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# The Sound of Rain

by Emily Yao



Rain.  
Slowly dripping  
down, pitter-patter,  
pitter-patter,  
a musical rhythm  
inside my  
head.  
When I look  
up,  
glimmers of  
light seep through  
mad, ferocious  
clouds  
of black and grey.  
When I look  
down,  
puddles of water  
collect  
on the mushy, wet grass,  
reflecting my

image like a  
mirror  
on a wall.  
A drop falls,  
then another,  
another,  
again and again.  
My reflection ripples in a  
pool of rain.  
Wind whistles and winds  
around me,  
slapping me on my  
cheek.  
Rain.  
Slowly dripping  
down, pitter-patter,  
pitter-patter,  
a musical rhythm  
inside my  
head.

*Note.* Originally published in *Creative Kids* magazine, Spring 2016.  
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# THE SOUND OF RAIN

## Main Idea, Theme or Concept

**C3** Main Idea: What is the main idea of this poem?

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## Inference

**C2** The author seems to be outside during a storm. What words tell you this?

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## Literary Elements

**C1** What is the author's tone when she writes about rain?

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What words tell you this?

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# Owl

by Iris Kreilkamp

The last of the animals  
Slip silently into crevices.  
The last door closes,  
The last light flickers off,  
And an ancient song  
Fills the air,  
Dripping like velvety paint  
Over a dark landscape.  
The stars open their eyes,  
Awakened by this blanket  
Of soft, heavy sound.  
The owl sings.

*Note.* Originally published in *Creative Kids* magazine, Summer 2015.  
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# OWL

## Main Idea, Theme or Concept

**C3** Theme: Write a poem like “Owl” to describe an animal you like.  
(Use the poem as your model.)

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## Inference

**C2** What evidence is important for indicating that the animal being described is an owl?

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## Literary Elements

**C1** What words does the poet use to describe the owl’s song?

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# Summer in the South

*by Paul Laurence Dunbar*

The oriole sings in the greening grove  
As if he were half-way waiting,  
The rosebuds peep from their hoods of green,  
Timid and hesitating.

The rain comes down in a torrent sweep  
And the nights smell warm and piney,  
The garden thrives, but the tender shoots  
Are yellow-green and tiny.

Then a flash of sun on a waiting hill,  
Streams laugh that erst were quiet,  
The sky smiles down with a dazzling blue  
And the woods run mad with riot.



# SUMMER IN THE SOUTH

## Consequences and Implications

**A3** What if the seasons never changed? What would be the consequences if it were always summer?

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What would be the consequences for people if it were always winter?

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What does the poem imply about summer in the South? Support your answer.

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## Cause and Effect

**A2** In “Summer in the South”, the poet uses personification to give the different items in nature human-like qualities. The poet writes about things that change because summer arrives, such as “the nights smell warm and piney ...” How does summer change things in nature? How do you know? Use lines from the poem to support your answer.

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