

My Heart Leaps Up

My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!
The Child is father of the Man;
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural piety.

- *William Wordsworth*

Questions:

Research and Discussion Questions

What makes you joyful?

What is pious? Why should we seek to become pious?

QUESTIONS

1. Complete the passage below.

List: childhood, declaration, die, leap, nature, profound, rainbow, superficial

In the poem "My Heart Leaps Up" by William Wordsworth, the speaker expresses a _____ connection between _____ and his innermost emotions. The poem begins with the _____ that the sight of a _____ in the sky makes the speaker's heart _____ with joy. He claims that he has loved nature since his _____ and that this love has remained constant throughout his life. Wordsworth asserts that if his heart ever stops experiencing this leap of joy upon seeing a rainbow, he would wish to _____. The speaker suggests that his bond with nature is not _____ or fleeting, but rather an integral part of his being.

2. What is the theme of this poem?

3. What is the purpose of the poem?

4. What is the tone of this poem?

5. What happens when the speaker sees a rainbow in the sky?

6. What does the speaker hope?

7. Why does it mean as “The Child is father of the man”?

8. What does the speaker wish?

9. What figure of speech is most used in the following line?

“My heart leaps up when I behold a rainbow...”

10. How can this poem inspire children?

11. Visualization Activity: Draw a picture of yourself and what makes you joyful.