

## New School

Kevin McCann

In the playground corner

I stand and see:

Girls with skipping ropes,

Boys with footballs

And everyone shouts at once.

In the playground corner

I stand and see:

A teacher looking at his watch,

Cup of coffee in one hand

In the playground corner

I stand and see:

Big kids sharing jokes and sweets,

One skits our headmaster

And everyone knows everyone else.

In the playground corner

I stand on my own

And wish and wish

I could just go home.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday										
<p>Read through the text and highlight any words you are unsure about. Can you find the definitions in a dictionary?</p>	<p>Day 2: Today we are going to explore the grammar and vocabulary within the text and who its audience is.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who is 'I' in this poem? (1 mark)</li> <li>'One skits our headmaster.' Suggest another way the poet could have said the same thing with the same meaning. (1 mark)</li> <li>'I stand on my own.' What does this phrase tell you about how the character is feeling? (1 mark)</li> <li>Find and copy one phrase that tells you he doesn't want to be at school. (1 mark)</li> <li>Give two other words the poet could have used instead of 'shouts' (2 marks)</li> <li>Explain what this description suggests about the narrator (2 marks)</li> <li>Explain why 'everyone shouts at once.' (2 marks)</li> </ol>	<p>Day 3: Today we will be focusing on our retrieval skills. What does retrieval mean?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find and copy one word meaning to have a portion of (something) with others. (1 mark)</li> <li>According to the text, where was the child standing? (1 mark)</li> <li>List three things you know are in the playground in the poem (apart from the children and the teacher) (3 marks)</li> <li>Write down two things you are told about the big kids. (2 marks)</li> <li>Give two reasons why the child wishes he could just go home. (2 marks)</li> <li>Summarise what happened in the text. (3 marks)</li> <li>Write down three things that you are told about the playground (1 mark)</li> </ol>	<p>Day 4: Today we are going to be focusing on our inference and explaining skills.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do you know what time of day it is? (1 mark)</li> <li>'And everyone knows everyone else.' Why do you think the narrator included this information? (1 mark)</li> <li>What is the effect of starting most of the verses with the same two lines? (1 mark)</li> <li>Why does the character wish he could go home? (1 mark)</li> <li>Why do you think the teacher is looking at his watch? (1 mark)</li> <li>In what ways might the narrator's character appeal to the reader? (3 marks)</li> <li>Why did the big kids 'skit' the headmaster? (2 marks)</li> </ol>	<p>Day 5: Today we are going to be focusing on the whole text.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the title of the poem. Is this a good title for the poem? Yes or No? Give one reasons from the poem to help you explain your answer. (1 mark)</li> <li>Why do you think the child hasn't asked anyone to play with them? (2 marks)</li> <li>Do you think the playground seems like a happy place for most of the children? Yes or No? Explain your answer. (2 marks)</li> <li>How does the poet want you to feel about the narrator? Explain your answer (2 marks)</li> <li>What will happen next? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. (2 marks)</li> <li>Do you think the other children have noticed the new child standing in the corner? Explain your reasoning (2 marks)</li> <li>Number the statements 1-5 in the order that they happen. (1 mark)</li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="2350 1369 2849 1906"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="2350 1369 2783 1482">The narrator sees big kids sharing jokes and sweets, one skits the headmaster.</td> <td data-bbox="2783 1369 2849 1482"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="2350 1482 2783 1583">Playtime begins.</td> <td data-bbox="2783 1482 2849 1583"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="2350 1583 2783 1696">The narrator wishes he could just go home.</td> <td data-bbox="2783 1583 2849 1696"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="2350 1696 2783 1797">The narrator sees a teacher looking at his watch, cup of coffee in one</td> <td data-bbox="2783 1696 2849 1797"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="2350 1797 2783 1906">The narrator sees a girls with skipping ropes and boys with</td> <td data-bbox="2783 1797 2849 1906"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	The narrator sees big kids sharing jokes and sweets, one skits the headmaster.		Playtime begins.		The narrator wishes he could just go home.		The narrator sees a teacher looking at his watch, cup of coffee in one		The narrator sees a girls with skipping ropes and boys with	
The narrator sees big kids sharing jokes and sweets, one skits the headmaster.														
Playtime begins.														
The narrator wishes he could just go home.														
The narrator sees a teacher looking at his watch, cup of coffee in one														
The narrator sees a girls with skipping ropes and boys with														

