
Said, "Fancy!"
And went to
Her Majesty
She curtsied to the Queen, and
She turned a little red:
"Excuse me,
Your Majesty,
For taking of
The liberty,
But marmalade is tasty, if
It's very
Thickly
Spread."

The Queen said
"Oh!"
And went to
His Majesty:
"Talking of the butter for
The Royal slice of bread,
Many people
Think that
Marmalade
Is nicer.
Would you like to try a little
Marmalade
Instead?"

The King said,
"Bother!"
And then he said,
"Oh, deary me!"
The King sobbed, "Oh, deary me!"
And went back to bed.
"Nobody,"
He whimpered,
"Could call me
A fussy man;
I only want
A little bit
Of butter for
My bread!"

The Queen said,
"There, there!"
And went to
The Dairymaid.
The Dairymaid
Said, "There, there!"
And went to the shed.
The cow said,
"There, there!
I didn't really
Mean it;
Here's milk for his porringer
And butter for his bread."

The Queen took
The butter
And brought it to
His Majesty;
The King said,
"Butter, eh?"
And bounced out of bed.
"Nobody," he said,
As he kissed her
Tenderly,
"Nobody," he said,
As he slid down
The banisters,
"Nobody,
My darling,
Could call me
A fussy man—
BUT
"I do like a little bit of butter to
my bread!"

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 10:54 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

The King's Breakfast

SKILL FOCUS

Sequence: a message passed from one character to the next

WORDS TO KNOW

dairymaid – a woman who milks cows and makes butter • curtsied – bent the knees to show respect • Alderney – a kind of cow

1. What does the King want for his breakfast?

2. Who does the Dairymaid ask for the butter?

3. What does the cow say people like instead?

TRY IT

Draw a line from the King to the Queen to the Dairymaid to the cow. Write what each one says as the message goes along.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "The King's Breakfast." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The King wants butter for his bread. Yes No
2. The Dairymaid tells the cow. Yes No
3. The cow says to try marmalade instead. Yes No
4. The King is happy about the marmalade. Yes No
5. The cow sends milk and butter in the end. Yes No
6. The King stays in bed all day. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

I like it because _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

The King's Breakfast

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

B	W	M	K	M	I	L	K	T	K
W	C	O	W	Q	W	O	W	F	C
F	K	B	V	U	J	S	H	E	D
R	P	U	J	E	E	K	I	V	F
Y	U	T	U	E	H	I	D	B	Y
Y	P	T	G	N	E	N	I	U	W
N	C	E	V	Y	B	G	B	S	B
T	V	R	O	E	O	F	A	W	K
B	E	D	N	K	M	R	J	P	K
B	R	E	A	D	U	M	K	L	M

WORD BANK

- ☐ KING
- ☐ QUEEN
- ☐ COW
- ☐ BUTTER
- ☐ BREAD
- ☐ BED
- ☐ SHED
- ☐ MILK

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

The King's Breakfast

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

A little bit of butter

A little bit

of butter

for the Royal slice of bread.

for the Royal

slice of bread.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

THE POEM

The Three Foxes



Once upon a time there were three little foxes
Who didn't wear stockings, and they didn't wear sockses,
But they all had handkerchiefs to blow their noses,
And they kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes.

They lived in the forest in three little houses,
And they didn't wear coats, and they didn't wear trousies.
They ran through the woods on their little bare tootsies,
And they played "Touch last" with a family of mouses.

They didn't go shopping in the High Street shopses,
But caught what they wanted in the woods and copses.
They all went fishing, and they caught three wormses,
They went out hunting, and they caught three wopses.

They went to a Fair, and they all won prizes—
Three plum-puddingses and three mince-pieses.
They rode on elephants and swang on swingses,
And hit three coco-nuts at coco-nut shieses.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

THE POEM, CONTINUED

That's all that I know of the three little foxes
Who kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes.
They lived in the forest in three little houses,
But they didn't wear coats and they didn't wear trousies,
And they didn't wear stockings and they didn't wear sockses.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 14:20 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

The Three Foxes

SKILL FOCUS

Silly plurals: words that end in "-ses" for fun

WORDS TO KNOW

handkerchief – a small cloth for blowing your nose • stockings – long socks • trousies – a silly word for trousers, or pants

1. What did the foxes keep in cardboard boxes?

2. Who did the foxes play "Touch last" with?

3. What prizes did the foxes win at the Fair?

TRY IT

Make up your own silly plurals like "sockses" and "wopses." Write three of them, then use one in a sentence.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "The Three Foxes." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. There are three little foxes. Yes No
2. The foxes wear stockings and socks. Yes No
3. They keep their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes. Yes No
4. They live in the town. Yes No
5. They play "Touch last" with a family of mouses. Yes No
6. They ride on elephants at the Fair. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

I like it because _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

The Three Foxes

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

C	S	P	H	U	B	V	A	L	P
Y	W	R	K	S	P	K	S	R	R
W	I	I	W	F	F	A	I	R	B
V	N	Z	N	O	W	T	L	L	O
M	G	E	T	R	F	Y	Y	O	X
O	S	S	Y	E	O	D	V	A	E
U	E	S	G	S	X	O	J	N	S
S	S	F	U	T	E	U	J	E	D
E	A	S	S	R	S	B	U	N	U
S	S	B	H	O	U	S	E	S	N

WORD BANK

- ☐ FOXES
- ☐ BOXES
- ☐ HOUSES
- ☐ FOREST
- ☐ FAIR
- ☐ PRIZES
- ☐ MOUSES
- ☐ SWINGSES

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

The Three Foxes

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Once upon a time there were three little foxes

Once upon a time

there were three little foxes

They lived in the forest in three little houses,

They lived in the forest

in three little houses,

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

Disobedience



James James
Morrison Morrison
Weatherby George Dupree
Took great
Care of his Mother,
Though he was only three.
James James
Said to his Mother,
"Mother," he said, said he;
"You must never go down to the end of the town, if you don't go down with me."

James James
Morrison's Mother
Put on a golden gown,
James James
Morrison's Mother
Drove to the end of the town.
James James
Morrison's Mother
Said to herself, said she:
"I can get right down to the end of the town and be back in time for tea."

King John
Put up a notice,
"LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!
JAMES JAMES
MORRISON'S MOTHER
SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MISLAID.
LAST SEEN
WANDERING VAGUELY:
QUITE OF HER OWN ACCORD,
SHE TRIED TO GET DOWN TO THE END OF THE TOWN—FORTY SHILLINGS REWARD!"

James James
Morrison Morrison
(Commonly known as Jim)
Told his
Other relations
Not to go blaming him.
James James
Said to his Mother,
"Mother," he said, said he;
"You must never go down to the end of the town without consulting me."

James James
Morrison's mother
Hasn't been heard of since.
King John
Said he was sorry,
So did the Queen and Prince.
King John
(Somebody told me)
Said to a man he knew:
"If people go down to the end of the town, well, what can anyone do?"

(Now then, very softly)
J.J.
M. M.
W. G. Du P.
Took great
C/o his M*****
Though he was only 3.
J.J.
Said to his M*****
"M*****," he said, said he:
"You-must-never-go-down-to-the-end-of-the-town-if-you-don't-go-down-with ME!"

