

## Where Go the Boats?

Dark brown is the river,  
Golden is the sand.  
It flows along for ever,  
With trees on either hand.

Green leaves a-floating,  
Castles of the foam,  
Boats of mine a-boating--  
Where will all come home?

On goes the river  
And out past the mill,  
Away down the valley,  
Away down the hill.

Away down the river,  
A hundred miles or more,  
Other little children  
Shall bring my boats ashore.

--*Robert Lewis Stevenson*

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### Questions:

#### Research and Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think you are here?
2. What do you wish to do when you get older?
3. Can you make a paper boat?
4. What is a river and why does it flow downwards?

## Multiple Choice Questions

5. What colour is the river in the poem?
  - a. Dark blue
  - b. Dark brown
  - c. Light brown
  - d. Golden
  
6. What is on either side of the river?
  - a. castles
  - b. mountains
  - c. boats
  - d. trees
  
7. What else is floating on the river?
  - a. green leaves
  - b. castles
  - c. apples
  - d. ducks
  
8. What does the poet want to know?
  - a. When will the children come home after play?
  - b. Where the boats are going?
  - c. When would the boats come home?
  
9. What would you pass before you reach the hill?
  - a. The valley
  - b. The farm
  - c. The mill
  - d. The factory
  
10. Who eventually brings the boats ashore?
  - a. Farmers
  - b. Children
  - c. Fishermen
  - d. Factory workers
  
11. Who is the speaker of the poem?
  - a. A little girl
  - b. A young boy
  - c. An older man
  - d. A mother

12. Why does the poet repeat the word “away”?
- a. The writer knows that the boat may never return.
  - b. The writer knows the river is very long.
  - c. The writer knows someone will capture his boat.
  - d. The writer does not care for the boat.

More questions

13. What does the poem make you wonder about?

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14. What is the rhyming scheme for this poem? \_\_\_\_\_

15. What is the purpose of this poem?

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16. What is the tone of the poem? Curiosity and contemplative

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17. What does the poet want the reader to think about in the last stanza?

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18. Circle the words that rhyme in the poem.

19. Do you like this poem? Why?

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**Visual activity:**

20. Draw a boat along a river course.