

A Star

A white star born in the evening glow
Looked to the round green world below,
And saw a pool in a wooded place
That held like a jewel her mirrored face.
She said to the pool: "Oh, wondrous deep,
I love you, I give you my light to keep.
Oh, more profound than the moving sea
That never has shown myself to me!
Oh, fathomless as the sky is far,
Hold forever your tremulous star!"
But out of the woods as night grew cool
A brown pig came to the little pool;
It grunted and splashed and waded in
And the deepest place but reached its chin.
The water gurgled with tender glee
And the mud churned up in it turbidly.
The star grew pale and hid her face
In a bit of floating cloud like lace.

By Sara Teasdale (1883-1933)

Read the poem at least 3 times or until you understand what the poem is about. Underline any unfamiliar words and find their meaning.

Draw a picture/pictures to illustrate this poem.

1. What time of day is it in the poem?

2. Find and copy **two** things that the star saw when she looked down.

1. _____

2. _____

3. What did the star give to the pool to keep? Circle one.

The moving sea

A jewel

Her light

4. Look at line 4. Why is the star's face described as 'mirrored'?

5. **Find** and **copy** the line which shows us that the pig disturbs the peaceful setting.

6. *The star grew pale and hid her face*

In this line, the word 'pale' is closest in meaning to...(Tick one)

twinkling

colourless

sparkly

bright

7. How did the actions of the pig affect the star?

8. 'A brown pig came to the little pool;
It grunted and splashed and waded in
And the deepest place but reached its chin.'
What do these lines tell us about the depth of the pool?

9. Halfway through the poem (line 11) is the line '*But out of the woods as night grew cool.*' Using evidence from the text, give **three** ways in which the second half of the poem contrasts with the first half.

Challenge:

Using the poem above, can you think of three of your own comprehension questions?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Possible answers

1. What time of day is it in the poem?

Evening

2. Find and copy **two** things that the star saw when she looked down.

1. _____pool/world/wooded place

2. _____

3. What did the star give to the pool to keep? Circle one.

~~The moving sea~~

A jewel

Her light - yes

4. Look at line 4. Why is the star's face described as 'mirrored'?

_____The pool is creating a reflection like a mirror_____

5. **Find** and **copy** the line which shows us that the pig disturbs the peaceful setting.

___It grunted and splashed and waded in

6. *The star grew pale and hid her face*

In this line, the word 'pale' is closest in meaning to...(Tick one)

colourless

7. How did the actions of the pig affect the star?

___It upset the star/ the star hid/the star became pale or less bright

8. 'A brown pig came to the little pool;

It grunted and splashed and waded in

And the deepest place but reached its chin.'

What do these lines tell us about the depth of the pool?

The pool is shallow, the pig can touch the bottom at the deepest part.
(do not accept little as the question asks about depth)

9. Halfway through the poem (line 11) is the line '*But out of the woods as night grew cool.*' Using evidence from the text, give **three** ways in which the second half of the poem contrasts with the first half.

1. Temperature (glow in first part then night grew cold)
2. The pool was clean – then muddy
3. The pool was calm – then ripples
4. The star loves the pool then hides at the end
5. Other answers with evidence are acceptable

Challenge:

Using the poem above, can you think of three of your own comprehension questions?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____