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 16:41 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Disobedience

SKILL FOCUS

Rhythm and the sound of names

WORDS TO KNOW

gown – a long, fancy dress • notice – a sign that tells people news • strayed – wandered away and got lost

1. How old is James James?

2. Where does his mother go, and what does she wear?

3. What does King John do when she goes missing?

TRY IT

James James Morrison Morrison has a long, bouncy name. Make up a long, bouncy name for yourself or a pet and write it three times.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "Disobedience." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. James James is only three. Yes No
2. James James tells his Mother not to go to the end of the town without him. Yes No
3. His Mother wears a golden gown. Yes No
4. His Mother comes home in time for tea. Yes No
5. King John puts up a notice. Yes No
6. James James is very sorry it happened. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

_____

_____

I like it because _____

_____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Disobedience

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

R	K	M	E	J	A	G	O	W	N
H	I	K	E	K	P	L	L	E	H
Y	J	A	M	E	S	H	W	C	L
L	R	J	W	G	Q	N	W	T	G
N	A	L	J	F	U	D	F	E	V
J	M	T	P	N	E	K	C	A	P
O	V	R	R	T	E	W	B	L	J
H	M	J	L	E	N	U	I	I	L
N	M	O	T	H	E	R	E	N	H
T	O	W	N	A	K	I	N	G	W

WORD BANK

- [ ] JAMES
- [ ] MOTHER
- [ ] TOWN
- [ ] KING
- [ ] JOHN
- [ ] GOWN
- [ ] TEA
- [ ] QUEEN

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Disobedience

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

James James Morrison Morrison

James James

Morrison Morrison

Took great care of his Mother,

Took great care

of his Mother,

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

The Island



If I had a ship,
I'd sail my ship,
I'd sail my ship
Through Eastern seas;
Down to a beach where the slow waves thunder—
The green curls over and the white falls under—
Boom! Boom! Boom!
On the sun-bright sand.
Then I'd leave my ship and I'd land,
And climb the steep white sand,
And climb to the trees,
The six dark trees,
The coco-nut trees on the cliff's green crown—
Hands and knees
To the coco-nut trees,
Face to the cliff as the stones patter down,
Up, up, up, staggering, stumbling,
Round the corner where the rock is crumbling,
Round this shoulder,
Over this boulder,
Up to the top where the six trees stand. . . .

And there would I rest, and lie,
My chin in my hands, and gaze
At the dazzle of sand below,
And the green waves curling slow,
And the grey-blue distant haze
Where the sea goes up to the sky. . . .

And I'd say to myself as I looked so lazily down at the sea:
"There's nobody else in the world, and the world was made for me."

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 20:05 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

The Island

SKILL FOCUS

Imagery: action and sound words

WORDS TO KNOW

ship – a big boat • thunder – a loud, booming sound • cliff – a high, steep wall of rock

1. Where would the child sail the ship?

2. What sound do the waves make on the sand?

3. How many trees stand at the top of the cliff?

TRY IT

Imagine you have your own ship. Where would you sail? Write two sentences about the island you would find.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "The Island." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The child would sail through Eastern seas. Yes No
2. The waves go "Boom! Boom! Boom!" Yes No
3. There are ten coco-nut trees. Yes No
4. The child climbs on hands and knees. Yes No
5. The child rests at the top and looks at the sea. Yes No
6. The child wants lots of people on the island. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

I like it because _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

The Island

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

S	K	Y	P	K	A	S	S	C	E
W	L	C	M	Y	V	B	C	S	Y
A	L	C	F	F	K	C	H	T	O
V	D	U	R	N	A	V	V	R	R
E	S	E	A	S	W	V	W	E	L
S	S	A	R	A	H	B	R	E	C
W	A	R	O	C	K	D	G	S	L
R	N	S	H	I	P	T	L	B	I
L	D	Y	B	Y	H	I	G	U	F
E	J	Y	T	U	I	D	J	P	F

WORD BANK

- ☐ SHIP
- ☐ SEAS
- ☐ SAND
- ☐ TREES
- ☐ CLIFF
- ☐ WAVES
- ☐ ROCK
- ☐ SKY

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

The Island

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

If I had a ship, I'd sail my ship

If I had a ship,

I'd sail my ship

And the world was made for me.

And the world

was made for me.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

Halfway Down



Halfway down the stairs
Is a stair
Where I sit.
There isn't any
Other stair
Quite like
It.
I'm not at the bottom,
I'm not at the top;
So this is the stair
Where
I always
Stop.

Halfway up the stairs
Isn't up,
And isn't down.
It isn't in the nursery,
It isn't in the town.
And all sorts of funny thoughts
Run round my head:
"It isn't really
Anywhere!
It's somewhere else
Instead!"

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 22:00 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Halfway Down

SKILL FOCUS

Point of view: a favorite in-between place

WORDS TO KNOW

halfway – in the middle, between two ends • stair – one step on a staircase • bottom – the lowest part

1. Where does the child always stop?

2. Why is this stair different from the others?

3. What funny thought runs round the child's head?

TRY IT

Where is your favorite place to sit and think? Write about it and tell why it is special.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about “Halfway Down.” Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The child sits halfway down the stairs. Yes No
2. The child likes the top stair best. Yes No
3. No other stair is quite like this one. Yes No
4. Halfway up the stairs is in the nursery. Yes No
5. Funny thoughts run round the child’s head. Yes No
6. The child says the stair isn’t really anywhere. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

_____

_____

I like it because _____

_____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Halfway Down

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

V	E	N	T	O	W	N	M	T	N
E	B	O	T	T	O	M	J	K	S
U	R	G	M	E	A	H	D	P	T
H	E	B	C	H	M	E	E	V	A
A	H	H	N	M	L	A	Y	D	I
F	J	T	O	P	N	D	H	B	R
A	V	G	R	S	V	S	J	I	S
U	S	T	A	I	R	T	L	P	E
H	S	I	T	B	S	O	D	P	P
K	N	G	V	A	A	P	N	B	C

WORD BANK

- ☐ STAIRS
- ☐ STAIR
- ☐ TOP
- ☐ BOTTOM
- ☐ SIT
- ☐ STOP
- ☐ TOWN
- ☐ HEAD

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Halfway Down

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Halfway down the stairs is a stair where I sit.

Halfway down the stairs

is a stair where I sit.

I'm not at the bottom, I'm not at the top;

I'm not at the bottom,

I'm not at the top;

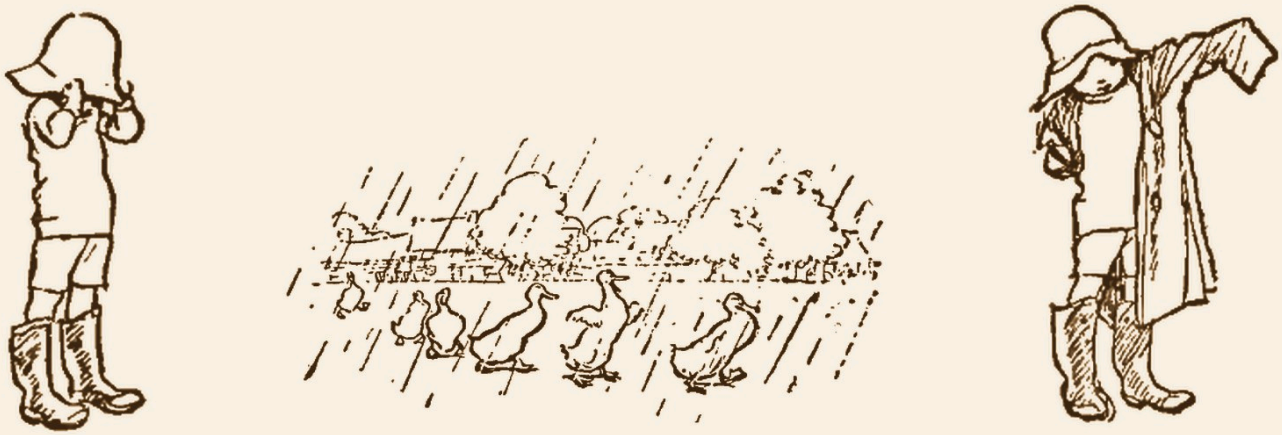
☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

Happiness



John had
Great Big
Waterproof
Boots on;

John had a
Great Big
Waterproof
Hat;

John had a
Great Big
Waterproof
Mackintosh—

And that
(Said John)
Is
That.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 23:15 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Happiness

SKILL FOCUS

Repetition and shape: how words look on the page

WORDS TO KNOW

waterproof – keeps the water out • boots – tall shoes that cover your ankles • hat – something you wear on your head

1. What three waterproof things did John have?

2. Which words are repeated again and again in the poem?

3. Who says "And that is that"?

TRY IT

Write your own "Great Big" poem about your rain clothes. Fill in: "I had / Great Big / _____ / _____ on."

