

# Jabberwocky

BY LEWIS CARROLL

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

“Beware the Jabberwock, my son!  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!”

He took his vorpal sword in hand;  
Long time the manxome foe he sought—  
So rested he by the Tumtum tree  
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,  
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,  
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,  
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through  
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!  
He left it dead, and with its head  
He went galumphing back.

“And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?  
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!  
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!”  
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

Jabberwocky - Reading Questions

1) Find and copy one word from the sixth verse which means 'to laugh'.

---

2) Find and copy a word which rhymes with 'borogoves'.

---

3) Find and copy the line which rhymes with 'snicker-snack!'

---

4) Why should we beware the Jabberwock?

---

5) What did the Jabberwock do after he'd stood with eyes of flame?

---

6) Name two of the things the poet says after congratulating the boy on slaying the Jabberwock.

---

7) What is significant about the last verse of the poem?

---

8) Choose an unusual word from the poem. What do you think it means? Can you think of alternatives?

---

9) What do the words 'sought', 'foe', 'hast', 'thou' tell us about the time and place the poem is set in?

---

10) Choose a line from the poem. Re-write it with your own nonsense words so that it rhymes with the line but one.

---