Storyland Classics

FREE POEM GUIDE

From Fairies and Chimneys (1918)



- ✦ The Poem
- ✦ Try It
- ✦ Missing Words
- ✦ Put It in Order
- ✦ Handwriting
- ✦ Meet the Poet
- ✦ Word Match & Sort
- ✦ Yes or No & ABC Order
- ✦ Read It With Voices
- ✦ Answer Key
- ✦ Let's Talk
- ✦ Word Search
- ✦ Rhyme Hunt & Syllables
- ✦ Learn It by Heart
- ✦ Standards

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

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

FOR GROWN-UPS

How to Use This Guide

This free guide goes with the Storyland Classics read-aloud of “A Fairy Went A-Marketing” by Rose Fyleman. Every page is ready to print, and no sign-up is needed. Pick the pages that suit your child or class.

ABOUT THE POEM

A fairy goes to market four times. She buys a little fish, a colored bird, a winter gown and a gentle mouse. She enjoys each one for a while, and then she sets it free or gives it away: the fish goes into a stream, the bird flies off, the gown keeps a little frog warm, and the mouse is thanked and let go. It is a gentle poem about kindness, sharing and letting living things be free.

SKILL FOCUS

Patterns: how every verse follows the same pattern

A simple routine

1. **Day 1.** Watch the read-aloud together (scan the QR code on the poem page), then read the poem aloud.
2. **Day 2.** Read it again. Meet the poet, then use Let’s Talk and Try It.
3. **Day 3.** Learn the words with the word match, word sort, word search and missing words.
4. **Day 4.** Listen for rhymes and syllables, put the poem in order, and perform it with voices.

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Standards

Every activity is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten to grade 2. Codes appear at the bottom of each page, and the full table is on the last page.

Younger children

Children who aren’t writing yet can answer out loud or tell a grown-up what to write.

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THE POEM

A Fairy Went A-Marketing



A fairy went a-marketing—
She bought a little fish;
She put it in a crystal bowl
Upon a golden dish.
An hour she sat in wonderment
And watched its silver gleam,
And then she gently took it up
And slipped it in a stream.

A fairy went a-marketing—
She bought a coloured bird;
It sang the sweetest, shrillest song
That ever she had heard.
She sat beside its painted cage
And listened half the day,
And then she opened wide the door
And let it fly away.

A fairy went a-marketing—
She bought a winter gown
All stitched about with gossamer
And lined with thistledown.
She wore it all the afternoon
With prancing and delight,
Then gave it to a little frog
To keep him warm at night.

A fairy went a-marketing—
She bought a gentle mouse
To take her tiny messages,
To keep her tiny house.
All day she kept its busy feet
Pit-patting to and fro,
And then she kissed its silken ears,
Thanked it, and let it go.

▸ Watch the read-aloud

Scan the code to watch "A Fairy Went A-Marketing" read aloud, or visit storylandclassics.com/fairy-guide.

Rose Fyleman, Fairies and Chimneys (1918). Public domain.

Name _____ Date _____

MEET THE POET

Rose Fyleman

1877–1957 ✦ English poet and writer

Rose Fyleman was born in Nottingham, England, in 1877. She first worked as a singer and singing teacher. When she was about forty she began sending little poems to *Punch* magazine, and her poem "There are fairies at the bottom of our garden!" made her famous. Her first book, *Fairies and Chimneys*, came out in 1918. She wrote dozens of books of poems, stories and plays for children, and she started a children's magazine. She even asked her friend A. A. Milne to write poems for it!

Questions About the Poet

1. What was Rose Fyleman's first job?

2. What was her famous poem about? (Hint: the bottom of the garden!)

3. Rose Fyleman loved writing about fairies. What would you like to write about?

Who Is Talking?

A storyteller tells this poem. Read it again, then answer.

1. Who goes to market in every verse?

2. Who gets the fairy's winter gown at the end?

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LET'S TALK

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

Young children can answer out loud. Older children can write their answers.

REMEMBER

1. What four things did the fairy buy?

2. Where did she put the little fish at the end?

3. Who did she give her winter gown to?

THINK

4. Why do you think the fairy let the fish, the bird and the mouse go?

5. How would you describe the fairy? What words show it?

CONNECT

6. Have you ever shared or given away something you liked? How did it feel?

NARRATION

Close the book and tell the poem back in your own words. What did the fairy buy, and what did she do with each thing?

