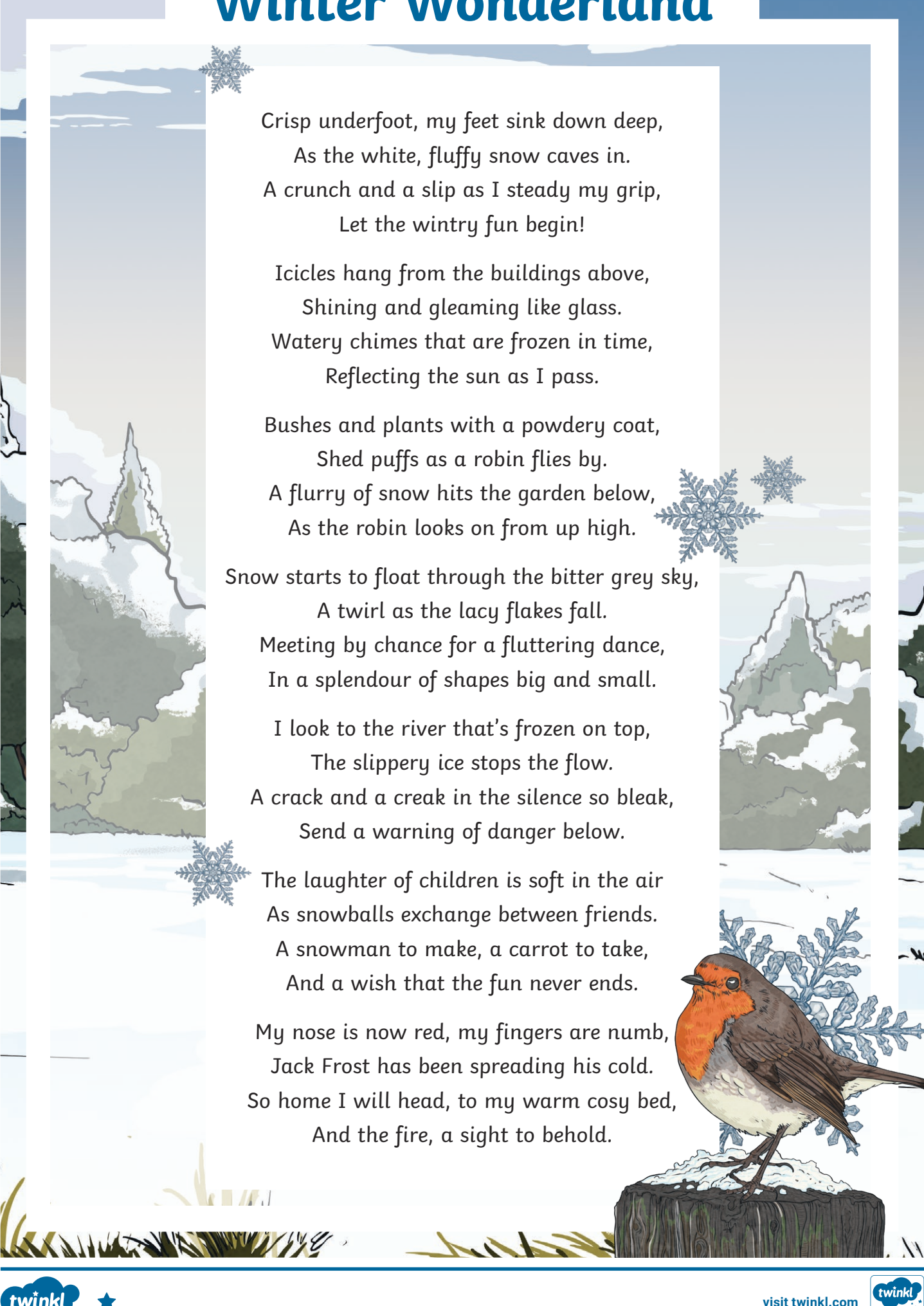


Winter Wonderland



Crisp underfoot, my feet sink down deep,
As the white, fluffy snow caves in.
A crunch and a slip as I steady my grip,
Let the wintry fun begin!

Icicles hang from the buildings above,
Shining and gleaming like glass.
Watery chimes that are frozen in time,
Reflecting the sun as I pass.

Bushes and plants with a powdery coat,
Shed puffs as a robin flies by.
A flurry of snow hits the garden below,
As the robin looks on from up high.

Snow starts to float through the bitter grey sky,
A twirl as the lacy flakes fall.
Meeting by chance for a fluttering dance,
In a splendour of shapes big and small.