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about “Happiness.” Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. John has great big waterproof boots. Yes No
2. John has a little hat. Yes No
3. John wears a mackintosh. Yes No
4. A mackintosh is a raincoat. Yes No
5. The poem is about a sunny beach. Yes No
6. John is happy with his rain clothes. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

_____

_____

I like it because _____

_____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Happiness

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

L	G	B	I	G	B	O	O	T	S
J	H	T	R	O	Y	D	M	G	J
C	N	H	K	W	P	L	H	U	W
D	F	A	J	Y	V	U	H	O	C
O	L	T	U	K	R	L	A	D	H
U	R	R	J	O	H	N	T	G	J
M	O	S	Y	N	K	B	U	R	V
V	U	F	G	V	O	L	D	E	I
J	C	I	P	W	O	B	Y	A	G
S	C	K	R	B	U	F	V	T	B

WORD BANK

- ☐ JOHN
- ☐ BOOTS
- ☐ HAT
- ☐ GREAT
- ☐ BIG
- ☐ THAT

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Happiness

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

John had great big waterproof boots on;

John had great big

waterproof boots on;

And that (said John) is that.

And that (said John)

is that.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

THE POEM

Vespers



Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,
Droops on the little hands little gold head.
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.

God bless Mummy. I know that's right.
Wasn't it fun in the bath to-night?
The cold's so cold, and the hot's so hot.
Oh! God bless Daddy—I quite forgot.

If I open my fingers a little bit more,
I can see Nanny's dressing-gown on the door.
It's a beautiful blue, but it hasn't a hood.
Oh! God bless Nanny and make her good.

Mine has a hood, and I lie in bed,
And pull the hood right over my head,
And I shut my eyes, and I curl up small,
And nobody knows that I'm there at all.

Oh! Thank you, God, for a lovely day.
And what was the other I had to say?
I said "Bless Daddy," so what can it be?
Oh! Now I remember it. God bless Me.

Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,
Droops on the little hands little gold head.
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

This poem starts at 23:42 in the *A. A. Milne Poems Read Aloud* compilation. Scan the code for the poem's own page and read-aloud.

A. A. Milne, When We Were Very Young (1924). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Vespers

SKILL FOCUS

Narrator and character: the poem has two voices

WORDS TO KNOW

kneels – rests on the knees • droops – hangs down low • hush – be very quiet

1. Where does Christopher Robin kneel?

2. What does he see when he opens his fingers?

3. What does his own dressing-gown have that Nanny's doesn't?

TRY IT

Christopher Robin thinks about the bath and Nanny's dressing-gown. Write about something you think about at bedtime.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about "Vespers." Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. Christopher Robin kneels at the foot of the bed. Yes No
2. He forgets to bless Daddy at first. Yes No
3. Nanny's dressing-gown is red. Yes No
4. Christopher Robin's dressing-gown has a hood. Yes No
5. He thanks God for a lovely day. Yes No
6. He shouts his prayers very loudly. Yes No

My Favorite Line

Copy your favorite line from the poem. Then tell why you like it.

I like it because _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Vespers

Find the words from the poem. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

U	H	O	O	D	V	R	L	A	M
V	E	B	E	D	M	U	M	M	Y
G	N	Y	T	H	A	H	O	I	S
W	A	A	H	D	A	D	D	Y	E
P	N	A	D	A	J	E	D	J	S
I	N	B	R	Y	N	F	O	F	W
C	Y	A	W	D	Y	A	O	T	Y
P	J	T	F	P	G	C	R	P	L
K	N	H	J	M	P	J	V	B	W
J	R	K	S	L	P	E	A	N	D

WORD BANK

- [ ] BED
- [ ] HOOD
- [ ] DADDY
- [ ] MUMMY
- [ ] NANNY
- [ ] BATH
- [ ] DOOR
- [ ] DAY

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Vespers

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Thank you for a lovely day.

Thank you

for a lovely day.

Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!

Hush! Hush!

Whisper who dares!

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

CCSS L.K.1a · L.1.1a · L.K.2a

Name _____ Date _____

POEMS TOGETHER

Kings and Queens?

Is there a king or queen in the poem? Write each title in the right box.

Happiness | Teddy Bear | The King's Breakfast | Puppy and I | Halfway Down | Buckingham Palace | Vespers | The Island | Disobedience | The Three Foxes

A king or queen is in it

No king or queen

Name _____ Date _____

POEMS TOGETHER

Compare Two Poems

Read “Puppy and I” and “Buckingham Palace” again. Fill in the chart. Then tell how the two poems are alike.

	Puppy and I	Buckingham Palace
Who is in it?		
Where does it happen?		
How does it make you feel?		
My favorite line		

How are they alike?

Which one do you like better? Why?

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

POEMS TOGETHER

The Poet's Patterns

Poets often come back to the same ideas. Check each box when the poem has that thing in it. Which idea did A. A. Milne use most?

	CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	ANIMALS	FOOD	A KING OR QUEEN
Teddy Bear	☐	☐	☐	☐
Buckingham Palace	☐	☐	☐	☐
Puppy and I	☐	☐	☐	☐
The King's Breakfast	☐	☐	☐	☐
The Three Foxes	☐	☐	☐	☐
Disobedience	☐	☐	☐	☐
The Island	☐	☐	☐	☐
Halfway Down	☐	☐	☐	☐
Happiness	☐	☐	☐	☐
Vespers	☐	☐	☐	☐

A. A. Milne wrote most about _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 1

Illustrate a Stanza

Pick a poem. Copy your favorite stanza on the lines, then draw a picture of it in the frame.

Poem title _____

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 2

Rhyme Hunt

Rhyming words sound the same at the end, like *moon* and *spoon*. Choose a poem and find six pairs of rhyming words.

Poem title _____

	WORD		WORD
1		rhymes with	
2		rhymes with	
3		rhymes with	
4		rhymes with	
5		rhymes with	
6		rhymes with	

Now make your own

Write two new words that rhyme with *night*.

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 3

Write Your Own Verse

Milne's "Happiness" builds a picture one word at a time. Use it as a pattern to write about yourself dressed for any weather.

THE PATTERN

John had
    Great Big
        Waterproof
            Boots on;

_____ had

Great Big

_____

_____ on;

_____ had a

Great Big

_____

_____;

And that

(Said _____)

Is

That.

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 4

LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!

In “Disobedience,” King John put up a notice when James James’s mother went missing. Make a notice for a lost toy.

LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!

Lost: _____

Last seen: _____

It looks like: _____

_____

If you find it, please _____

REWARD: _____

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 5

A Name Like a King

In “Teddy Bear,” King Louis was nicknamed “The Handsome.” Give Teddy a nickname that tells what is great about him. Then give yourself one!

Teddy the _____

because _____

_____

My name is _____

My nickname is _____

because _____

_____

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 6

Pass the Message

In “The King’s Breakfast,” the message about the butter travels from one character to the next. Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the circles to show who asked whom.

the Dairymaid	the King	the Cow	the Queen
◯	◯	◯	◯

Butter or Marmalade?

Ask 10 people which they would choose on their bread. Make a tally mark for each answer.

Choice	Tally marks	Total
Butter		
Marmalade		

More people chose _____

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 7

Silly Milne Words

In “The Three Foxes,” Milne turned “socks” into “sockses” and “mice” into “mouses.” Write the real word for more than one, then make up a silly Milne word!

One	Real word for more than one	Silly Milne word
one sock		
one mouse		
one box		
one hat		
one fox		
one goose		

Use your silly words

Write a sentence with two of your silly words.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

ACTIVITY 8

My Favorite Poem

Think about all the A. A. Milne poems you heard. Which one did you like best?

My favorite poem is _____

I like it because _____

My favorite line from the poem

Rate the poem

Color the stars.



READERS' THEATER

Perform the Poems

Readers' theater means reading a poem aloud as a group, with each person taking a part. Nobody needs to memorize anything or wear a costume. Just read your lines with lots of expression!

HOW IT WORKS

1. Choose a script and hand out the parts (some parts can be shared). 2. Highlight your lines. 3. Practice once together, slowly. 4. Perform for family, another class or a stuffed-animal audience!

STAGE DIRECTIONS

Words in *italics* tell you what to do, not what to say.

