

## B is for Bear

### Assignment 26

- *picture.* The winners of a drawing contest that I gave a few years ago are featured on this week's assignment page. The drawings were inspired by Emily Dickinson's poem "In the Garden."
- *memorization.* Students will be memorizing part 3 of Alfred Tennyson's poem "Weariness" from "The Lotos-eaters."
- *reading.* Complete Lesson 26 in your *B is for Bear* textbook, volume 2.
- *handwriting.* Complete Lesson 26 of your handwriting book.
- *dictation.* Students should write out Dictation 26, found at the bottom of the online assignment page, in their dictation books. Parents should be writing misspelled words down on the dictation page and going over it. (Go to the end of the assignment sheet.)
- *book suggestion.* Here is another book recommendation: Beatrice de Regniers. Beni Montresor, illustrator. *May I Bring a Friend?* 1964. Reprint. Atheneum, 1971. A charming, simple and imaginative storyline carries themes of friendship and hospitality.
- *speech day.* Students should continue memorizing their part for Speech Day. Again, notice that I have added an introduction to the poems that students should also memorize. Students should work on gestures to help communicate the meaning of the poem. If they need helpful suggestions, students should ask me in class.



SPEECH DAY POEMS

Jules Dougherty: Robert Frost, “Looking for a Sunset Bird in Winter”

*Introduction:* In summer, we hear the beautiful sounds and see the beautiful sights of nature, but what gifts does winter bring to us? Something more beautiful—a peek into heaven.

Gwen Giannotti: William Wordsworth, “The Rainbow”

*Introduction:* In his poem “Rainbow,” William Wordsworth hopes that he never becomes blind to the beauty of nature because as a poet, it’s absolutely necessary to see it!

Rita Haselbarth: William Wordsworth, “The Sun Has Long Been Set”

*Introduction:* William Wordsworth wrote “The Sun Has Long Been Set” right as he was enjoying a beautiful evening in June. He did not sit down at a desk and work at the poem; it just came out as he was talking to a friend.

Olivia Humbert: Jane Taylor, “The Violet”

*Introduction:* Compared to the glamorous rose, the violet is a rather humble flower. But it has an important lesson to teach, which is that there is a beauty in humility.

Owen Ireland: Edgar Allan Poe, “The Bells”

*Introduction:* Bells sound happy, sad, or angry to us according to our circumstances and season of our life. How merry they sound when we are young!

Iliana Lott: Mary Howitt, “The Voice of Spring”

*Introduction:* Spring is here. Do you hear it? The poet Mary Howitt does—in the humming of bees and the bleating of new-born lambs.

Sarah Malachowski: Alfred Tennyson, “Weariness”

*Introduction:* Through his word choice and rhyme, Tennyson pictures what it is to be really, really tired in his poem “The Lotos-eaters.” After listening to the beginning lines, you may want to go home and fall asleep!

Miguel Maximo: Alfred Tennyson, “The Brook”

*Introduction:* How is the life of a flowing brook different from the life of man? Listen to Alfred Tennyson’s poem, “The Brook” and find out!

Patrick Mohan: John Keats, “To Autumn”

*Introduction:* Many think that autumn is a sad season because it signals the end of summer and the beginning of a cold winter. Not John Keats. In his poem “To Autumn,” Keats suggests that there are blessings in the autumn season just as there are blessings as we grow old.

Benjamin Pin: Helen Hunt Jackson, “September”

*Introduction:* When people think of the season for flowers, they usually think of spring. But autumn has its beauty, too! Listen to Helen Hunt Jackson’s poem “September” and think about how many flowers bloom in September.

Elijah Reader: Emily Dickinson, “In the Garden”

*Introduction:* Emily Dickinson takes an interesting snapshot of a bird in her poem “In the Garden.” Notice how she makes an interesting comparison between the bird flying away and oars rowing a boat in the ocean.

Lily Sheridan: Robert Frost, “Gathering Leaves”

*Introduction:* Do you have a big backyard with a lot of trees that shed their leaves in autumn? Then you will be able to appreciate the humor of Robert Frost’s poem “Gathering Leaves.”

Laney Worthington: Christina Rossetti, “Bitter for Sweet”

*Introduction:* Don’t you wish that the beauty of sweet summer would last forever? But it doesn’t. Chilly autumn comes and then bitterly cold winter. Christina Rossetti talks about the swift passing of the seasons in her poem “Bitter for Sweet.”

## DICTIONARY 26

### EXERCISE A

I like nature.

Form the picture this way.

In the future, park the car here.

I saw a vulture in the pasture.

Do not venture out this morning!

### EXERCISE B

Molds grow in moisture.

What a funny creature!

I got a card shortly after his departure.

She is mature.

Did the picture capture its beauty?