I look to the river that's frozen on top,
The slippery ice stops the flow.
A crack and a creak in the silence so bleak,
Send a warning of danger below.

The laughter of children is soft in the air
As snowballs exchange between friends.
A snowman to make, a carrot to take,
And a wish that the fun never ends.

My nose is now red, my fingers are numb,
Jack Frost has been spreading his cold.
So home I will head, to my warm cosy bed,
And the fire, a sight to behold.

Questions

- What kind of bird appears in the third verse? Tick one.
 - ☐ a sparrow
 - ☐ a crow
 - ☐ an owl
 - ☐ a robin
- Reread verse four. Which of the following is closest in meaning to 'splendour'? Tick one.
 - ☐ beautiful display
 - ☐ boring display
 - ☐ ordinary display
 - ☐ ugly display
- In verse three, what is the **powdery coat** that the bushes and plants are wearing? Tick one
 - ☐ The bushes are covered in flour.
 - ☐ Someone has put winter coats on the bushes.
 - ☐ There is snow on the bushes.
 - ☐ The bushes are covered in cotton wool.
- Draw **three** lines to complete each sentence.

The person needs to
steady their grip...

Icicles are like
glass because...

The children need
a carrot...

they are clear
and smooth.

to give their snowman
a nose.

to keep from falling in
the snow.

- Find and copy one word that means the same as 'glittering' in verse two.

- Fill in the missing word.

As snowballs _____ between friends.

7. Look at the last verse. Explain how you know that the poet is looking forward to returning home.

Answers

1. What kind of bird appears in the third verse? Tick one.

- ☐ a sparrow
- ☐ a crow
- ☐ an owl
- ☒ **a robin**

2. Reread verse four. Which of the following is closest in meaning to 'splendour'? Tick one.

- ☒ **beautiful display**
- ☐ boring display
- ☐ ordinary display
- ☐ ugly display

3. In verse three, what is the **powdery coat** that the bushes and plants are wearing? Tick one.

- ☐ The bushes are covered in flour.
- ☐ Someone has put winter coats on the bushes.
- ☒ **There is snow on the bushes.**
- ☐ The bushes are covered in cotton wool.

4. Draw **three** lines to complete each sentence.

The person needs to steady their grip...	they are clear and smooth.
Icicles are like glass because...	to give their snowman a nose.
The children need a carrot...	to keep from falling in the snow.

5. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'glittering' in verse two.

gleaming


6. Fill in the missing word.

As snowballs **exchange** between friends.

7. Look at the last verse. Explain how you know that the poet is looking forward to returning home.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I know that the poet is excited to return home because they are explaining that they are cold and they say their bed is warm and cosy.

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So home I will head, to my warm cosy bed,
And the fire, a sight to behold.



Questions

1. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to **gleaming**? Tick one.
 - ☐ dull
 - ☐ reflecting
 - ☐ dark
 - ☐ gloomy

2. In verse six, what are the children doing while laughing and having fun? Tick **two**.
 - ☐ building a snowman
 - ☐ sledging
 - ☐ having a snowball fight
 - ☐ making snow angels

3. Who is Jack Frost in the poem? Tick one.
 - ☐ one of the children playing
 - ☐ the poet
 - ☐ a bird
 - ☐ the spirit of winter

4. Draw **three** lines to match each scene to the verse where it appears.

The snowflakes dance
together.

A bird watches the scene
below.

The poet slips.