Scripts in this unit

1. **Buckingham Palace** (3 parts): Everyone (marching), Christopher Robin, Alice
2. **The King's Breakfast** (5 parts): Narrator, The King, The Queen, The Dairymaid, The Cow
3. **Puppy and I** (7 parts): The Child, Narrator, The Man, The Horse, The Woman, The Rabbits, The Puppy

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT

Buckingham Palace

Everyone (marching) · Christopher Robin · Alice

EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
	March in place on the first two lines of every verse.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	Alice is marrying one of the guard.
ALICE	"A soldier's life is terrible hard,"
EVERYONE	Says Alice.
EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	We saw a guard in a sentry-box.
ALICE	"One of the sergeants looks after their socks,"
EVERYONE	Says Alice.
EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	We looked for the King, but he never came.
ALICE	"Well, God take care of him, all the same,"
EVERYONE	Says Alice.
EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	They've great big parties inside the grounds.
ALICE	"I wouldn't be King for a hundred pounds,"

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT, CONTINUED

Buckingham Palace

EVERYONE	Says Alice.
EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	A face looked out, but it wasn't the King's.
ALICE	"He's much too busy a-signing things,"
EVERYONE	Says Alice.
EVERYONE	They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace— Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	"Do you think the King knows all about me?"
ALICE	"Sure to, dear, but it's time for tea,"
EVERYONE	Says Alice.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT

The King's Breakfast

Narrator | The King | The Queen | The Dairymaid | The Cow

NARRATOR
The King asked
The Queen, and
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid:

THE KING
"Could we have some butter for
The Royal slice of bread?"

NARRATOR
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid,
The Dairymaid

THE DAIRYMAID
Said, "Certainly,
I'll go and tell
The cow
Now
Before she goes to bed."

NARRATOR
The Dairymaid
She curtsied,
And went and told
The Alderney:

THE DAIRYMAID
"Don't forget the butter for
The Royal slice of bread."

NARRATOR
The Alderney
Said sleepily:

The Cow yawns sleepily.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT, CONTINUED

The King's Breakfast

THE COW	"You'd better tell His Majesty That many people nowadays Like marmalade Instead."
NARRATOR	The Dairymaid
THE DAIRYMAID	Said, "Fancy!"
NARRATOR	And went to Her Majesty She curtsied to the Queen, and She turned a little red: *The Dairymaid curtsies.*
THE DAIRYMAID	"Excuse me, Your Majesty, For taking of The liberty, But marmalade is tasty, if It's very Thickly Spread."
NARRATOR	The Queen said
THE QUEEN	"Oh!"
NARRATOR	And went to His Majesty:
THE QUEEN	"Talking of the butter for The Royal slice of bread, Many people Think that Marmalade Is nicer. Would you like to try a little Marmalade Instead?"
NARRATOR	The King said,

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT, CONTINUED

The King's Breakfast

THE KING	"Bother!"
NARRATOR	And then he said,
THE KING	"Oh, deary me!" The King sobbed, "Oh, deary me!"
	The King pretends to sob.
NARRATOR	And went back to bed.
THE KING	"Nobody,"
NARRATOR	He whimpered,
THE KING	"Could call me A fussy man; I only want A little bit Of butter for My bread!"
NARRATOR	The Queen said,
THE QUEEN	"There, there!"
NARRATOR	And went to The Dairymaid. The Dairymaid
THE DAIRYMAID	Said, "There, there!"
NARRATOR	And went to the shed. The cow said,
THE COW	"There, there! I didn't really Mean it; Here's milk for his porringer And butter for his bread."

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT, CONTINUED

The King's Breakfast

NARRATOR The Queen took
The butter
And brought it to
His Majesty;
The King said,

THE KING "Butter, eh?"

NARRATOR And bounced out of bed.

The King jumps up!

THE KING "Nobody," he said,

NARRATOR As he kissed her
Tenderly,

THE KING "Nobody," he said,

NARRATOR As he slid down
The banisters,

THE KING "Nobody,
My darling,
Could call me
A fussy man—
BUT
"I do like a little bit of butter to my bread!"

Shout it!

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT

Puppy and I

The Child · Narrator · The Man · The Horse · The Woman · The Rabbits · The Puppy

THE CHILD	I met a Man as I went walking; We got talking, Man and I. "Where are you going to, Man?" I said
NARRATOR	(I said to the Man as he went by).
THE MAN	"Down to the village, to get some bread.
THE MAN	Will you come with me?"
THE CHILD	"No, not I."
THE CHILD	I met a Horse as I went walking; We got talking, Horse and I. "Where are you going to, Horse, to-day?"
NARRATOR	(I said to the Horse as he went by).
THE HORSE	"Down to the village to get some hay.
THE HORSE	Will you come with me?"
THE CHILD	"No, not I."
THE CHILD	I met a Woman as I went walking; We got talking, Woman and I. "Where are you going to, Woman, so early?"
NARRATOR	(I said to the Woman as she went by).
THE WOMAN	"Down to the village to get some barley.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

READERS' THEATER SCRIPT, CONTINUED

Puppy and I

THE WOMAN	Will you come with me?"
THE CHILD	"No, not I."
THE CHILD	I met some Rabbits as I went walking; We got talking, Rabbits and I. "Where are you going in your brown fur coats?"
NARRATOR	(I said to the Rabbits as they went by).
THE RABBITS	"Down to the village to get some oats.
THE RABBITS	Will you come with us?"
THE CHILD	"No, not I."
THE CHILD	I met a Puppy as I went walking; We got talking, Puppy and I. "Where are you going this nice fine day?"
NARRATOR	(I said to the Puppy as he went by).
THE PUPPY	"Up in the hills to roll and play."
THE CHILD	"I'll come with you, Puppy," said I. *The Child says this line, then everyone cheers!*

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WRAP-UP

Which Poem Is It?

Read each line. Which poem does it come from? Write the title on the line. Use the title bank to help.

Buckingham Palace | Disobedience | The Island | Teddy Bear | Vespers | The Three Foxes | Halfway Down | Puppy and I | Happiness | The King's Breakfast

1. "Our Teddy Bear is short and fat."

2. "They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace"

3. "I met a Puppy as I went walking;"

4. "A little bit of butter"

5. "Once upon a time there were three little foxes"

6. "James James Morrison Morrison"

7. "If I had a ship, I'd sail my ship"

8. "Halfway down the stairs is a stair where I sit."

9. "John had great big waterproof boots on;"

10. "Thank you for a lovely day."

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

Name _____ Date _____

WRAP-UP

Recitation Program & Rubric

Plan a poetry performance for family or classmates. Each reader chooses a poem or a verse to say by heart.

#	Reader	Poem
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

How did I do?

Circle one box in each row after you perform.

	Getting there	Got it!	Wow!
Loud and clear	Hard to hear	Most people could hear	Everyone could hear every word
Knew the words	Needed lots of help	Needed a little help	Said it all by heart
Expression	Same voice all the way	Some changes in voice	Voice matched the poem's feelings
Looked at the audience	Looked down	Looked up sometimes	Looked at the audience

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



✦ CERTIFICATE ✦

Very Young Poetry Pal

This certifies that

_____

has finished the **A. A. Milne Poetry Unit**
and can share the poems of **A. A. Milne**.

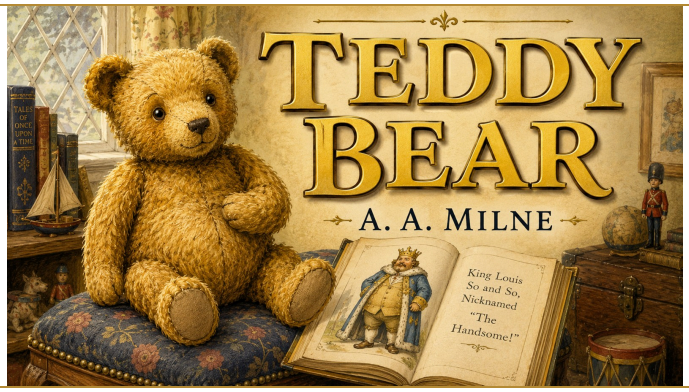
Date _____ Signed _____

POEM POSTERS

Poems for Your Wall

Print these pages in color for a classroom wall, a memory corner or a bedtime binder. Each poster has the full poem and its picture from the read-aloud.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



A bear, however hard he tries,
Grows tubby without exercise.
Our Teddy Bear is short and fat
Which is not to be wondered at;
He gets what exercise he can
By falling off the ottoman,
But generally seems to lack
The energy to clamber back.

