Rain Has Rhythm

Read a changing rainstorm with rhythm and expression.

3.LF.11 "Read and reread grade-appropriate poetry, practicing phrasing, rhythm, rhyme, and meaningful expression."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two pairs of rhyming words at the ends of lines, and circle one comma where you will pause. Reread the poem using your marks to guide your voice.

From Tap to Splash

1 At first, the raindrops tap the glass, A tiny drum begins its song. I watch the silver droplets pass, While sleepy clouds roll slow along. I pull my socks up to my knees, And watch one drop slide down the pane. It wiggles past the maple trees, Then meets another drop of rain.

2 Now louder drops pound on the street, The thunder rolls a low, slow sound. The rain plays drums with rushing feet, While little rivers cross the ground. The wind blows hard; the tree limbs sway, The puddles leap beside the gate. I stay inside and watch the gray, And count three breaths, and wait, and wait.

3 At last, the clouds begin to part, A golden patch lights up the lane. A robin sings with all its heart, While sunlight shines on drops of rain. I step outside in boots of blue, And hop across a shining stream. The birds call out; the air feels new, The puddles hold the sun's bright gleam.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which word at the end of a line in the first stanza rhymes with “glass”?

2. Read “And count three breaths, and wait, and wait.” Where could you pause to make the waiting feel slow? Name one word you would pause after.

3. How should your voice change from the second stanza to the third? Give one clue from each stanza.

4. In the first stanza, how do the words “tap” and “drum” help you choose a rhythm for reading?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four lines of your own poem about a sound you hear outdoors. Make the last words of lines 2 and 4 rhyme, use a comma to show a short pause, then write one sentence telling how you would read your poem aloud.

ANSWER KEY # Rain Has Rhythm

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two pairs of rhyming words at the ends of lines, and circle one comma where you will pause. Reread the poem using your marks to guide your voice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which word at the end of a line in the first stanza rhymes with “glass”?	**Pass.**
2	Read “And count three breaths, and wait, and wait.” Where could you pause to make the waiting feel slow? Name one word you would pause after.	**Pause after “breaths” or the first “wait.” Both are followed by commas.**
3	How should your voice change from the second stanza to the third? Give one clue from each stanza.	**Read the second stanza with a strong, heavy voice because the drops pound and thunder rolls. Read the third stanza with a lighter voice because a robin sings and sunlight appears.**
4	In the first stanza, how do the words “tap” and “drum” help you choose a rhythm for reading?	**They suggest a light, steady beat, like small drops tapping on glass.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A cricket chirps beside my shoe,
It sings beneath the moon so bright.
I stop, and listen to its tune,
Its tiny song fills up the night.
I would read softly because the cricket's song sounds gentle.

For the marking task, accept any two pairs of rhyming line endings and any comma that makes a natural pause. For the poem, check that lines 2 and 4 rhyme and that the reading choice fits the sound described.