verse one

verse three

verse four

5. In verse two, it says that icicles are like glass. Name **two** ways in which icicles are like glass.

1. _____

2. _____

6. In verse three, what are the **puffs** that the bushes shed when the robin flies past?

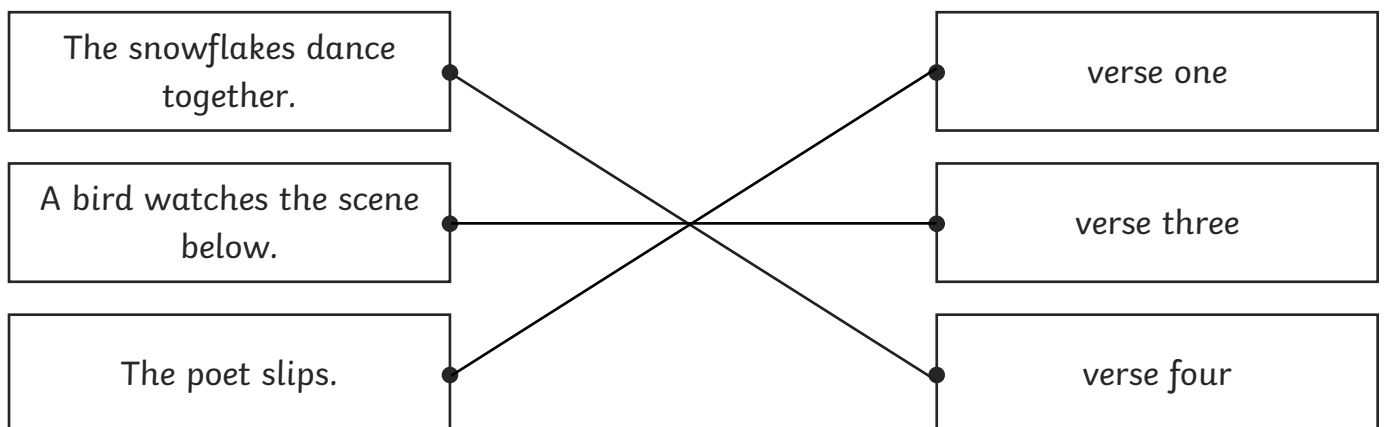
7. The last line says **And the fire, a sight to behold**. How is the poet feeling at the end of the poem? Explain why you think this.

8. In the fifth verse, the poet says the creaking of the river **sends a warning of danger below**.

What mood does this create and what might the poet have been trying to tell the reader?

Answers

1. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to **gleaming**? Tick one.
- ☐ dull
 - ☒ **reflecting**
 - ☐ dark
 - ☐ gloomy
2. In verse six, what are the children doing while laughing and having fun? Tick **two**.
- ☒ **building a snowman**
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3. Who is Jack Frost in the poem? Tick one.
- ☐ one of the children playing
 - ☐ the poet
 - ☐ a bird
 - ☒ **the spirit of winter**
4. Draw **three** lines to match each scene to the verse where it appears.



5. In verse two, it says that icicles are like glass. Name **two** ways in which icicles are like glass.

Accept any two from: Icicles are like glass because they are breakable; transparent; smooth; sharp; can sound like glass if knocked or broken; shine in the sun.

6. In verse three, what are the **puffs** that the bushes shed when the robin flies past?

Snow is covering the bushes and plants and when the robin flies past it knocks little bits off in 'puffs'.

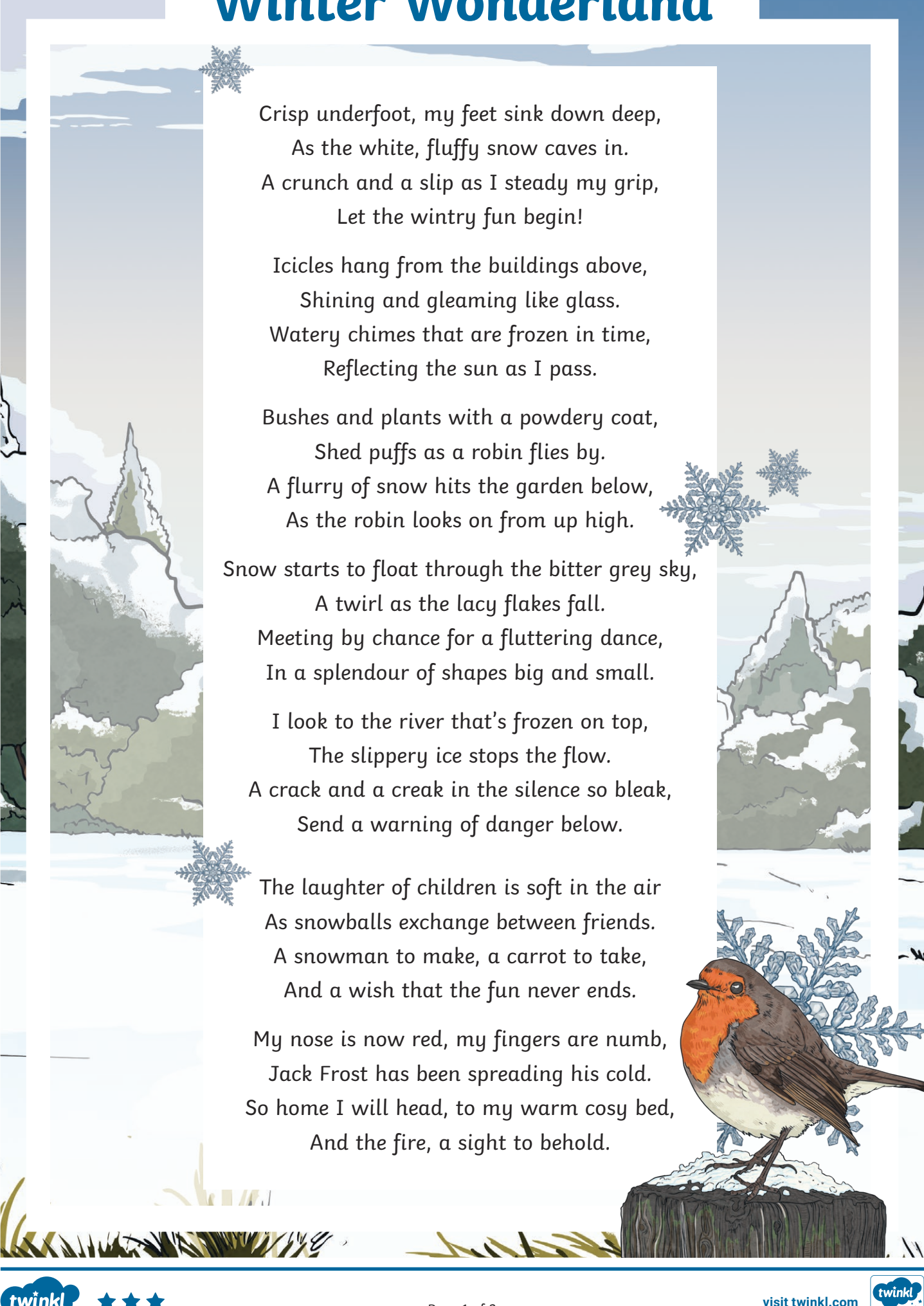
7. The last line says **And the fire, a sight to behold**. How is the poet feeling at the end of the poem? Explain why you think this.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the poet is feeling cold and they are excited to go home to their nice warm fire. I know this because they said their nose is red and their fingers are numb and they say their bed is warm and cosy.

