

Word Meaning

wee: very small in size:

nought: nothing:

stirring: moving:

beetle: an insect:

screech: a loud unpleasant sound:

cricket: a small jumping insect that makes a loud sound:

whistling: making a musical tune with lips:

dew: a very small drop of water that falls on the ground:

Textual Questions

Activity 1

Tick the correct alternative:

(i) The door was

(a) big

(b) small

(c) wide

(ii) The poet looked

(a) backward and forward

(b) up and down

(c) to left and right

(iii) The busy beetle was tap-tapping in the

(a) wall

(b) door

(c) window

(iv) The cricket was

(a) singing

(b) whistling

(c) chirping

Activity 2

Complete the following sentences with information from the text:

(a) Someone came knocking **at the poet's wee, small door.**

(b) There was no stirring **in the still, dark night.**

(c) The poet heard the screech-owl's call **from the forest.**

(d) The poet did not know at all who came knocking **at his door.**

Activity 3

Answer the following question:

Who do you think came knocking at the poet's small door?

Ans: The poet was sure that someone was knocking on his door. Again he could feel something uncanny in the stillness and darkness of the night. Mysterious surroundings prevailed. So the uncertain knocking on the door actually heightens the supernatural atmosphere.

Activity 4

Fill in the following chart with information from the text:

Who	Did What
(i) Someone	knocked at the poet's small door.
(ii) Beetle	tap-tapped on the wall.
(iii) Owl	screeched from the forest.
(iv) Cricket	whistled.

Activity 5

Answer the following questions:

(a) What did the poet do after he heard the knocking on the door?

Ans: The poet listened, opened the door and looked left and right.

(b) What was the night like?

Ans: The night was still and dark.

(c) Name the insect mentioned in the poem.

Ans: Beetle and cricket are the insects mentioned in the poem.

(d) Why does the poet use the expression 'at all thrice in the last line of the poem?'

Ans: The poet used the expression 'at all' thrice in the last line of the poem to suggest that he did not know who came knocking. But the still, dark night gave him a mysterious feeling that there was someone knocking on the door.

ACTIVITIES

1. Choose the correct answer and complete the sentences:

a) **small** (small/big) door.

b) **dark** (dark/bright) night.

c) Only the **busy** (lazy/busy).

d) **opened** (opened/closed) the door.

2. Questions.

Answer: knocking, screech, whistling

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3. Match the word.

Answer:

wee - tiny

listen - hear

look - watch

forest - jungle

call - cry

4. Questions

Ten little fingers, ten **little** toes,

Two little ears and **one** little nose,

Two little **eyes** that shine so **bright**

And one little **mouth**

To kiss mother good **night**.

5. Let's read:

a)
What is your name?

b)

How **old are you?**

c)

Who **knocked at the door one night?**

d)

Who **opened the door?**

e)

How **did you feel to see the dog?**

6. Questions

a) Yes, Nitin is opening the door.

Is **Nitin opening the door?**

b) No, a dog can't knock at a door.

Can **a dog knock at a door?**

c) Yes, a little dog was scratching the door with its paws.

Was **a little dog scratching the door with its paws?**

d) Yes, I brought it inside.

Did **you bring it inside?**

7. Questions

a)

Was he happy?

b)

Where is your book?

c)

When are you going?

d)

How old are you?

e)

Which school do you go to?

f)

Why are you crying?

8. Questions

Eight little fingers standing tall,

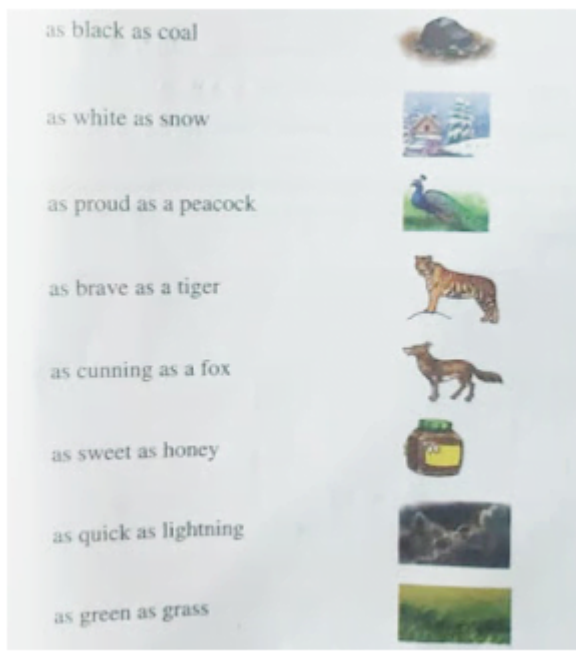
Two little ears to hear mummy **call** (roll/call)

One little nose that I can blow,

Ten little toes, all in a **row**. (raw/row)

9. You may have heard the story “The Cap Seller and the Monkeys”. Sit in groups and write the story. Some clues are given below. Use them and complete the story:

10. Look at this sentence.



11. Questions

- a) as sweet as honey.
- b) as white as snow.
- c) as proud as a peacock.
- d) as brave as tiger.

12. In the grid below there are at least fifteen describing words. Find and circle them. Then make sentences with any five of them:



Answer:

Tall: Ram is a very **tall** boy.

Green: Leaves are **green**.

Short: Rita is a **short** girl.

Wise: He is very **wise**.

Black: Coals are **black**.