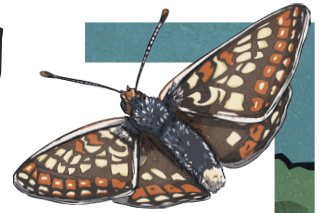


The Majesty of Spring



The wind's alarm clock roughly wakes spring from her slumber.
Bleary-eyed, she gazes at the desolation left by winter.
As she casts her life-giving gaze on the trees, they yawn and stretch
their spiny fingers towards the glimpse of gold above.
Spring adorns each branch with delicate blooms of pink, as carefully as
a bride dressing for her wedding day, looking to a future full of hope.

Resplendent in her finery, spring greets her subjects.
All around, a symphony of birds trill and warble to herald her arrival.
Daffodils cheerily bob and greet her, while shy bluebells blush and bow
their heads.
Plump bumble bees and balletic butterflies gracefully dance and swirl in
celebration before indulging in a nectar feast.

Spring's warm touch awakens slumbering
squirrels and drowsy hedgehogs.
Her gentle breath shakes the tired, virescent
grass into life.
She watches tenderly, as tiny lambs take their
first, tentative steps and soft chicks open their
huge, black eyes.
She pledges that her reign will bring
happiness and good things.



Questions

1. What woke spring up? Tick one.

- thunder
- the wind
- Jack Frost
- a squirrel

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occur in the text.

- Chicks open their eyes.
- Blossom blooms on trees.
- Butterflies and bees drink nectar.
- Spring wakes up.

3. Draw **four** lines and match each animal to its action.

lambs	take their first steps
bumble bees	open their eyes
chicks	warble
birds	dance

4. What is the 'glimpse of gold' in verse one? Tick one.

- the sun
- the moon
- a lantern
- a star

1. Find and copy one word which shows that spring is woken suddenly.

2. Fill in the missing word.

Resplendent in her _____, spring greets her subjects.

3. What 'good things' do you think might happen during spring's reign?

Answers

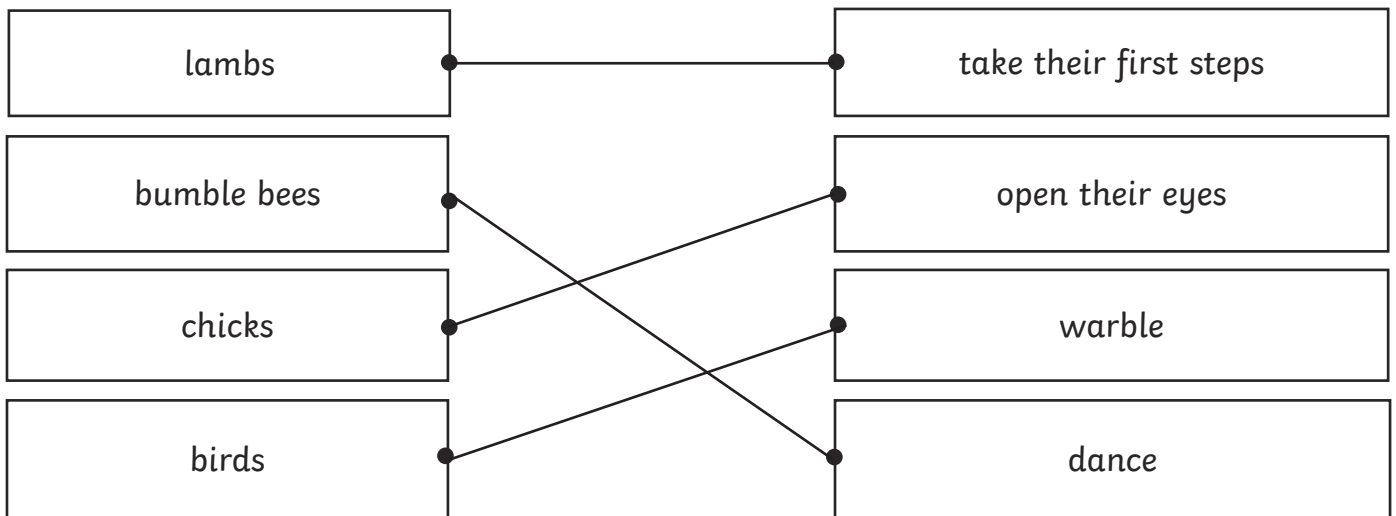
1. What woke spring up? Tick one.

- thunder
- the wind
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2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occur in the text.

- 4** Chicks open their eyes.
- 2** Blossom blooms on trees.
- 3** Butterflies and bees drink nectar.
- 1** Spring wakes up.

