

Voyage

Poem

Get Going!	✧ Make groups of five and ask them to discuss the given issue. Move around to <u>guide</u> and assess the discussion.
Read and Enjoy	<p>✧ This poem is by Harindranath Chattopadyay, whose brief biography and pen picture is given at the end of the poem. This poem is in three stanzas, with the 2nd and 4th, and the 6th and 8th line rhymed. So the rhyme scheme is a b c b d e f e in each stanza. There can be a comparison with the poem on 'Paper Boats' by Rabindranath Tagore which has been studied in the previous class. The poem shows us the poet as a child floating his paper boats on a pond, a stream and on a lake. He is a dreamer who is transported to wonderful realms in each of the three water bodies.</p> <p>✧ In the first stanza, he says he will make a pretty paper boat and float it on a pond, a small water body. He will steer the boat on his own, and he emphasises the word 'alone'. He really enjoys his own company and does not feel lonely. He imagines he is sailing beyond seven mountain, seven seas and the seven skies of mythology. He is far away from the dull world of routine. Sailing alone, he reaches a kingdom that is so fabulous that he finds 'mares have ruby eyes'!</p> <p>✧ In the second stanza he has made a simple paper boat and this time he is not rowing, he is sailing it, 'softly as a dream'. Also, now he is sailing down a stream. His fantasy has taken him beyond the small pond and he has ventured further. Now he says he is going to sail 'beyond the seven waterfalls', into an even more fabulous kingdom. This is the kingdom of wise people and here 'dreamy drowsy elephants have emeralds for eyes'.</p> <p>✧ In the third stanza he has taken his 'lovely paper boat' to a lake. It is a large and still body of water. Here he is not rowing or sailing, He is floating. He is happy and completely relaxed now. The boat will float till it takes him to 'some distant shore'. It will be a land of pure joy and bliss for him. Nothing dies in this mysterious land which lies on some unknown shore. He will pass 'beyond the seven worlds' to reach this wonderful place. And in the last lines he says that it is a place of immortality and joy 'because its little children have</p>

	<p>heaven in their eyes'. The poem ends on a very philosophical note, because travelling beyond seven worlds is a reference to the idea that we move beyond death to the land of immortal souls. It is pure and innocent like small children whose eyes have never seen anything horrible. They picture or imagine only beautiful things, so he says they have 'heaven in their eyes'.</p>
Read and Understand	<p>✧ Exercises A, B and C: Read and explain the questions and answer them orally. Then ask the students to write the answers. Check and assess their work individually.</p>
Think and Answer	<p>✧ Exercise A: Read and explain the question and discuss them in class. Then ask the students to write the answer. Check and assess their work individually.</p>
Appreciating the Poem	<p>✧ Explain what similes are - comparisons between two things which are usually linked with the words 'like' or 'as'. Use the instructions and examples given and add your own. [For example: busy as a bee; cunning as a fox; clear as a bell; creaking like a gate; straight like an arrow; etc.]</p> <p>✧ Exercise A: Ask the students to answer the question orally and write it down.</p>
Write Well	<p>✧ Exercise A: (i) Teach the students to count words per line by making columns of 5-6 words in the notebook. It will help them later to write within word limits. (ii) Discuss how they can use their imagination to decide upon the topics they can discuss - their living conditions, their food, their human masters or companions and their behaviour, the kind of habitat they would like, who are their best friends in the island/forest, beach, farm, house, etc. where you are talking to them. (iii) Ask them to write the passage on their own. It is advisable to check and assess their work individually.</p>
AIL Activity	<p>✧ Exercise A: This can be done by the students on their own or in pairs.</p>