Now tubbiness is just the thing
Which gets a fellow wondering;
And Teddy worried lots about
The fact that he was rather stout.
He thought: "If only I were thin!
But how does anyone begin?"
He thought: "It really isn't fair
To grudge me exercise and air."

For many weeks he pressed in vain
His nose against the window-pane,
And envied those who walked about
Reducing their unwanted stout.
None of the people he could see
"Is quite" (he said) "as fat as me!"
Then, with a still more moving sigh,
"I mean" (he said) "as fat as I!"

Now Teddy, as was only right,
Slept in the ottoman at night,
And with him crowded in as well
More animals than I can tell;
Not only these, but books and things,
Such as a kind relation brings—
Old tales of "Once upon a time,"
And history retold in rhyme.

One night it happened that he took
A peep at an old picture-book,
Wherein he came across by chance
The picture of a King of France
(A stoutish man) and, down below,
These words: "King Louis So and So,
Nicknamed 'The Handsome!'" There he sat,
And (think of it!) the man was fat!

Our bear rejoiced like anything
To read about this famous King,
Nicknamed "The Handsome." There he sat,
And certainly the man was fat.
Nicknamed "The Handsome." Not a doubt
The man was definitely stout.
Why then, a bear (for all his tub)
Might yet be named "The Handsome Cub!"

"Might yet be named." Or did he mean
That years ago he "might have been"?
For now he felt a slight misgiving:
"Is Louis So and So still living?
Fashions in beauty have a way
Of altering from day to day.
Is 'Handsome Louis' with us yet?
Unfortunately I forget."

Next morning (nose to window-pane)
The doubt occurred to him again.
One question hammered in his head:
"Is he alive or is he dead?"
Thus, nose to pane, he pondered; but
The lattice window, loosely shut,
Swung open. With one startled "Oh!"
Our Teddy disappeared below.

There happened to be passing by
A plump man with a twinkling eye,
Who, seeing Teddy in the street,
Raised him politely to his feet,
And murmured kindly in his ear
Soft words of comfort and of cheer:
"Well, well!" "Allow me!" "Not at all."
"Tut-tut! A very nasty fall."

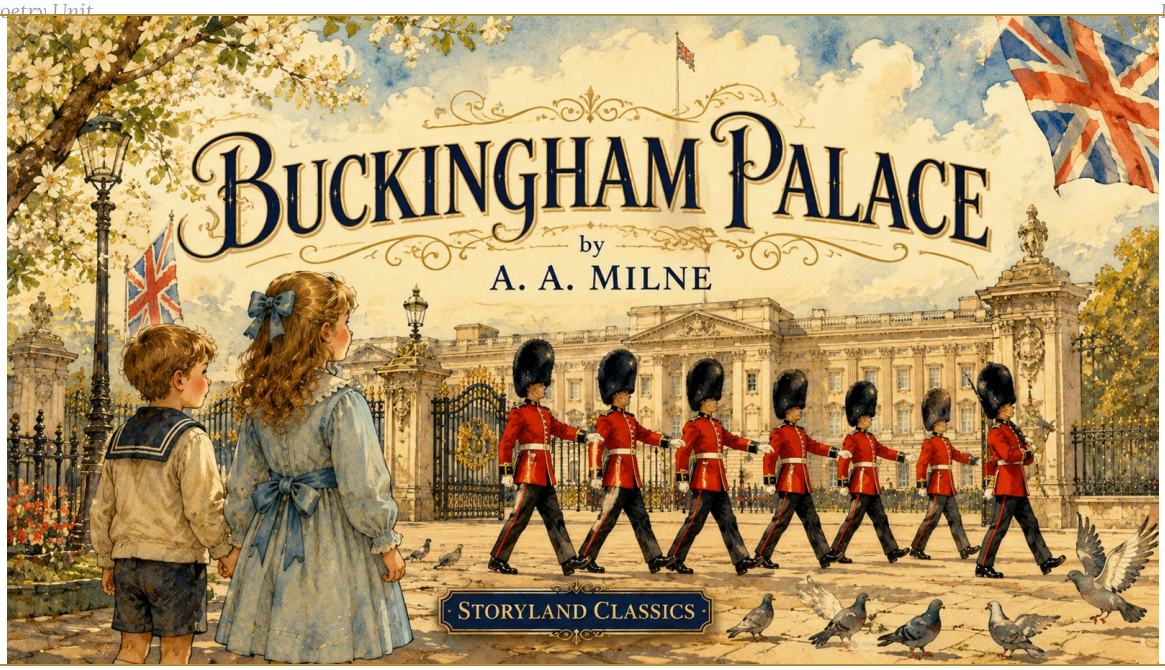
Our Teddy answered not a word;
It's doubtful if he even heard.
Our bear could only look and look:
The stout man in the picture-book!
That "handsome" King—could this be he,
This man of adiposity?
"Impossible," he thought. "But still,
No harm in asking. Yes I will!"

"Are you," he said, "by any chance
His Majesty the King of France?"
The other answered, "I am that,"
Bowed stiffly, and removed his hat;
Then said, "Excuse me," with an air,
"But is it Mr. Edward Bear?"
And Teddy, bending very low,
Replied politely, "Even so!"

They stood beneath the window there,
The King and Mr. Edward Bear,
And, handsome, if a trifle fat,
Talked carelessly of this and that . . .
Then said His Majesty, "Well, well,
I must get on," and rang the bell.
"Your bear, I think," he smiled. "Good-day!"
And turned, and went upon his way.

A bear, however hard he tries,
Grows tubby without exercise.
Our Teddy Bear is short and fat,
Which is not to be wondered at.
But do you think it worries him
To know that he is far from slim?
No, just the other way about—
He's proud of being short and stout.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
Alice is marrying one of the guard.
"A soldier's life is terrible hard,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
We saw a guard in a sentry-box.
"One of the sergeants looks after their socks,"
Says Alice.

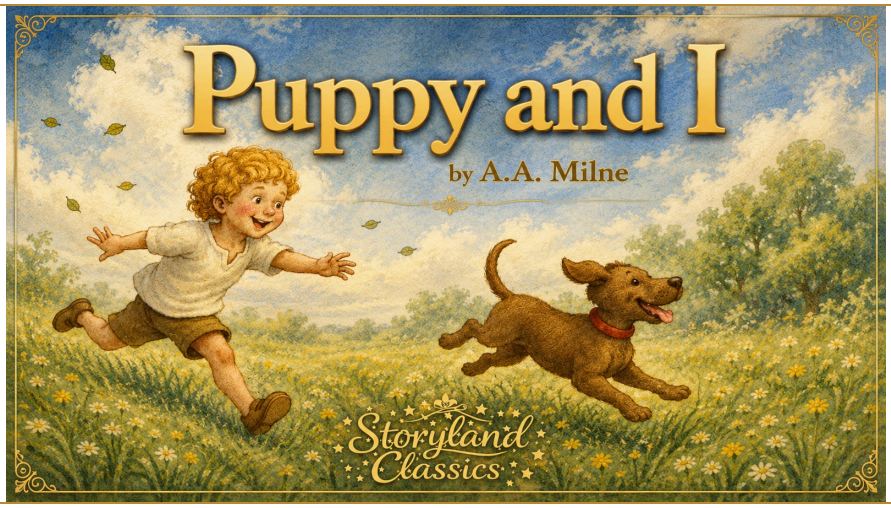
They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
We looked for the King, but he never came.
"Well, God take care of him, all the same,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
They've great big parties inside the grounds.
"I wouldn't be King for a hundred pounds,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
A face looked out, but it wasn't the King's.
"He's much too busy a-signing things,"
Says Alice.

They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace—
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.
"Do you think the King knows all about me?"
"Sure to, dear, but it's time for tea,"
Says Alice.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



I met a Man as I went walking;
We got talking,
Man and I.
"Where are you going to, Man?" I said
(I said to the Man as he went by).
"Down to the village, to get some bread.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met a Horse as I went walking;
We got talking,
Horse and I.
"Where are you going to, Horse, to-day?"
(I said to the Horse as he went by).
"Down to the village to get some hay.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met a Woman as I went walking;
We got talking,
Woman and I.
"Where are you going to, Woman, so early?"
(I said to the Woman as she went by).
"Down to the village to get some barley.
Will you come with me?" "No, not I."

