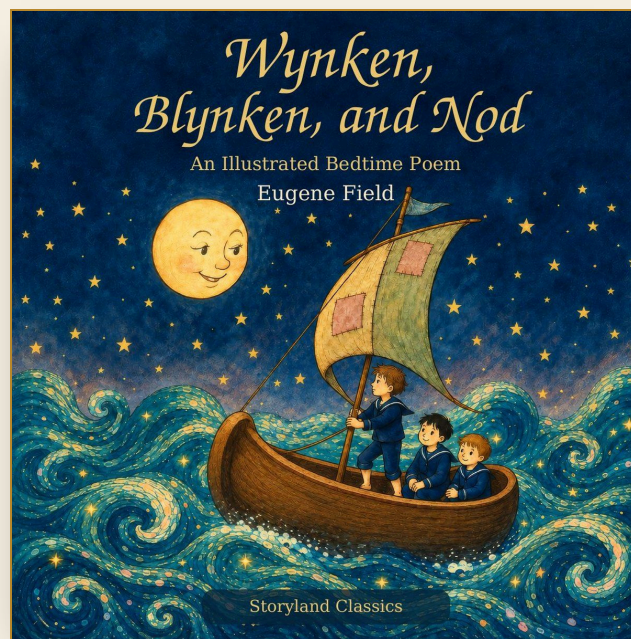


◆ STORYLAND CLASSICS ◆

FREE TEACHER & FAMILY GUIDE

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod

A bedtime poem by Eugene Field



For ages 4–8 ◆ Pre-K through 2nd grade

For the classroom, homeschool, or bedtime

Inside this guide

The Poem	2
Meet the Poet & Before You Read	3
Talk About It	4
Word Treasures	5
Word Search	6
My Night Voyage	7
Answer Key	8

✦ THE POEM ✦

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod

by Eugene Field (1889)

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod one night
Sailed off in a wooden shoe,—
Sailed on a river of crystal light,
Into a sea of dew.
“Where are you going, and what do you wish?”
The old moon asked the three.
“We have come to fish for the herring fish
That live in this beautiful sea;
Nets of silver and gold have we!”

*Said Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.*

The old moon laughed and sang a song,
As they rocked in the wooden shoe,
And the wind that sped them all night long
Ruffled the waves of dew.
The little stars were the herring fish
That lived in that beautiful sea—
“Now cast your nets wherever you wish—
Never afeard are we”;
So cried the stars to the fishermen three:

*Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.*

All night long their nets they threw
To the stars in the twinkling foam—
Then down from the skies came the wooden shoe,
Bringing the fishermen home;
’Twas all so pretty a sail it seemed
As if it could not be,
And some folks thought ’twas a dream they’d dreamed
Of sailing that beautiful sea—
But I shall name you the fishermen three:

*Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.*

Wynken and Blynken are two little eyes,
And Nod is a little head,
And the wooden shoe that sailed the skies
Is a wee one’s trundle-bed.
So shut your eyes while mother sings
Of wonderful sights that be,
And you shall see the beautiful things
As you rock in the misty sea,
Where the old shoe rocked the fishermen three:

*Wynken,
Blynken,
And Nod.*



Listen along

Scan the code to hear the Storyland Classics read-aloud, or visit storylandclassics.com/wynken. Children can follow the words while they listen.

◆ GETTING STARTED ◆

Meet the Poet

Eugene Field was born in 1850 in St. Louis, Missouri. When he grew up, he wrote for newspapers in Chicago. He loved children and wrote many poems just for them, so people called him “*the Poet of Childhood*.”

In 1889 he wrote a lullaby called “*Dutch Lullaby*.” Today we know it by the names of its three little fishermen: **Wynken, Blynken, and Nod**. Families have read it at bedtime for more than 130 years.

Quick Facts

Poet: Eugene Field

Lived: 1850–1895

Written: 1889

First title: “Dutch Lullaby”

Kind of poem: a lullaby, a gentle song to help someone fall asleep



Before You Read

Talk about these questions together before you read or listen.

1. Have you ever had a dream that felt like an adventure? What happened?
2. If you didn’t have a boat, what else could you sail in?
3. What do you see in the sky at night?
4. Look at the title. Wynken, Blynken, and Nod are names. Who do you think they might be?

Teaching tip: Read the poem aloud twice. The first time, just enjoy the sound and the story. The second time, pause at the end and ask children who they think Wynken, Blynken, and Nod really are.

