

The Swing

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

How do you like to go up in a swing,

Up in the air so blue?

Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing

Ever a child can do!

Up in the air and over the wall,

Till I can see so wide,

River and trees and cattle and all

Over the countryside-

Till I look down on the garden green,

Down on the roof so brown-

Up in the air I go flying again,

Up in the air and down!

Task 1

Retrieving Information

- 1) Use a dictionary to find the meaning
 - a) meadows
 - b) glimpse
- 2) Where are the daisies found?
- 3) Who is with the child with?

Making Inferences

- 1) Find and copy two phrases that shows things go by the window quickly.
- 2) How do we know the images seen by the poet aren't there for very long?
- 3) Is it easy for the child to gather brambles? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer.

Writer's Choices

- 4) How does Robert Louis Stevenson create the idea of a train journey in this poem?
- 5) Do you think that the poet enjoyed train journeys? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer.

Challenge Question (extended answer)

- 6) Have you ever been on a train journey? Was it an enjoyable experience like this one?
- 7) Think of one question you would like to ask Robert Louis Stevenson about the train journey.