

B is for Buffalo

Assignment 22

- *poetry memorization.* Memorize stanzas 1–4 of Emily Dickinson’s “In the Garden.”
- *reading.* Complete Lesson 22 in your B is for Buffalo textbook, volume 2.
- *handwriting.* Complete Lesson 22 of your handwriting book. If you feel that your child needs the “basics,” by all means print out the handwriting sheets I post week by week online, which may be found on under “Materials needed.” We are now on Lesson 22.
- *outside reading.* Each week I make a book suggestion. Although not mandatory, please understand that your child’s progress in reading in part depends on your child developing good reading habits outside the classroom. Here is a suggested reading: Jim Lamarche. *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. Chronicle Books, 2003. Kindness, giving and reciprocity are valued in this richly illustrated retelling of the fairy tale published by the Brothers Grimm.
- *speech night.* Students will be reciting poems on Speech Night (specific date and time in April to be announced). Below is a list of students with the poem that each will be reciting. If a student wishes to change his or her poem to another one in the book or to a classic poem outside the book, please let me know! Students will be dressing up as the author and giving a *very* brief introduction to memorize. I will make accommodations for poems of repeated authors. Poems not in the textbooks are provided on this assignment page.
 - Mary Frances Jennings, “September” by Helen Hunt Jackson. *Introduction:* Spring and summer are months that get a lot of press for being the most beautiful seasons. But autumn has its attractions, too. Listen to Miss Jackson’s poem and see if you agree.
 - Noelle Haselbarth, “With a Flower” by Emily Dickinson. *Introduction:* In her poem “With a Flower” Emily Dickinson tells us something very important: summer comes only once a year and we should take advantage of the beauty it gives us.
 - Martha Mohan, “May” by Christina Rossetti. *Introduction:* “At the end of May something passes by us—and it’s not just the beauty of spring. Can you tell what it is? Christina Rossetti hints at it in her poem “May.”
 - Sienna Dougherty, “In the Garden” by Emily Dickinson. *Introduction:* Just like people, birds can be very odd. One minute they’re savagely eating a worm in halves, and the next they’re all courtesy and politeness. Listen to Emily Dickinson’s poem “In the Garden” that shows a poet’s interest in the strange subject of birds—and people.
 - Catalina Sanchez, “Afternoon on a Hill” by Edna St. Vincent Millay. *Introduction:* What happy thoughts we have when we are at the beginning of an adventure! But everything that has a beginning also has an end.



- Joseph Best, “Gathering Leaves” by Robert Frost. *Introduction*: If you have a big yard with lots of trees, I don’t need to explain Robert Frost’s poem “Gathering Leaves.” You’ll know *exactly* what he’s talking about.
- *dictation*. Please make sure that your child has his or her dictation for the week to show me in class. Again, before giving dictation this week, please make sure that you instruct your child in the following: 1) Sentences always begin with a capital. 2) Sentences always require an end mark. 3) Review the *sh* letter combination. 4) Every word must have a vowel. Also, please correct each sentence as you go along, and repeat words that are misspelled.

DICTATION

1. Tom is here now.
2. Here is Mom.
3. Mom was there.
4. Is Tom there now?
5. How is he?

With a Flower
By Emily Dickinson

- When roses cease to bloom, dear,
And violets are done,
When bumble-bees in solemn flight
Have passed beyond the sun,
- The hand that paused to gather
Upon this summer’s day
Will idle lie, in Auburn,—
Then take my flower, pray!

Afternoon on a Hill
By Edna St. Vincent Millay

- I will be the gladdest thing
Under the sun!
I will touch a hundred flowers
And not pick one.
- I will look at cliffs and clouds
With quiet eyes,
Watch the wind bow down the grass,
And the grass rise.
- And when lights begin to show
Up from the town,
I will mark which must be mine,
And then start down!

May
By Christina Rossetti

- I cannot tell you how it was;
But this I know: it came to pass
Upon a bright and breezy day
When May was young; ah, pleasant May!
As yet the poppies were not born
Between the blades of tender corn;
The last eggs had not hatched as yet,
Nor any bird foregone its mate.
- I cannot tell you what it was;
But this I know: it did but pass.
It passed away with sunny May,
With all sweet things it passed away,
And left me old, and cold, and gray.