3. Draw **four** lines and match each animal to its action.



4. What is the 'glimpse of gold' in verse one? Tick one.

- the sun
- the moon
- a lantern
- a star

Answers

5. Find and copy one word which shows that spring is woken suddenly.

roughly

6. Fill in the missing word.

Resplendent in her **finery**, spring greets her subjects.

7. What 'good things' do you think might happen during spring's reign?

Pupils' own answers, such as: **Flowers grow and trees blossom and grow new leaves. Spring is a time for new life; baby birds hatch and frogs lay frogspawn. The days get longer and warmer.**

Questions

1. What is the tree compared to? Tick one.

- a bride
- a teacher
- a shopkeeper
- a child

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occur in the text.

- Lambs take their first steps.
- Hedgehogs wake up.
- Birds sing.
- Chicks hatch.

3. Draw **four** lines and match each noun to its verb.

trees	•
daffodils	•
birds	•
bluebells	•

•	bob and greet
•	blush and bow
•	yawn and stretch
•	trill and warble

4. What do the bees feast on? Tick one.

- pollen
- insects
- nectar
- grass

5. In verse one, find and copy one word that means the same as decorates.

6. Fill in the missing word.

Her gentle breath _____ the tired, virescent grass into life.

7. What do you think the poet means by the 'wind's alarm clock?'

8. Give **two** examples of personification from the poem.

Answers

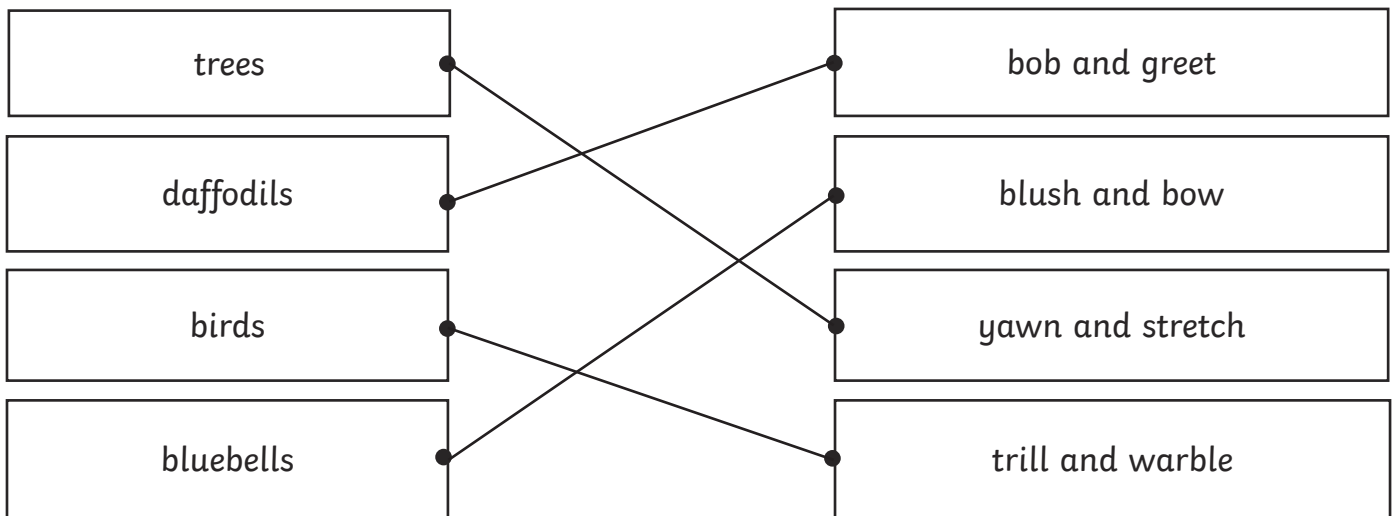
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- 4** Chicks hatch.

3. Draw **four** lines and match each noun to its verb.



4. What do the bees feast on? Tick one.

- pollen
- insects
- nectar
- grass

Answers

5. In verse one, find and copy one word that means the same as decorates.

adorns

6. Fill in the missing word.

Her gentle breath **shakes** the tired, virescent grass into life.

7. What do you think the poet means by the 'wind's alarm clock?'

Pupils' own response, such as: **The noise of the wind has woken spring up. The howling or whistling of the wind is like an alarm clock.**

8. Give **two** examples of personification from the poem.

Examples given may include: '**Trees... yawn and stretch...**', '**spring greets her subjects...**', '**Daffodils cheerily bob and greet her...**', '**...shy bluebells blush and bow their heads**', '**Her gentle breath shakes...**', '**Spring adorns each branch...**', '**Spring's warm touch...**', '**She watches tenderly...**'.

