



A Barefoot
Discussion
Guide

I Like the Wind Discussion Guide

Reading Response Questions

1. What do the children see, hear, and feel in *I Like the Wind*?
2. Look carefully at the pictures. What things do you see moving (or flying) in the wind?
3. What is your favorite windy picture in the book? What do you like about this picture?
4. What are your favorite things to do on windy days?

Playing with Language

Poems play with words. In *I Like the Wind*, when the wind calms, it “opens up its mouth and yawns.” The wind doesn’t really have a mouth, and it can’t really yawn. But a yawn feels slow and sleepy. A yawn is very different from the wild, gusty wind on the pages before. The word gives us a peaceful, quiet feeling. That’s poetry!

On the first page of the book, the wind “speaks.” Of course the wind isn’t alive like you and me, and it can’t really speak. (This is the author playing with words!) However, the child can hear and feel the wind. It’s like a welcoming hello.

How does the wind “speak” to the child in the book?
Does the wind ever speak to you? How?

Outdoor Inquiry

Is today a windy day? Grab a friend and head outdoors! How does the wind feel on your skin? What sounds does the wind make? Is the wind warm or cold? Is the wind fast or slow? Is it strong or gentle? What things are moving (or flying) in the wind? Can you count them?



I Like the Wind

Written by Sarah Nelson

Illustrated by Rachel Oldfield



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I Like the Snow Discussion Guide

Reading Response Questions

1. What do the children see, hear, and feel in *I Like the Snow*?
2. What is your favorite snowy picture in the book? What do you like about this picture?
3. How do the children in the book play in the snow? Can you count how many ways?
4. What are *your* favorite ways to play in snow?

Playing with Language

Poems play with words. In *I Like the Snow*, the snowflakes are called “flower flurries” and “stars and diamonds.” Snowflakes aren’t really flowers, stars, or diamonds, but they can have fancy shapes like flowers or stars; they can sparkle like diamonds. The words paint beautiful pictures in our minds. That’s poetry!

On the first page of the book, the snow “speaks.” Of course the snow isn’t alive like you and me, and it can’t really speak. (This is the author playing with words!) However, the children can hear and feel the snow. It’s like a welcoming hello.

How does the snow “speak” to the children in the book?
Does the snow ever speak to you? How?

Outdoor Inquiry

Is today a snowy day? Bundle up and head outdoors! How do snowflakes feel on your face? How do snowflakes taste? How does the snow feel under your boots? Does it make a sound? What does it feel like to run or slide in the snow? Can you catch snowflakes on a colorful mitten or glove? Look closely. What shapes do you see?



I Like the Snow

Written by Sarah Nelson

Illustrated by Rachel Oldfield



A Barefoot
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I Like the Rain Discussion Guide

Reading Response Questions

1. What do the children see, hear, and feel in *I Like the Rain*?
2. What is your favorite rainy picture in the book? What do you like about this picture?
3. Look through your windows. How does rain help your neighborhood?
4. What do you like best about rainy days?

Playing with Language

Poems play with words. In *I Like the Rain*, the rain is falling in “silver streaks” and the storm clouds are “drumming.” Raindrops aren’t really silver, but when lots of rain falls, the rain can have a silvery look. The storm clouds don’t really drum, but thunder in the distance might sound like the boom-da-da-booms of big drums. The words create lively pictures and sounds in our minds. That’s poetry!

On the first page of the book, the rain “speaks.” Of course the rain isn’t alive like you and me, and it can’t really speak. (This is the author playing with words!) However, the children can hear and feel the rain. It’s like a welcoming hello.

How does the rain “speak” to the children in the book?
Does the rain ever speak to you? How?

Outdoor Inquiry

Is today a rainy day? Pull on your rain gear and head outdoors! How do raindrops feel on your face? How do raindrops taste? What sounds does the rain make? Can you catch some raindrops in your hands? What color is the rain? Does rain have a smell? How many rain puddles can you find? Do they make you want to jump?!



I Like the Rain

Written by Sarah Nelson

Illustrated by Rachel Oldfield



A Barefoot
Discussion
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I Like the Sun Discussion Guide

Reading Response Questions

1. What do the children see and feel in *I Like the Sun*?
2. What is your favorite sunny picture in the book? What do you like about this picture?
3. Look through your windows. How does the sun help *your* neighborhood?
4. What do you like best about sunshine?

Playing with Language

Poems play with words. In *I Like the Sun*, when the children are cold from swimming in the ocean, they return to “a sunny, sandy home.” The beach isn’t really their home, but cuddling up in the soft, warm sand can feel cozy like home. The words paint a picture and give us a comfy, happy feeling. That’s poetry!

On the first page of the book, the sun “speaks.” Of course the sun isn’t alive like you and me, and it can’t really speak. (This is the author playing with words!) However, the children can see and feel the sun. It’s like a welcoming hello.

How does the sun “speak” to the children in the book?
Does the sun ever speak to you? How?

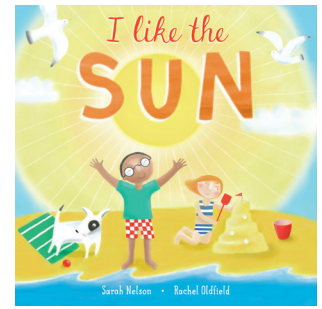
Outdoor Inquiry

Is today a sunny day? Grab your sunhat and head outdoors! How does the sun feel on your skin? Is the sun warm or hot? What color is the sky? What other things look more colorful because of sunlight? Can you find any shadows? How do shadows happen? Is the sun high overhead or low in the sky?

Why does the sun appear to move throughout the day?



Illustration © Rachel Oldfield from *I Like the Sun*



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