

The Umbrella Brigade

by Laura Richards

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“Pitter patter!” falls the rain
On the schoolroom window pane.
Such a splashing! such a dashing!
Will it e'er be dry again?
Down the gutter rolls a flood,
And the crossing's deep in mud;
And the puddles! oh, the puddles
Are a sight to stir one's blood!

But let it rain
Tree-toads and frogs
Muskets and pitchforks
Kittens and dogs!
Dash away! splash away!
Who is afraid?
Here we go,
The umbrella brigade!

Pull the boots up the knee!
Tie the hoods on merrily!
Such a hustling! such a jostling!
Out of breath with fun are we,
Clatter, clatter down the street,
Greeting everyone we meet,
With our laughing and our chaffing
Which the laughing drops repeat.

Pitter patter! pitter patter!
Pitter patter! pitter patter!

Name _____



Date _____

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Key 1 - Answer ID # 0405031

Multiple Choice

<p>1. What line does the author repeat?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A "Will it e're be dry again?"</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B "Dash away! Splash away!"</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C "Pitter patter!"</p>	<p>2. Which of these does the author NOT mention it raining?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A knives and spoons</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B tree-toads and frogs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C kittens and dogs</p>
<p>3. What rolls down the gutter?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A frogs</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B a flood of water</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C kittens</p>	<p>4. Where do they hear the pitter patter of the rain?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A on the window pane</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B on the pavement</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C on the gutter</p>

Short Answer Questions

<p>5. How does the narrator feel about the rain? Give clues from the poem to support your answer.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>6. How does the umbrella brigade prepare for the rain?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

Poetic Techniques Short Answer Questions

<p>7. Onomatopoeia means using words that imitates the sound something makes, such as "buzz." Give an example of onomatopoeia in this poem.</p> <p>_____</p>
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