I met some Rabbits as I went walking;
We got talking,
Rabbits and I.
"Where are you going in your brown fur coats?"
(I said to the Rabbits as they went by).
"Down to the village to get some oats.
Will you come with us?" "No, not I."

I met a Puppy as I went walking;
We got talking,
Puppy and I.
"Where are you going this nice fine day?"
(I said to the Puppy as he went by).
"Up in the hills to roll and play."
"I'll come with you, Puppy," said I.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



The King asked
The Queen, and
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid:
"Could we have some butter for
The Royal slice of bread?"
The Queen asked
The Dairymaid,
The Dairymaid
Said, "Certainly,
I'll go and tell
The cow
Now
Before she goes to bed."

The Dairymaid
She curtsied,
And went and told
The Alderney:
"Don't forget the butter for
The Royal slice of bread."
The Alderney
Said sleepily:
"You'd better tell
His Majesty
That many people nowadays
Like marmalade
Instead."

The Dairymaid
Said, "Fancy!"
And went to
Her Majesty
She curtsied to the Queen, and
She turned a little red:
"Excuse me,
Your Majesty,
For taking of
The liberty,
But marmalade is tasty, if
It's very
Thickly
Spread."

The Queen said
"Oh!"
And went to
His Majesty:
"Talking of the butter for
The Royal slice of bread,
Many people
Think that
Marmalade
Is nicer.
Would you like to try a little
Marmalade
Instead?"

The King said,
"Bother!"
And then he said,
"Oh, deary me!"
The King sobbed, "Oh, deary me!"
And went back to bed.
"Nobody,"
He whimpered,
"Could call me
A fussy man;
I only want
A little bit
Of butter for
My bread!"

The Queen said,
"There, there!"
And went to
The Dairymaid.
The Dairymaid
Said, "There, there!"
And went to the shed.
The cow said,
"There, there!
I didn't really
Mean it;
Here's milk for his porringer
And butter for his bread."

The Queen took
The butter
And brought it to
His Majesty;
The King said,
"Butter, eh?"
And bounced out of bed.
"Nobody," he said,
As he kissed her
Tenderly,
"Nobody," he said,
As he slid down
The banisters,
"Nobody,
My darling,
Could call me
A fussy man—
BUT
"I do like a little bit of butter to my bread!"

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



Once upon a time there were three little foxes
Who didn't wear stockings, and they didn't wear sockses,
But they all had handkerchiefs to blow their noses,
And they kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes.

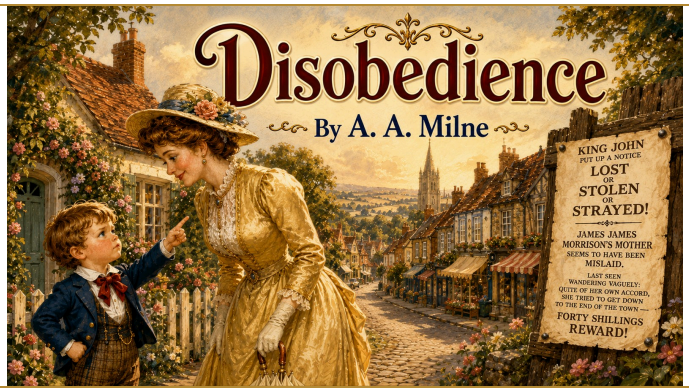
They lived in the forest in three little houses,
And they didn't wear coats, and they didn't wear trousies.
They ran through the woods on their little bare tootsies,
And they played "Touch last" with a family of mouses.

They didn't go shopping in the High Street shopses,
But caught what they wanted in the woods and copses.
They all went fishing, and they caught three wormses,
They went out hunting, and they caught three wopses.

They went to a Fair, and they all won prizes—
Three plum-puddingses and three mince-pieses.
They rode on elephants and swang on swingses,
And hit three coco-nuts at coco-nut shieses.

That's all that I know of the three little foxes
Who kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes.
They lived in the forest in three little houses,
But they didn't wear coats and they didn't wear trousies,
And they didn't wear stockings and they didn't wear sockses.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



James James
Morrison Morrison
Weatherby George Dupree
Took great
Care of his Mother,
Though he was only three.
James James
Said to his Mother,
"Mother," he said, said he;
"You must never go down to the end of the town, if you don't go down with me."

James James
Morrison's Mother
Put on a golden gown,
James James
Morrison's Mother
Drove to the end of the town.
James James
Morrison's Mother
Said to herself, said she:
"I can get right down to the end of the town and be back in time for tea."

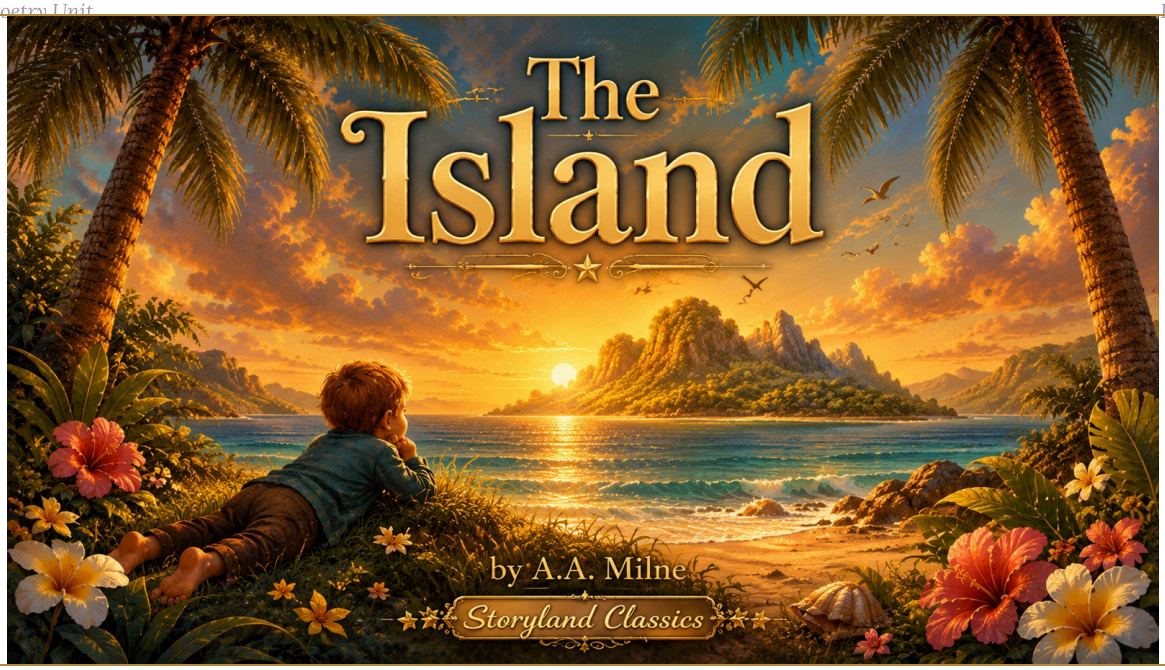
King John
Put up a notice,
"LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!
JAMES JAMES
MORRISON'S MOTHER
SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MISLAID.
LAST SEEN
WANDERING VAGUELY:
QUITE OF HER OWN ACCORD,
SHE TRIED TO GET DOWN TO THE END OF THE TOWN—FORTY SHILLINGS REWARD!"

James James
Morrison Morrison
(Commonly known as Jim)
Told his
Other relations
Not to go blaming him.
James James
Said to his Mother,
"Mother," he said, said he;
"You must never go down to the end of the town without consulting me."

James James
Morrison's mother
Hasn't been heard of since.
King John
Said he was sorry,
So did the Queen and Prince.
King John
(Somebody told me)
Said to a man he knew:
"If people go down to the end of the town, well, what can anyone do?"

