

Supplement 8H—Teacher Resource: Fix-Up Options for “Jabberwocky”

Poem	Fix-Up Options
	<p><b>Reread</b> the entire poem; then read line by line.</p>
'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves	<p><b>Connect to background knowledge</b> (text-to-text): “’Twas” means “it was,” as in the poem “’Twas the Night before Christmas.”</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> “Brillig” sounds like the word “brilliant.” Perhaps the events in the poem take place in the daytime.</p> <p><b>Look at sentence structure</b> (BK): “Slithy” is probably an adjective that describes the toves.</p> <p><b>Make a prediction:</b> The toves are animals.</p>
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:	<p><b>Look at sentence structure</b> (BK): “Gyre” and “gimble” are verbs.</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> The wabe is the place where the toves live.</p> <p><b>Read ahead</b> to the end of this verse.</p>
All mimsy were the borogoves,	<p><b>Make inferences:</b> Borogoves and raths are also creatures that live in the wabe. “Mimsy” sounds like “whimsy,” which suggests a pleasant, peaceful scene.</p> <p><b>Visualization:</b> Imagine strange animals.</p> <p><b>Ask a new question:</b> Are they living peacefully in a forest?</p>
And the mome raths outgrabe.	

“Beware the jabberwock, my son.	<p><b>Connect to background knowledge:</b> an older person is talking to a young boy, “my son.”</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> The jabberwock is dangerous because the boy must beware.</p>
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!	<p><b>Connect to background knowledge</b> (text-to-world): If it has jaws and claws, it’s an animal. It can hurt people.</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> “Shun” could mean “to watch out for.”</p> <p><b>Ask a new question:</b> Is “frumious” a real word? Look it up.</p>
Beware the jubjub bird, and shun	
The frumious bandersnatch!”	
If reading an illustrated version of the poem, read about the illustrator or illustrations.	<p><b>Read the illustrator’s note</b> or information about the illustrator or illustrations found on the book jacket.</p>

He took his vorpal sword in hand:	<p><b>Connect to background knowledge</b> (text-to-text): The boy is going out to kill these creatures with his sword, like a knight kills a dragon with his sword.</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> “Vorpal” means “powerful” or “magical.” He wouldn’t go out without an effective weapon.</p>
Long time the manxome foe he sought—	<p><b>Look at sentence structure and make an inference:</b> “Manxome” is an adjective that could mean “terrible.”</p> <p><b>Visualization:</b> The boy is tired so he stopped to rest beneath a tree. What is he thinking and feeling?</p>
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,	
And stood awhile in thought.	

And as in uffish thought he stood,	<p><b>Ask a new question:</b> What does “uffish thought” mean?</p> <p><b>Make a prediction:</b> The boy and the jabberwock will meet and fight.</p> <p><b>Read ahead.</b></p>
The jabberwock, with eyes of flame,	
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,	
And burred as it came!	

One, two! One, two! And through and through	<p><b>Visualization:</b> Hear the blade go “snicker-snack!” The boy killed the jabberwock. Imagine his face, proud and smiling.</p> <p><b>Connect to background knowledge</b> (text-to-text): The older person will be pleased that the boy killed the monster. That’s what happens in other stories.</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> Galumphing is a proud way of walking.</p> <p><b>Reread</b> the previous verse and this one.</p>
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!	
He left it dead, and with its head	
He went galumphing back.	

“And has thou slain the jabberwock?	<p><b>Make an inference:</b> “Beamish” could mean “best” and “frabjous” could mean “wonderful.” The older person is thrilled by the boy’s success.</p> <p><b>Make an inference:</b> “Callooh! Callay!” are expressions of joy.</p> <p><b>Ask a new question:</b> Is “chortled” a real word? Look it up in the dictionary.</p>
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!	
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!”	
He chortled in his joy.	

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves	<b>Make an inference:</b> Life in the wabe is peaceful again.  <b>Think about the message:</b> The boy was brave. He became a hero when he killed the jabberwock.
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;	
All mimsy were the borogoves,	
And the mome raths outgrabe.	