Questions

1. Draw four lines and match each word to its meaning.

slumbering

adorns

delicate

pledges

decorates

promises

sleeping

fragile

2. Which of these objects is personified in the poem? Tick one.

- nectar
- trees
- blossom
- birds

3. Find and copy the word in verse two that tells us there are lots of birds.

4. Fill in the missing words.

...they yawn and stretch their _____ fingers towards the _____ of gold above.

5. List **two** animals mentioned in the poem.

- _____
- _____

6. Is spring portrayed in a positive way?

Yes

No

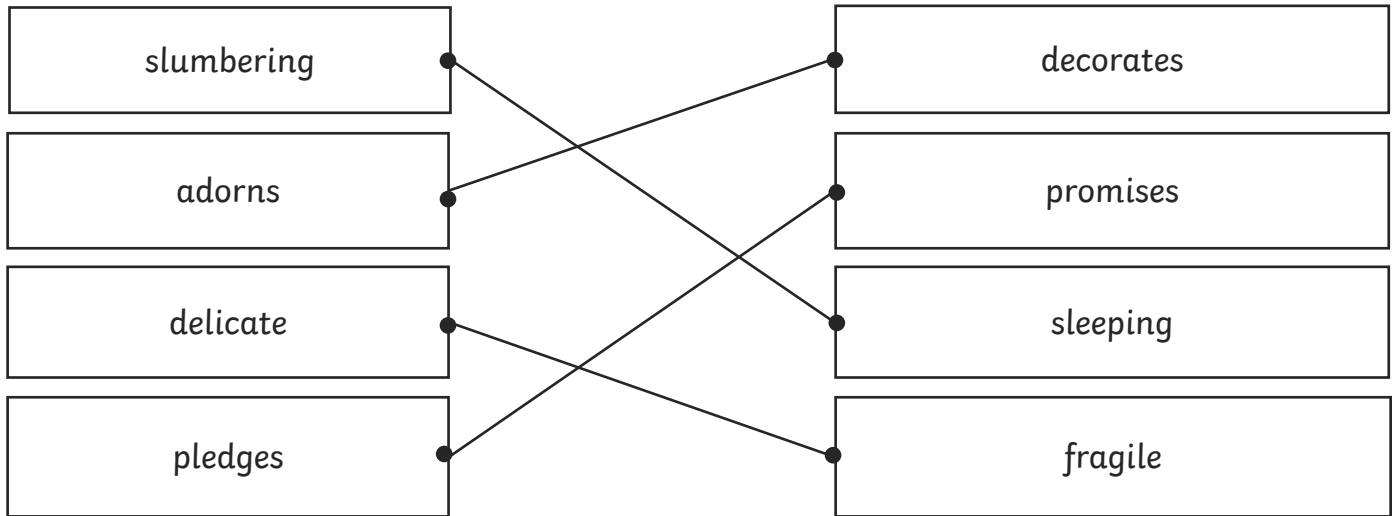
Explain your answer fully.

7. Give **two** examples of how spring is personified as a queen.

8. How do you think the poet feels about spring? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Draw four lines and match each word to its meaning.



2. Which of these objects is personified in the poem? Tick one

- nectar
- trees
- blossom
- birds

3. Find and copy the word in verse two that tells us there are lots of birds.

symphony

4. Fill in the missing words.

...they yawn and stretch their **spiny** fingers towards the **glimpse** of gold above.

5. List **two** animals mentioned in the poem.

Answers must include any two of the following: squirrels, birds, hedgehogs, bees, butterflies, lambs, chicks.

Answers

6. Is spring portrayed in a positive way?

Yes

No

Explain your answer fully.

Pupils' own response, such as: **Spring promises to bring happiness and good things. Spring is helping to bring the world back to life after winter. Spring helps blossom to grow and hibernating animals to wake up. She has a 'life-giving gaze'.**

7. Give **two** examples of how spring is personified as a queen.

Pupils' responses can include: **The poem is called The Majesty of Spring and majesty is what you call a king or queen. The flowers bow as she passes, while the birds sing to 'herald' her arrival, like a fanfare for a queen.**

8. How do you think the poet feels about spring? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: **The poet likes spring because they mention good things that happen at that time of year: new life, the sun and happy occasions like weddings and feasts. The poet talks about happiness and hope, which imply that they feel positive about spring. Winter causes 'desolation' and the poet tells us how spring fixes this by bringing new life and happiness so I think the poet looks forward to spring.**