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Name _____ Date _____

TRY IT

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

SKILL FOCUS

Patterns: how every verse follows the same pattern

Every verse has the same pattern: the fairy buys something, enjoys it, then lets it go. Write the pattern for one verse: what she bought, what she did with it, and how she let it go.

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Name _____ Date _____

WORDS TO KNOW

Word Match

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

marketing	a soft shine
crystal	the soft, fluffy seeds of a thistle
wonderment	going to market to shop
gleam	very thin, light threads, like a spider's web
shrill	a feeling of wonder and amazement
gossamer	dancing and stepping proudly
thistledown	clear, sparkly glass
prancing	high and sharp

Word Sort: Kept or Set Free?

Write each word in the right box.

fish in a bowl · fish in a stream · bird in a cage · bird flying away · mouse at home · mouse let go · gown on the fairy · gown on the frog

While she kept it	After she let it go

Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

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

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

WORD BANK

- ☐ FAIRY
- ☐ FISH
- ☐ BIRD
- ☐ MOUSE
- ☐ GOWN
- ☐ FROG
- ☐ DISH
- ☐ STREAM

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Name _____ Date _____

MISSING WORDS

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

Read each line from the poem. Choose the missing word from the word bank and write it on the line. Then read the whole line aloud.

away · dish · heard · house · stream · thistledown

1. Upon a golden _____ .
2. And slipped it in a _____ .
3. That ever she had _____ .
4. And let it fly _____ .
5. And lined with _____ .
6. To keep her tiny _____ .

Make New Rhymes

Write a new word that rhymes with each word from the poem. Silly words count too!

dish _____ _____ stream _____ _____

heard _____ _____ away _____ _____

DID YOU NOTICE?

Every missing word comes at the end of a line, and each one rhymes with another line in the poem. Find its rhyming partner!

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Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about the poem. Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The fairy bought a little fish. Yes No
2. She kept the bird in its cage forever. Yes No
3. She put the fish in a crystal bowl. Yes No
4. She gave her winter gown to a little frog. Yes No
5. The mouse ran away without a thank-you. Yes No
6. She went to market four times. Yes No

ABC Order

Write these words from the poem in ABC order. Look at the first letter of each word.

fairy · bird · mouse · gown · dish

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

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Name _____ Date _____

SOUNDS OF THE POEM

Rhyme Hunt

Find each word's rhyming partner in the word bank and write it on the line.

away · dish · heard · house · stream · thistledown

fish _____ gleam _____

bird _____ day _____

gown _____ mouse _____

LISTEN

In each half-verse, the second and fourth lines rhyme: fish and dish, gleam and stream. Clap on the rhyming words!

Clap the Syllables

Say each word and clap for every part. Write the number of claps.

fairy claps: ___	fish claps: ___	marketing claps: ___
thistledown claps: ___	mouse claps: ___	afternoon claps: ___

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Name _____ Date _____

PUT IT IN ORDER

What Happens First?

Read each sentence. Write 1 in the circle next to what happens first, 2 next to what happens next, and so on up to 6.

- ◯ She lets the bird fly away.
- ◯ The fairy buys a little fish.
- ◯ She gives her winter gown to a frog.
- ◯ She slips the fish into a stream.
- ◯ She thanks the mouse and lets it go.
- ◯ She buys a colored bird.

Retell the Poem

Use the order words to tell the poem in your own words. Say it out loud, or write it.

First, _____

Next, _____

Then, _____

Last, _____

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Name _____ Date _____

PERFORM IT

Read It With Voices

Storyteller 1 | Storyteller 2 | Storyteller 3 | Storyteller 4 | Everyone

Four **storytellers** each read one verse. **Everyone** says "A fairy went a-marketing" at the start of each verse, and acts out letting something go: open your hands, wave goodbye or flap like a bird!

TIPS FOR READING ALOUD

Read gently and happily. Slow down on the last two lines of each verse, where the fairy lets each thing go.

Read It Three Times

Read the poem aloud three times. Color a star each time. Your reading gets smoother every time!



My Favorite Part

Write about your favorite part of the poem.

My favorite part is _____

_____

_____

because _____

_____

_____

_____

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LEARN IT BY HEART

Say It From Memory

Learn this verse by heart. Check off each step as you go.

A fairy went a-marketing—
She bought a little fish;
She put it in a crystal bowl
Upon a golden dish.
An hour she sat in wonderment
And watched its silver gleam,
And then she gently took it up
And slipped it in a stream.

