

# Washing

What is all this washing about,  
Every day, week in, week out?  
From getting up till going to bed,  
I'm tired of hearing the same thing said.  
Whether I'm dirty or whether I'm not,  
Whether the water is cold or hot,  
Whether I like or whether I don't  
Whether I will or whether I won't--  
"Have you washed your hands,  
And washed your face?"  
I seem to live in the washing-place.

Whenever I go for a walk or ride,  
As soon as I put my nose inside  
The door again, there's someone there  
With a sponge and soap, and a lot they care  
If I have something better to do,  
"Now wash your face and your fingers too."

Before a meal is ever begun,  
And after ever a meal is done,  
It's time to turn on the waterspout.

Please, what is all this washing about?

*--John Drinkwater*

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## Questions:

### Research and Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been on a swing?
2. What did you see?
3. What do you like about swings?
4. Make a list of some simple pleasures.

## QUESTIONS

1. How often does one have to wash according to the poem?

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2. What is the writer tired of hearing

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3. What does it mean when the poet says: "I seem to live in the washing place"?"

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4. When does the writer have to wash?

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5. What is demanded of the writer as soon as he gets home?

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6. What does it mean by “...it's time to turn on the waterspout”?

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7. Why does the writer ask "What is all this washing about"?

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**Discuss:**

Why do we need water?

Why is it important to wash and keep clean?