✦ AFTER READING ✦

Talk About It

Questions to ask after reading or listening. Younger children can answer out loud; older children can write or draw their answers.

WHAT HAPPENED?

1. What did Wynken, Blynken, and Nod sail in?
2. Who asked them where they were going?
3. What did they come to catch with their nets of silver and gold?
4. What were the “herring fish” really?
5. How did the three fishermen get home?

THINK DEEPER

6. In the last verse, the poet tells us a secret. Who are Wynken, Blynken, and Nod really? What is the wooden shoe?
7. Some folks thought the voyage was a dream. Do you think it was a dream? Why?
8. Why do you think this poem is read at bedtime?

JUST FOR YOU

9. Which picture in the poem was your favorite: the moon, the stars, the sea, or the wooden shoe?
10. If you could sail anywhere in a wooden shoe, where would you go?

Narration: Ask children to tell the story back in their own words, from the beginning to the end. There are no wrong answers. Listen for the sailing, the moon, the stars, the trip home, and falling asleep.

◆ VOCABULARY ◆

Word Treasures

These words are hiding in the poem. Read each word and what it means, then draw a little picture in the box.

herring

A small, silvery fish that swims in big groups.



Draw it

foam

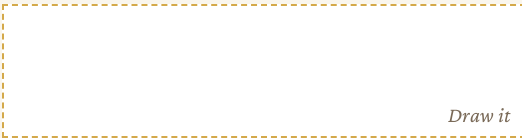
Bubbly white water on top of the waves.



Draw it

trundle-bed

A low bed on wheels that slides under a bigger bed.



Draw it

dew

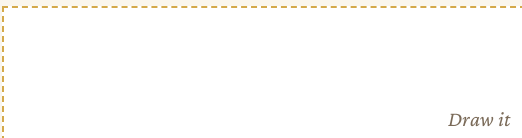
Tiny drops of water on the grass at night or in the early morning.



Draw it

ruffled

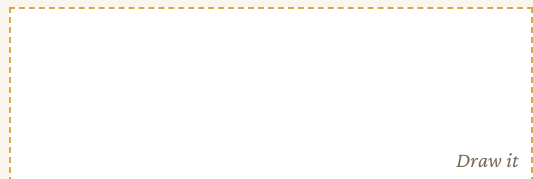
Moved so it is not smooth anymore, like wind on water.



Draw it

misty

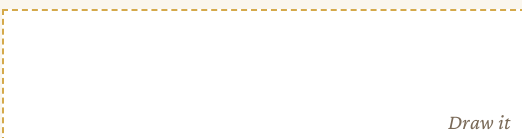
Filled with a soft, light fog.



Draw it

wee

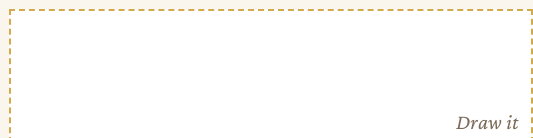
Very small.



Draw it

cast

To throw something out, like a fishing net.



Draw it

★ PUZZLE TIME ★

Word Search

Find the words from the poem. Words go across and down. Check off each word when you find it.

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

☐ Wynken

☐ Blynken

☐ Nod

☐ Moon

☐ Stars

☐ Shoe

☐ Nets

☐ Fish

☐ Sea

☐ Dew

☐ Night

☐ Sleep

✦ IMAGINE ✦

My Night Voyage

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod sailed in a wooden shoe and fished for stars. Draw your own night voyage. What would you sail in? What would you catch?



I would sail in a _____

I would catch _____

My name is _____

✦ FOR GROWN-UPS ✦

Answer Key

TALK ABOUT IT

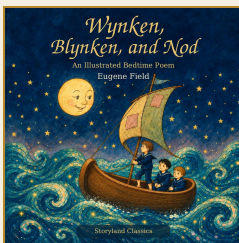
1. A wooden shoe.
2. The old moon.
3. Herring fish.
4. The little stars.
5. The wooden shoe came down from the skies and brought them home.
6. Wynken and Blynken are a child's two eyes, Nod is the little head, and the wooden shoe is the child's trundle-bed.

Questions 7–10 have no single right answer.

Encourage children to explain their thinking.

WORD SEARCH

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



Bring the story home

Look for *Wynken, Blynken, and Nod: An Illustrated Bedtime Poem* from Storyland Classics on Amazon, with full-color illustrations on every page.

Find more classic poems, stories, and free read-alouds at storylandclassics.com and on YouTube at [@StorylandClassics](https://www.youtube.com/@StorylandClassics).