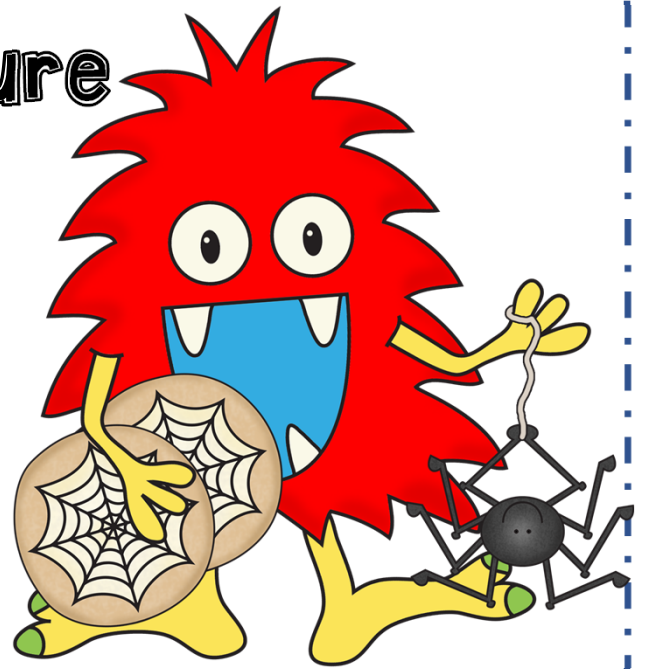


5

A Strange Creature



I once saw a strange creature
In a swampy marsh
It wiggled and jiggled
And made a loud splash

It had a long neck and a tail so short
Its eyes glowed green and its colors were sort
It was a bizarre creature I had never seen before
But I knew it was something I had to explore

I reached out my hand to touch its scaly skin
But instead it shot up in the air and began to spin
It flew around the swamp and landed on a tree
And this strange creature began to sing a melody

It sang of chirping birds and singing frogs
Of jumping fish and hopping logs
It sang of mud pies and eating bugs
And of swimming in murky swamps full of slugs

It was a funny song and I couldn't suppress
My laughter at this creature's silly address
It was a silly creature, that I can attest
But I still find it funny, even after all this mess!

1. Read the poem about "A Strange Creature"
2. Underline any word or sentence you don't understand.

A Strange Creature

Answer according to the reading passage:

1. Where was the strange creature?

- a. a muddy pond
- b. a swampy marsh
- c. a swampy bog

2. What kind of skin did the creature have?

- a. shiny
- b. scaly
- c. gross

3. What does murky mean in 'swam in murky swamps'?

- a. clear
- b. cloudy
- c. blue

4. What does suppress mean in this sentence '*It was a funny song and I couldn't suppress*'?

- a. silence
- b. stifle
- c. quash
- d. all of above

5. Is this a fiction or non fiction poem?

- a. fiction
- b. non fiction
- c.

A Strange Creature

Open Response Questions

Open response questions for thinking skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. In your opinion and based on the text, why is this creature considered strange?
 2. What does the creature in this poem remind you of?
 3. In 3 sentences summarize *"A Strange Creature"* in your own words.
 4. What comes across your mind and what do you visualize as you are reading this poem?
- How many rhyming words can you find in the poem.
 - Out of 5, rate this poem and explain why you gave it this rating.
 - Could this poem be true? Why or why not?
 - Design this creature based on how it is described in the poem.
 - Write a poem about a made up creature.
 - Do you prefer non fiction, fiction or poems when you read? Why?