

What to do today

IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.

1. Story time

Read the two poems, *Owl* and *The Sparrow*.

2. Answering Questions

Read the *Questions* about the two poems.

- Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

3. Stating preferences

Think about each of the poems.

- On *My Favourite*, say which one you prefer.
- Give as many reasons for your choice as you can.
- Use the conjunctions *because*, *since* and *as* to explain your reasons.

Now try this Fun-Time Extra

- Begin to learn your favourite of the two poems off by heart.
- Find out everything you can about your poem's bird – the owl or the sparrow.
- Use <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/> to get your research started.

Owl

Owl
Was darker
Than ebony
Flew through the night
Eyes like amber searchlights,
Rested on a post,
Feathers wind-ruffled,
Stood stump still,
Talons ready to seize
And squeeze.



Owl
Was death
That swamped the fields,
For it flew through the dark
That tightened its knot,
That bandaged the hills
In a blindfold of fear.

Owl flew – who – who – who –

Pie Corbett

The Sparrow

I found a speckled sparrow
between the showers of rain.

He thought the window wasn't there
and flew against the pane.

I picked him up and held him.
He didn't stir at all.

I hardly felt him in my hand,
he felt so soft and small.

I held him like a flower
upon my open palm.

I saw an eyelid quiver,
though he lay still and calm.

I never thought a bird so limp
could fly away so fast.



Questions about *Owl*



Find and copy a *simile* that is used in the poem (if you are not sure what a simile is, look back at the work you did on Day 2.)

Alliteration is when several words in a row begin with the same sound (*the big bad bird; a few fake flowers*). Find and copy an example of alliteration in the poem.

Is *Owl* an example of *rhyming verse* or *free verse*? If you are not sure what free verse is, ask a grown up if you can look it up in a dictionary on online.

Suggest another word or words for:

flew _____

ruffled _____

bandaged _____

Describe how the poem makes you feel.

Questions about *The Sparrow*



What has happened to the sparrow in the poem?

The Sparrow is an example of *rhyming verse*.

Copy down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

_____ and _____

_____ and _____

'*and flew against the pane.*' A *pane* is a sheet of glass. Write down a *homophone* for the word *pane* (see Day 2 if you need to check what a homophone is). Write a sentence with your word in it.

In your own words, explain how you think the sparrow in the poem is feeling.

How is the mood of *The Sparrow* different to that of *Owl*?

My Favourite of the two poems

because *since* *as*

A large rectangular writing area with a decorative border of colorful puzzle pieces. The interior is divided into 12 horizontal lines for writing.

Answers to questions

OWL

Find and copy a *simile* that is used in the poem

You could have:

- Darker than ebony
- Eyes like amber searchlights

Alliteration is when several words in a row begin with the same sound. Find and copy an example of alliteration in the poem.

You could have:

- Stood stump still
- Seize and squeeze
- ...bandaged ... blindfold

Is *Owl* an example of *rhyming verse* or *free verse*?

- It is an example of free verse. There is no regular rhyming pattern and nor is there a regular rhythm.

Suggest another word or words for:

flew fluttered / bumped / soared

ruffled disturbed / untidied / messed up

bandaged covered / bound / shielded / protected

The Sparrow

What has happened to the sparrow in the poem?

He flew against the window pane and knocked himself out.

The Sparrow is an example of *rhyming verse*. Copy down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

Rain / pane all / small calm / palm

'and flew against the pane.' A *pane* is a sheet of glass. Write down a *homophone* for the word *pane*. Write a sentence with your word in it.

Pain –

Example - The sparrow hit his head on the glass, and afterwards he was in pain all day with a headache.