

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learning not to fear the dark – appreciating the peace of night.
- Reading and reciting the poem with the correct rhythm and emphasis.
- Answering questions on the poem.
- Learning words, meanings, spellings, pronunciation, rhymes.

Read and Enjoy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This poem by Ruskin Bond is very reassuring for a child who may be afraid of the dark. It shows the gentle peace and beauty of the night, lit up by moonlight and stars. Ruskin Bond wrote a lot of poems, stories and novels about children and older people and their lives. ➤ Read the poem aloud with the correct rhythm and emphasis. Explain the poem clearly to the students so that they understand how the poet [as a little boy] is telling us about the night-time. ➤ Ask the students to learn it and recite it. There must be a softness in the recitation to reflect the peace it conveys. Correct them where necessary. Ask the students to learn words, meanings, spellings, pronunciation, rhymes. ➤ This poem describes the night as a time of peace and beauty, not something to be afraid of, as most of us, especially when we are small children, tend to be scared of the dark. Understanding the beauty of the night helps us to overcome the fear of the dark and enjoy the peace.
Read and Understand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A & B: Discuss the exercises and ask the students to answer them orally, before writing the answers down.
Word Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A. This exercise can be done by students on their own. Remind them that they must match antonyms, words with the opposite meanings. Announce the answers and let the students check their own work.
Appreciating the Poem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A. Read and explain the rhyme scheme of the poem AABB. Then ask the class to find out the rhyme scheme of the given stanza.
Project Work/AIL Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A. Students can be asked to do this activity at home and bring it for display.