(Now then, very softly)
J.J.
M. M.
W. G. Du P.
Took great
C/o his M*****
Though he was only 3.
J.J.
Said to his M*****
"M*****," he said, said he:
"You-must-never-go-down-to-the-end-of-the-town-if-you-don't-go-down-with ME!"

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

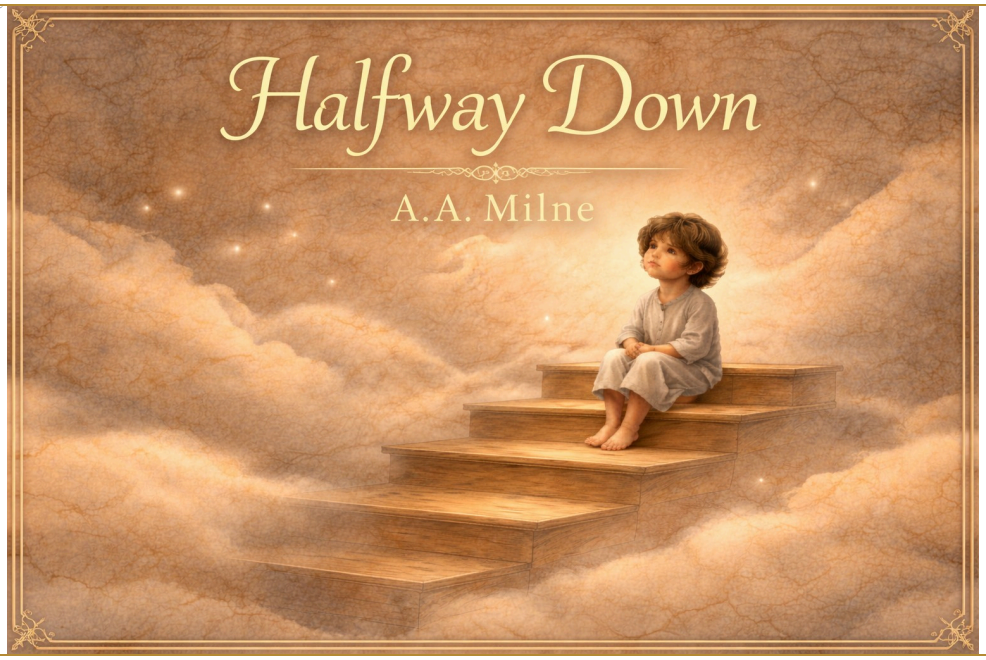


If I had a ship,
I'd sail my ship,
I'd sail my ship
Through Eastern seas;
Down to a beach where the slow waves thunder—
The green curls over and the white falls under—
Boom! Boom! Boom!
On the sun-bright sand.
Then I'd leave my ship and I'd land,
And climb the steep white sand,
And climb to the trees,
The six dark trees,
The coco-nut trees on the cliff's green crown—
Hands and knees
To the coco-nut trees,
Face to the cliff as the stones patter down,
Up, up, up, staggering, stumbling,
Round the corner where the rock is crumbling,
Round this shoulder,
Over this boulder,
Up to the top where the six trees stand. . . .

And there would I rest, and lie,
My chin in my hands, and gaze
At the dazzle of sand below,
And the green waves curling slow,
And the grey-blue distant haze
Where the sea goes up to the sky. . . .

And I'd say to myself as I looked so lazily down at the sea:
"There's nobody else in the world, and the world was made for me."

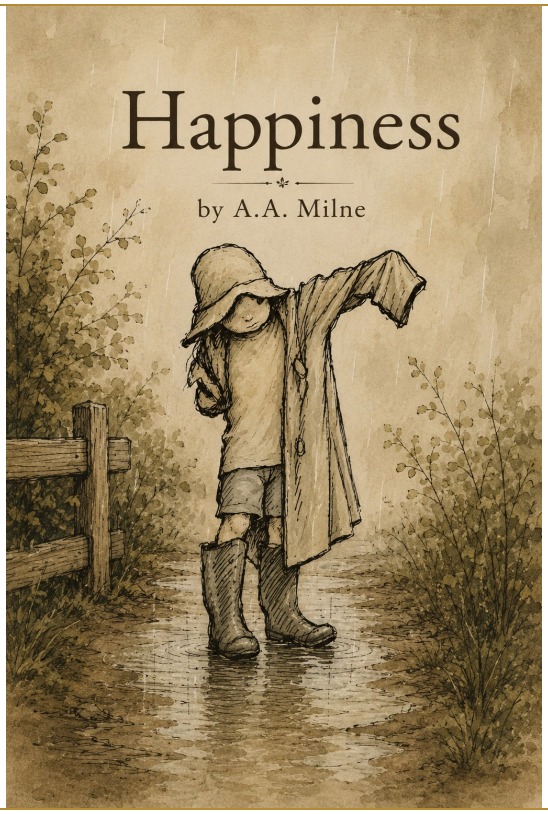
© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



Halfway down the stairs
Is a stair
Where I sit.
There isn't any
Other stair
Quite like
It.
I'm not at the bottom,
I'm not at the top;
So this is the stair
Where
I always
Stop.

Halfway up the stairs
Isn't up,
And isn't down.
It isn't in the nursery,
It isn't in the town.
And all sorts of funny thoughts
Run round my head:
"It isn't really
Anywhere!
It's somewhere else
Instead!"

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



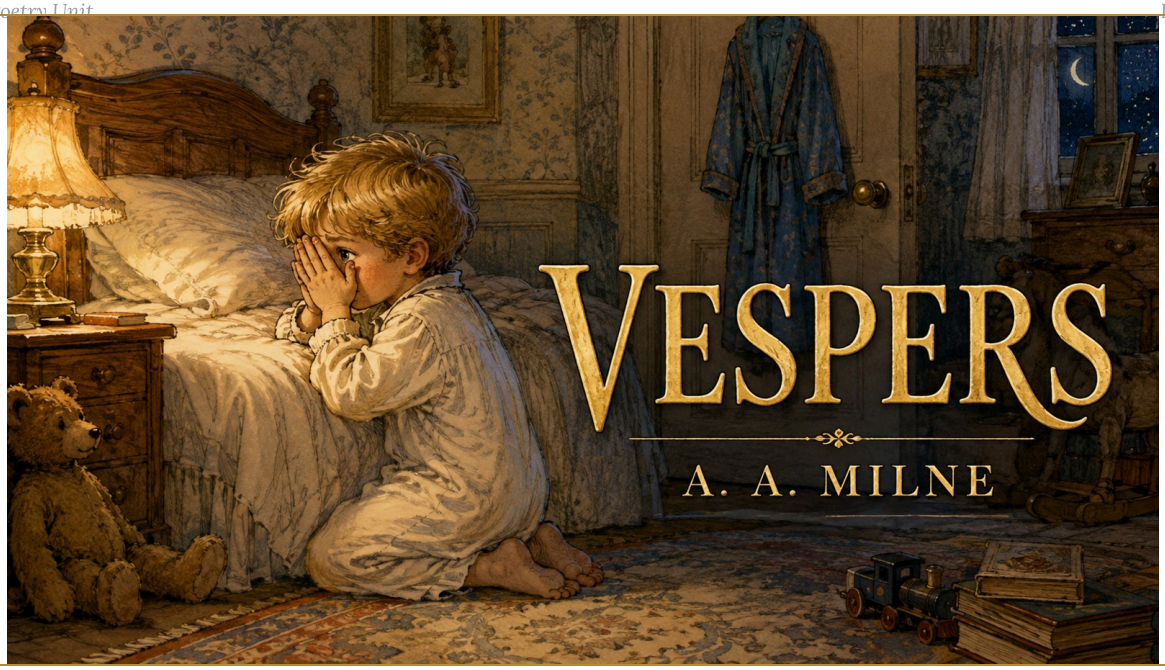
John had
Great Big
Waterproof
Boots on;

John had a
Great Big
Waterproof
Hat;

John had a
Great Big
Waterproof
Mackintosh—

And that
(Said John)
Is
That.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com



Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,
Droops on the little hands little gold head.
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.

God bless Mummy. I know that's right.
Wasn't it fun in the bath to-night?
The cold's so cold, and the hot's so hot.
Oh! God bless Daddy—I quite forgot.