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Read through the text and highlight any words you are unsure about. Can you find the definitions in a dictionary?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Guided Reading Answers</b></p>	<p>Day 2: Today we are going to explore the grammar and vocabulary within the text and who its audience is.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who is 'I' in this poem? (1 mark) Someone starting a new school, a child, a little, shy or new girl/boy</li> <li>'One skits our headmaster.' Suggest another way the poet could have said the same thing with the same meaning. (1 mark) makes fun of/ copies in a silly way/mimics</li> <li>'I stand on my own.' What does this phrase tell you about how the character is feeling? (1 mark) It means he/she doesn't have anyone to play with. He just watches everyone else play. It could mean he is lonely or he doesn't want to play with anyone.</li> <li>Find and copy one phrase that tells you he doesn't want to be at school. (1 mark) And wish and wish I could just go home.</li> <li>Give two other words the poet could have used instead of 'shouts' (2 marks) yell, call out cheer, roar</li> <li>Explain what this description suggests about the narrator (2 marks) He is lonely, doesn't know anyone at the new school and wishes to be at home. He hasn't made friends yet with the other children and is possibly afraid to go and play with them.</li> <li>Explain why 'everyone shouts at once.' (2 marks) Because the playground is noisy, everyone is trying to be heard. Children are playing.</li> </ol>	<p>Day 3: Today we will be focusing on our retrieval skills. What does retrieval mean?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find and copy one word meaning to have a portion of (something) with others. (1 mark) sharing</li> <li>According to the text, where was the child standing? (1 mark) In the playground corner</li> <li>List three things you know are in the playground in the poem (apart from the children and the teacher) (3 marks) skipping ropes, footballs, cup of coffee, whistle, sweets</li> <li>Write down two things you are told about the big kids. (2 marks) sharing jokes and sweets and one skits our headmaster.</li> <li>Give two reasons why the child wishes he could just go home. (2 marks) because he/she is the new child, doesn't know anyone, everyone seems to know each other, doesn't have anyone to play with.</li> <li>Summarise what happened in the text. (3 marks) The text is about a child at a new school during playtime. He/she doesn't have anyone to play with and is standing in the corner of the playground watching the girls play with skipping ropes and the boys with footballs.</li> <li>Write down three things that you are told about the playground (1 mark) Girls are playing with skipping ropes, boys are playing with footballs, the teacher is looking at his watch with a coffee in one hand, big kids are sharing jokes and sweets, the child is standing in the corner.</li> </ol>	<p>Day 4: Today we are going to be focusing on our inference and explaining skills.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do you know what time of day it is? (1 mark) Playtime/during the school day. The teacher is looking at his watch so it must be nearly the end of playtime.</li> <li>'And everyone knows everyone else.' Why do you think the narrator included this information? (1 mark) The narrator is feeling lonely. He or she doesn't know anyone and it emphasises his or her feeling of being alone.</li> <li>What is the effect of starting most of the verses with the same two lines? (1 mark) It introduces new ideas in each new verse. The repetition makes it seem as if playtime is going on for a long time. It says what the child is doing.</li> <li>Why does the character wish he could go home? (1 mark) Because he is alone and doesn't know/have anyone to play with. He doesn't like his new school – lonely.</li> <li>Why do you think the teacher is looking at his watch? (1 mark) He is checking the time to see if playtime is nearly over.</li> <li>In what ways might the narrator's character appeal to the reader? (3 marks) Everyone has probably felt lonely before and felt like they haven't got anyone to play with on the playground.</li> <li>Why did the big kids 'skit' the headmaster? (2 marks) They were making fun of him, trying to look cool and impress their friends by pulling funny faces.</li> </ol>	<p>Day 5: Today we are going to be focusing on the whole text.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the title of the poem. Is this a good title for the poem? Yes or No? Give one reason from the poem to help you explain your answer. (1 mark) Yes – the title tells us what the problem is and why the narrator is feeling so lonely and unhappy. No- the title is about being at school but the poem is just about being in the playground.</li> <li>Why do you think the child hasn't asked anyone to play with them? (2 marks) He could be afraid to ask as he doesn't know anyone and is feeling a bit sad and lonely. Or, he doesn't want to play and would prefer some quiet time.</li> <li>Do you think the playground seems like a happy place for most of the children? Yes or No? Explain your answer. (2 marks) Yes – they've got footballs and skipping ropes. They're all playing games and shouting. No- they're all arguing and shouting. Some of the girls might want to play football but they've all got skipping ropes.</li> <li>How does the poet want you to feel about the narrator? Explain your answer (2 marks) Sorry for him/her because they are just standing in the corner of the playground and not joining in. Or fed up with him/her because they are not joining in.</li> <li>What will happen next? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. (2 marks) Any relevant answer – the child will make friends etc.</li> <li>Do you think the other children have noticed the new child standing in the corner? Explain your reasoning (2 marks) Any relevant answer with explanation as to why.</li> <li>Number the statements 1-5 in the order that they happen. (1 mark) Order should read: 4, 1, 5, 3, 2</li> </ol>