**What to do today**

*IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.*

**1. Story time**

Read the two poems, *Owl* and *The Sparrow.*

**2. Answering Questions**

Read the *Questions* about the two poems.

* Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

**3. Stating preferences**

Think about each of the poems.

* On *My Favourite*, say which one you prefer.
* Give as many reasons for your choice as you can.
* Use the conjunctions *because*, *since* and *as* to explain your reasons.

**Now try this Fun-Time Extra**

* Begin to learn your favourite of the two poems off by heart.
* Find out everything you can about your poem’s bird – the owl or the sparrow.
* Use <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/> to get your research started.

**Owl**

Owl

Was darker

Than ebony

Flew through the night

Eyes like amber searchlights,

Rested on a post,

Feathers wind-ruffled,

Stood stump still,

Talons ready to seize

And squeeze.

Owl

Was death

That swamped the fields,

For it flew through the dark

That tightened its knot,

That bandaged the hills

In a blindfold of fear.

Owl flew – who – who – who –

*Pie Corbett*

**The Sparrow**

I found a speckled sparrow

between the showers of rain.

He thought the window wasn’t there

and flew against the pane.

I picked him up and held him.

He didn’t stir at all.



I hardly felt him in my hand,

he felt so soft and small.

I held him like a flower

upon my open palm.

I saw an eyelid quiver,

though he lay still and calm.

I never thought a bird so limp

could fly away so fast.



**Questions about *Owl***

Find and copy a *simile* that is used in the poem (if you are not sure what a simile is, look back at the work you did on Day 2.)

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*Alliteration* is when several words in a row begin with the same sound (*the* *big bad bird; a few fake flowers*). Find and copy an example of alliteration in the poem.

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Is *Owl* an example of *rhyming verse* or *free verse*? If you are not sure what free verse is, ask a grown up if you can look it up in a dictionary on online.

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Suggest another word or words for:

flew \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ruffled \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

bandaged \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Describe how the poem makes you feel.

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**Questions about *The Sparrow***

What has happened to the sparrow in the poem?

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*The Sparrow* is an example of *rhyming verse*.

Copy down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

‘*and flew against the pane*.’ A *pane* is a sheet of glass. Write down a *homophone* for the word *pane* (see Day 2 if you need to check what a homophone is). Write a sentence with your word in it.

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In your own words, explain how you think the sparrow in the poem is feeling.

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How is the mood of *The Sparrow* different to that of *Owl*?

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**My Favourite of the two poems**

|  |
| --- |
| *because since as* |



**Answers to questions**

**OWL**

Find and copy a *simile* that is used in the poem

You could have:

* Darker than ebony
* Eyes like amber searchlights

*Alliteration* is when several words in a row begin with the same sound. Find and copy an example of alliteration in the poem.

You could have:

* Stood stump still
* Seize and squeeze
* …bandaged … blindfold

Is *Owl* an example of *rhyming verse* or *free verse*?

* It is an example of free verse. There is no regular rhyming pattern and nor is there a regular rhythm.

Suggest another word or words for:

flew fluttered / bumped / soared

ruffled disturbed / untidied / messed up

bandaged covered / bound / shielded / protected

**The Sparrow**

What has happened to the sparrow in the poem?

He flew against the window pane and knocked himself out.

*The Sparrow* is an example of *rhyming verse*. Copy down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

Rain / pane all / small calm / palm

‘*and flew against the pane*.’ A *pane* is a sheet of glass. Write down a *homophone* for the word *pane.* Write a sentence with your word in it.

Pain –

Example - The sparrow hit his head on the glass, and afterwards he was in pain all day with a headache.