

Name: _____

Winter Poetry



Winter

by Ogden Nash

Winter is the king of showmen
Turning tree stumps into snowmen
And houses into birthday cakes
And spreading sugar over lakes.

Smooth and clean and frosty white
The world looks good enough to bite.
That's the season to be young
Catching snowflakes on your tongue.

Snow is snowy when it's snowing
I'm sorry it's slushy when it's going.



1. A showman is someone who puts on a show. What does Mr. Nash mean when he says that *winter is the king of showmen*?
2. Mr. Nash is talking about *winter* as if it were a magician. (Referring to something non-human as if it were a person—like Mr. Nash does here—is called *personification*.) Winter doesn't really turn tree posts into snowmen or houses into birthday cakes. What does Mr. Nash mean?
3. What type of figurative language is he using here?
4. What person is the poem written in? _____ How do you know?

5. What does Mr. Nash mean when he says that winter is the season to be young?
Why might children enjoy winter more than adults?

6. Which is your favorite season? _____ Why?

7. At the end of the poem, the poet is sorry that snow is "slushy when it's going."
What causes the snow to turn into slush?

What happens to it after that? Where does it go?

Where does the snow come from to begin with?