- [ ] Listen to the verse on the read-aloud video.
- [ ] Read it aloud three times with the book.
- [ ] Say it with a grown-up, one line at a time.
- [ ] Say it with the book closed. Peek if you need to!
- [ ] Say it to someone at home or in class.

✦ CERTIFICATE ✦

I can say “A Fairy Went A-Marketing” by heart!

by Rose Fyleman

Name _____ Date _____

Heard by _____

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CCSS RF.1.4b · SL.K.6 · SL.1.6

Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

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 fairy went a-marketing—

A fairy went

a-marketing—

And let it fly away.

And let it

fly away.

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

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FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key & Ideas

Who Is Talking?

The fairy goes to market in every verse. She gives her winter gown to a little frog to keep him warm at night.

Let's Talk

1. A little fish, a colored bird, a winter gown and a gentle mouse. 2. In a stream. 3. A little frog. 4–6. Answers will vary.

Word Sort

While she kept it: fish in a bowl, bird in a cage, mouse at home, gown on the fairy. After she let it go: fish in a stream, bird flying away, mouse let go, gown on the frog.

Word Search

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

Word Match

marketing: going to market to shop · crystal: clear, sparkly glass · wonderment: a feeling of wonder and amazement · gleam: a soft shine · shrill: high and sharp · gossamer: very thin, light threads, like a spider's web · thistledown: the soft, fluffy seeds of a thistle · prancing: dancing and stepping proudly

Yes or No? & ABC Order

1. Yes · 2. No · 3. Yes · 4. Yes · 5. No · 6. Yes. ABC order: bird, dish, fairy, gown, mouse.

Missing Words

dish, stream, heard, away, thistledown, house

Rhyme Hunt & Syllables

fish: dish · gleam: stream · bird: heard · day: away · gown: thistledown · mouse: house. Claps: fairy 2, fish 1, marketing 3, thistledown 3, mouse 1, afternoon 3.

Put It in Order

buys a little fish → slips it into a stream → buys a colored bird → lets the bird fly away → gives her gown to a frog → thanks the mouse and lets it go.

Ideas to extend the lesson

- Act out each verse: one child is the fairy and others are the fish, bird, frog and mouse.
- Write a new verse: "A fairy went a-marketing— she bought a…"
- Talk about why wild animals are happiest outdoors.

MORE FROM STORYLAND CLASSICS

Find more Rose Fyleman poems with free guides at storylandclassics.com and on YouTube at @StorylandClassics.

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FOR TEACHERS

Standards Alignment

A Fairy Went A-Marketing ✦ Common Core State Standards, kindergarten to grade 2

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.	Put It in Order and Retell
RL.K.3 RL.1.3	Identify and describe characters, settings and major events.	Let's Talk and Put It in Order
RL.K.4 RL.2.4	Understand words and phrases, including rhyme, rhythm and words that appeal to the senses.	Word Match; Rhyme Hunt (rhyme and repeated lines)
RL.2.5	Recognize types of texts and describe the overall structure (beginning, middle and end).	Put It in Order: beginning, middle and end
RL.1.6 RL.2.6	Identify who is speaking and use a different voice for each character when reading aloud.	Who Is Talking?; Read It With Voices
RL.K.10 RL.1.10	Engage in group reading of poems and stories with purpose and understanding.	The Poem and Missing Words; The Poem (reading together)
RF.K.1b RF.K.1d	Understand the organization of print (left to right, top to bottom).	Word Search; ABC Order (letters of the alphabet)
RF.K.2a RF.K.2b	Hear and work with spoken words, rhymes and syllables.	Rhyme Hunt and Make New Rhymes; Clap the Syllables
RF.K.3c RF.1.3	Read common high-frequency words by sight.	Word Search and Missing Words; Word Search
RF.1.4a RF.1.4b RF.2.4b	Read aloud with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression.	Missing Words (read with purpose); Read It With Voices and Read It Three Times
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.6 SL.1.6	Speak audibly and express ideas clearly.	Read It With Voices and Learn It by Heart; Learn It by Heart (recite)
L.K.1a L.1.1 L.1.1a	Print upper- and lowercase letters and use common position words.	Handwriting Practice; ABC Order (alphabetize words)
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.	Word Match
L.K.5a	Sort words into categories, connect words to real life and act out shades of meaning.	Word Sort
W.K.1 W.1.1	Use drawing and writing to share an opinion and give a reason.	My Favorite Part
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

Codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Find free read-alouds and guides at storylandclassics.com.