If I open my fingers a little bit more,
I can see Nanny's dressing-gown on the door.
It's a beautiful blue, but it hasn't a hood.
Oh! God bless Nanny and make her good.

Mine has a hood, and I lie in bed,
And pull the hood right over my head,
And I shut my eyes, and I curl up small,
And nobody knows that I'm there at all.

Oh! Thank you, God, for a lovely day.
And what was the other I had to say?
I said "Bless Daddy," so what can it be?
Oh! Now I remember it. God bless Me.

Little Boy kneels at the foot of the bed,
Droops on the little hands little gold head.
Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Let's Talk

Sample answers. Accept any answer children can support with words from the poem.

POEM	1	2	3
Teddy Bear	He thinks he is too fat.	A picture of King Louis, a fat king nicknamed "The Handsome."	A plump man who turns out to be the King of France.
Buckingham Palace	To Buckingham Palace, to watch the Changing of the Guard.	The King.	"Sure to, dear, but it's time for tea."
Puppy and I	A Man, a Horse, a Woman, some Rabbits, a Puppy.	Barley.	Up in the hills to roll and play.
The King's Breakfast	A little bit of butter for his bread.	The cow (the Alderney).	Marmalade.
The Three Foxes	Their handkerchiefs.	A family of mouses (mice).	Three plum-puddings and three mince-pies.
Disobedience	Three.	To the end of the town, in a golden gown.	He puts up a notice: lost, stolen or strayed, forty shillings reward.
The Island	Through Eastern seas, to a faraway island.	Boom! Boom! Boom!	Six.
Halfway Down	Halfway down the stairs.	It isn't at the bottom or the top, and there isn't any other stair quite like it.	"It isn't really anywhere! It's somewhere else instead!"
Happiness	Great big waterproof boots, a great big waterproof hat and a great big waterproof mackintosh (raincoat).	"Great Big" and "Waterproof."	John.
Vespers	At the foot of his bed.	Nanny's blue dressing-gown on the door.	A hood.

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Reading & Poems Together

Yes or No?

Teddy Bear	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. N 5. Y 6. Y
Buckingham Palace	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. Y 5. N 6. Y
Puppy and I	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. Y 5. N 6. Y
The King's Breakfast	1. Y 2. Y 3. Y 4. N 5. Y 6. N
The Three Foxes	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. N 5. Y 6. Y
Disobedience	1. Y 2. Y 3. Y 4. N 5. Y 6. N
The Island	1. Y 2. Y 3. N 4. Y 5. Y 6. N
Halfway Down	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. N 5. Y 6. Y
Happiness	1. Y 2. N 3. Y 4. Y 5. N 6. Y
Vespers	1. Y 2. Y 3. N 4. Y 5. Y 6. N

Kings and Queens?

A king or queen is in it: Buckingham Palace, The King's Breakfast, Disobedience, Teddy Bear ✦ **No king or queen:** Puppy and I, The Three Foxes, The Island, Halfway Down, Happiness, Vespers

Which Poem Is It?

1. Teddy Bear · 2. Buckingham Palace · 3. Puppy and I · 4. The King's Breakfast · 5. The Three Foxes · 6. Disobedience · 7. The Island · 8. Halfway Down · 9. Happiness · 10. Vespers

Pass the Message

1 the King → 2 the Queen → 3 the Dairymaid → 4 the Cow

The Poet's Patterns

	CHRISTOPHER ROBIN	ANIMALS	FOOD	A KING OR QUEEN
Teddy Bear		✓		✓
Buckingham Palace	✓		✓	✓
Puppy and I		✓	✓	
The King's Breakfast		✓	✓	✓
The Three Foxes		✓	✓	
Disobedience			✓	✓
The Island				
Halfway Down				
Happiness				
Vespers	✓			

© Storyland Classics · storylandclassics.com

FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Word Searches

Teddy Bear

N O Y A D P R P F P
B **K** V A E W V J F Y
F **I** D **W I N D O W** K
P **N** P **B E A R** J I I
F **G** F U U U S **T** C G
B L A R **F A T E** Y C
C C B **B O O K D** W P
S **S T R E E T D** E F
J W K V S C N **Y** O K
M S **F R A N C E** E H

Buckingham Palace

F H **T E A** J V **S** N O
A R O B I N E **O** L L
L K V N A M F **L** C V
I C A R T T **P D** W V
C S B V B N **A I** G A
E O I T K S **L E G** H
A **C** W M Y R **A R U** E
D **K K I N G C** I **A** T
S **S** R B F E **E** A **R** L
S N E U P I L Y **D** R

Puppy and I

C K D C H L F J M D
W A T T K L P G C G
O J I **R** A H **M A N** S
M S F **A** Y **B R E A D**
A K D **B** D N **H** C D G
N Y P **B** O E **A** K B T
Y Y J **I** B F **Y** V S C
Y H P **T** P M W J A S
H O R S E U H A K O
P U P P Y A **O A T S**

The King's Breakfast

B W M K **M I L K** T K
W **C O W Q** W O W F C
F K **B** V **U** J **S H E D**
R P **U** J **E** E **K** I V F
Y U **T** U **E** H **I** D B Y
Y P **T** G **N** E **N** I U W
N C **E** V Y B **G** B S B
T V **R** O E O F A W K
B E D N K M R J P K
B R E A D U M K L M

The Three Foxes

C **S P** H U B V A L P
Y **W R** K S P K S R R
W **I I** W **F F A I R B**
V **N Z** N **O** W T L L **O**
M G E T **R F** Y Y O **X**
O S S Y **E O** D V A **E**
U E S G **S X** O J N **S**
S S F U **T E** U J E D
E A S S R **S** B U N U
S S B **H O U S E S** N

Disobedience

R K M E J A **G O W N**
H I K E K P L L E H
Y **J A M E S** H W C L
L R J W G **Q** N W **T** G
N A L J F **U** D F **E** V
J M T P N **E** K C **A** P
O V R R T **E** W B L J
H M J L E **N** U I I L
N M O T H E R E N H
T O W N A **K I N G** W

The Island

S K Y P K A S S C E
W L C M Y V B C S Y
A L C F F K C H **T** O
V D U R N A V V **R** R
E S E A S W V W **E** L
S S A R A H B R **E C**
W **A R O C K** D G **S L**
R **N S H I P** T L B **I**
L **D** Y B Y H I G U **F**
E J Y T U I D J P **F**

Halfway Down

V E N **T O W N** M T N
E **B O T T O M** J K **S**
U R G M E A **H** D P **T**
H E B C H M **E** E V **A**
A H H N M L **A** Y D **I**
F J **T O P** N **D** H B **R**
A V G R S V **S** J I **S**
U **S T A I R T** L P E
H **S I T** B S **O** D P P
K N G V A A **P** N B C

Happiness

L G **B I G B O O T S**
J H **T** R O Y D M G J
C N **H** K W P L H U W
D F **A** J Y V U **H** O C
O L **T** U K R L **A** D H
U R R **J O H N T G** J
M O S Y N K B U **R** V
V U F G V O L D **E** I
J C I P W O B Y **A** G
S C K R B U F V **T** B

FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key: Word Searches

Vespers

U	**H**	**O**	**O**	**D**	V	R	L	A	M
V	E	**B**	**E**	**D**	**M**	**U**	**M**	**M**	**Y**
G	**N**	Y	T	H	A	H	O	I	S
W	**A**	A	H	**D**	**A**	**D**	**D**	**Y**	E
P	**N**	A	D	**A**	J	E	**D**	J	S
I	**N**	**B**	R	**Y**	N	F	**O**	F	W
C	**Y**	**A**	W	D	Y	A	**O**	T	Y
P	J	**T**	F	P	G	C	**R**	P	L
K	N	**H**	J	M	P	J	V	B	W
J	R	K	S	L	P	E	A	N	D

Thank you!

We hope you enjoyed these classic poems. Find more free read-alouds and teaching guides at **storylandclassics.com** and on YouTube at **@StorylandClassics**.

Terms of use. This resource is for use by one teacher or family in a classroom or home. Please do not share, resell or post it online; instead, send others to storylandclassics.com. The poems by A. A. Milne are in the public domain. Illustrations, activities and design © Storyland Classics.