

# Day 3- New Text -Retrieval Wednesday 6.5.2020

Read the following poem from Sensational! Poems inspired by the five senses, chosen by Roger McGough – This poem is written by Connie Bensley



Read it carefully!

1. Is this a rhyming poem? How do you know?
2. What place is described in the poem?
3. Why did the author describe the boys as tadpoles?
4. Find a word in the text that means controlled.
5. What does 'dumb with fear' mean?
6. What do you think is happening in the last verse of the poem?

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## SEEING THINGS

Suddenly, the pool is alive  
with small boys; they weave  
and wriggle, slippery as tadpoles,  
until they are summoned to order  
down at the shallow end.

I make a decorous turn  
in the deeper water,  
and something catches my eye  
far below. A childlike figure  
is spread-eagled at the bottom of the pool  
I try to scream, but water  
fills my mouth:

The figure drifts, in slow motion,  
towards the side – I follow  
dumb with fear, heart knocking,  
ready to grasp at hair, at limbs:

it blooms upwards, growing like magic  
and comes out of the water  
as a burly, bearded man,  
who heaves himself up the steps,  
checks his watch, and turns,  
placidly, towards the high board.

*Connie Bensley*

# Day 3- New Text -Retrieval

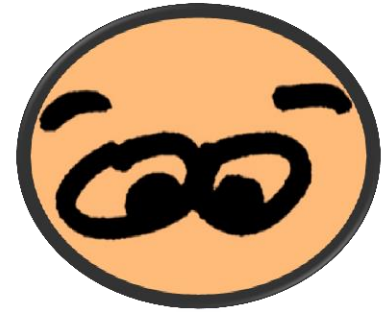
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7. Through whose eyes is the poem told?
8. What do you think was seen or not seen?

## Challenge:

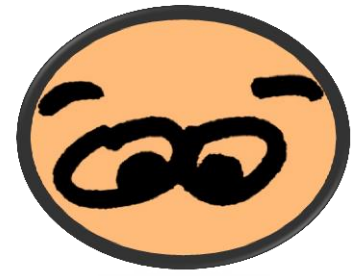
- A. What part of the poem do you like best?
- B. What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?



## Seeing Things

This poem is written by  
Connie Bensley

# Day 3 Wednesday 6.5.2020 – Retrieval skills



Now check your answers! Seeing Things

1. Is this a rhyming poem? *No* How do you know? *The endings of each line do not rhyme.*
2. What place is described in the poem? *A swimming pool.*
3. Why did the author describe the boys as tadpoles? *The way they were moving in the water like tadpoles do in water.*
4. Find a word in the text that means controlled. *Decorous*
5. What does 'dumb with fear' mean? *Horried/frightened/panicked/shocked.*
6. What do you think is happening in the last verse of the poem? *The narrator thought that he/she saw a young child laid out at the bottom of the pool; however as it moves upwards, was ready to help pull them out of the pool. But it turns out to be a grown bearded man who came out calmly. 'Were they seeing things'*
7. Through whose eyes is the poem told? *One of the children at the pool.*
8. What do you think was seen or not seen? *A small child; or a man*

## Challenge:

- A. What part of the poem do you like best?
- B. What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?