8. In the fifth verse, the poet says the creaking of the river **sends a warning of danger below**. What mood does this create and what might the poet have been trying to tell the reader?

Pupils' own responses, such as: It creates a mood that is a little scary and dark. The poet might have been trying to tell the reader to stay away from the dangerous, frozen river.

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Questions

1. Which of the following words is **not** used in the poem to describe the snow? Tick one.

- ☐ lacy
- ☐ frosty
- ☐ crisp
- ☐ fluffy

2. Number the following events from 1-4 in the order they appear in the poem.

- ☐ The children throw snowballs.
- ☐ The frozen river creaks.
- ☐ The icicles hang from the buildings.
- ☐ The snowflakes twirl and dance.

3. Find and copy a word that means 'beautiful display'.

4. What **two** activities are the children doing with the snow?

1.

2.

5. What rhyme pattern does the poet use in all the verses?

6. In verse one, how do you know that this snow is fresh or has not been walked on already?

7. In verse four, what are snowflakes compared to? Why do you think the poet chose this comparison?

8. What is the **danger below** in verse five? Why might the poet have included this warning in the poem?

Answers

1. Which of the following words is **not** used in the poem to describe the snow? Tick one.

- ☐ lacy
- ☒ **frosty**
- ☐ crisp
- ☐ fluffy

2. Number the following events from 1-4 in the order they appear in the poem.

- 4** The children throw snowballs.
- 3** The frozen river creaks.
- 1** The icicles hang from the buildings.
- 2** The snowflakes twirl and dance.

3. Find and copy a word that means 'beautiful display'.

splendour

4. What **two** activities are the children doing with the snow?

The children are building a snowman and having a snowball fight.

5. What rhyme pattern does the poet use in all the verses?

The rhyme pattern of the verses is ABCB/The second and fourth lines rhyme in each verse.

6. In verse one, how do you know that this snow is fresh or has not been walked on already?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet's feet 'sink down' and 'the snow caves in', which means it hasn't been walked on before as snow only squashes the first time you walk on it.

7. In verse four, what are snowflakes compared to? Why do you think the poet chose this comparison?

Pupils' own responses, such as: Snowflakes are compared to lace in the line 'A twirl as the lacy flakes fall.' I think the poet chose this comparison because lace and snowflakes are both usually white, delicate and have intricate patterns that are a collection of thinner lines and holes. This emphasises how delicate the snowflakes are.

8. What is the **danger below** in verse five? Why might the poet have included this warning in the poem?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The 'danger below' is the cold water flowing under the ice. I think the poet might have included this warning so that readers would respect frozen rivers and not play on them.