

I didn't know I'd miss

Lots of children have been at home for a long time now. Some have still been going to school but it has been different. What are the things that you have missed? Some of them might surprise you. This is a list poem written by Tina who lives in Salford. She has been missing lots of things about school.

I didn't know I'd miss -
the hum of everyone in assembly
and the joyful sound of us singing together.

I didn't know I'd miss -
Miss Wood on the flipchart writing up our ideas
as we make up a story together
and the room is alive with creativity.

I didn't know I'd miss -
meeting with my friends each morning,
even when the playground was cold.

I didn't know I'd miss -
showing the little ones how to read
and help my friends with tidying up the class.

I didn't know I'd miss -
my pencil case with all my pencils
and the smell of the inside of my school bag.

I didn't know I'd miss -
finding a new book that I love from the class library.

I didn't know I'd miss -
school dinners, especially
the thick layer on top of custard.

Now answer the questions based on the text.

1. Why do you think the writer starts each verse with I didn't know I'd miss.
2. How do you think the writer is feeling as she is writing the poem? How do you know?
3. Did the writer enjoy teaching others? How do you know?
4. Why do you think the writer liked the smell of the inside of her school bag?
5. What time of day might the writer have written this poem? What makes you think this?
6. Why might some of the things the writer missed about school surprise her?
7. What are you looking forward to most in September? Why?

Challenge

Look on a map of England to find out where Tina the writer of the poem lives.

Write your own verse of I didn't Know I'd Miss.... With things you've missed.