

# THE DAFFODILS

## ACTIVITIES

*1. Did you understand the theme of the poem? Discuss with your teacher the following questions orally. Then, write the answers in your exercise book.*

**(a) Read the first stanza. Then find the answer to the following question :**

**With what does the poet William Wordsworth compare himself ?**

**Ans:** The poet Wordsworth compares himself with a piece of lonely cloud floating high above the sky.

**(b) Read the second stanza. Now find out the following:**

**With what does Wordsworth compare the daffodils?**

**Ans :** The poet Wordsworth compares the blooming daffodils with the continuous stars of the sky shining and twinkling on the milky way.

**(c) Read and recite the third stanza. Now find out what Words Worth means by 'jocund' company from the options below.**

**(i) happy and cheerful.**

**(ii) talkative.**

**(iii) quiet and sad.**

**Ans :** (i) happy and cheerful.

**(d) Read and recite the lines:**

"I gazed-and-gazed- but little thought

What weath the show to me had brought."

'What does the poet mean by the word

'wealth"? Why does he use the word here?

**Ans :** The poet by the word 'wealth' means property, money etc. The scenery of the blooming daffodils remained in his mind like a valuable property. Property gives one happiness. The sight of the daffodils also gave him happiness in his sad moment. So he uses the word here.

*2. Choose the correct option in each of the following questions :*

**(a) The poet compares himself to :**

**(i) a piece of lonely cloud.**

**(ii) a host of golden daffodils.**

**(iii) a lake.**

**(iv) the trees.**

**Ans :** (i) a piece of lonely cloud.

**(b) While wandering alone, the poet saw.**

**(i) a crowd of people.**

**(ii) clouds floating over vales and hills.**

**(iii) a host golden daffodils.**

**(iv) A lake.**

**Ans :** (iii) a host golden daffodils.

**(c) The poet compares the daffodils to:**

**(i) a lonely cloud.**

**(ii) a lake.**

**(iii) the stars in the milky way.**

**(iv) a boy.**

**Ans:** (iii) the stars in the milky way.

**(d) The 'jocund company' referred to is the company of ... ('jocund company')**

**(i) the daffodils.**

**(ii) the sparkling waves of the lake.**

**(iii) the dancing daffodils and the waves of the lake.**

**(iv) the stars on the milky way.**

**Ans:** (i) the daffodils.

**(e) The inward eye of the poet is the poet's**

**(i) vacant mood. (ii) thoughtful mood**

**(iii) imagination (iv) bliss of solitude.**

**Ans:** (iii) imagination.

*Q. 3. Read the poem and match the following:*

**The waves :** filled with pleasure and danced with the daffodils.

**The poet :** danced beside the daffodils.

**A Cloud :** stretched in a never ending line.

**The daffodils :** floated over valleys and hills.

**The poet's heart :** saw a host of golden daffodils.

**Ans :** The waves danced beside the daffodils.

The poet saw a host of golden daffodils.

A cloud floated over valleys and hills.

The daffodils stretched in a never ending line.

The poet's heart filled with pleasure and danced with the daffodils.

*Q. 4. Read the poem again and answer the following questions :*

**(a) Find a word in stanza 1 that means 'to roam about',**

**Ans:** wandered/wander.

**(b) Find out what 'O'er' means. How will you write the actual word?**

**Ans:** O'er>over. The actual word is 'over',

**(c) Find a word in stanza 2 which means 'a lake'.**

**Ans :** a bay

**(d) What does the poet refer to when he says 'Ten Thousand saw I'?**

**Ans :** The poet refers to innumerable when he says "Ten thousand saw I".

**(e) What is 'sprightly dance'?**

**Ans :** Sprightly dance means dancing in glee.

**(f) Give another word each for 'glee' and 'jocund'**

**Ans :** glee-happy, a feeling of great delight,

**(g) What is 'out did' in out did the sparkling waves?**

**Ans :** In 'out did' the sparkling waves 'out did' means 'defeated' the sparkling waves

**(h) Give the opposite of the following words :**

**vacant, pleasure, bliss**

**Ans :**

Vacant	Full
Pleasure	Displeasure
Bliss	Sorrow

**Q. 5. A beautiful poem is meant to be recited. Listen to the teacher reading to you the following pairs of words from the poem. Then repeat the words after the teacher and practice the pronunciation of each word. This will help you recite the poem.**

(a) Wandered	Wondered
(b) Breeze	Bridge.
(c) Shine	Sing.
(d) Stretched	Stressed.
(e) They	Day.
(f) Show	Sow.
(g) Flash	Flesh.
(h) Heart	Hunt.

**6. Let's go back to the poem once more and note the following:**

(a) The first line (L1) of the poem ends with cloud.

(b) L 2 ends with hills.

(c) L 3 ends with crowd.

(d) L4 ends with daffodils.

Note that cloud and crowd are pair of rhyming words. Also note that hills and daffodils are a pair of rhyming words.

**Now make a list of the other rhyming words in the poem.**

**Ans :**

Trees	Breeze
Thought	Brought
Shine	Line
Lie	Eye
Way	Bay
Mood	Solitude
Glance	Dance
Fills	Daffodils
They	Gay

**Choose from the box the word rhyming with the underlined word and complete the sentences :**

**Still      dancing      mood      breeze**

**(i) The sun is shining and the girl is.....**

**(ii) The forest is full of green trees and the flowers are dancing in the cool.....**

**(iii) On the top of the bare hill I stand mute and.....**

**(iv) Don't spoil my .....by being so rude.**

**Ans :** (i) The sun is shining and the girl is dancing.

(ii) The forest is full of green trees and the flowers are dancing in the cool breeze.

(iii) On the top of the bare hill I stand mute and still.

(iv) Don't spoil my mood by being so rude.

*7. (a) Rewrite the following poetic lines in everyday English.*

**(i) Ten thousand saw I at a glance.**

**(ii) For oft when on my couch I lie in vacant or in pensive mood.**

**(iii) Then my heart with pleasure fills.**

**Ans :** (i) I saw unnumbered flowers at one sight of my eyes.

(ii) Often when I was lying in my bed with thinking anything in the sad moment.

(iii) Then my heart filled with pleasure.

**(b) Find two words in the poem that are poetic in form and are not used in prose. Write a sentence illustrating the use of each of the two words.**

**Ans :** O'er = over : Clouds were floating over the valleys and hills.

Oft = Often : He often came to this place.

**(c) Illustrate the differences in meaning between 'gaze' and 'stare' by writing a sentence using each.**

**Ans: gaze :** The poet gazed at the blooming daffodils.

**stare :** The police stared at the thief.

**Q. 8. Note that one word in each of the following lines is wrong. Rewrite the extract below by replacing the word with the correct word of the poem.**

**The trees beside them-danced; but they**

**Out did the twinkling waves in glee;**

**A cloud could not but be gay**

**In such a joyans company:**

**I gazed and gazed but also thought**

**What wealth the sight to me had brought.**

**Ans :** The waves beside them danced; but they

Out did the sparkling waves in glee;

A poet could not but be gay

In such a jocund company :

I gazed and gazed but little thought

What wealth the show to me had brought.

**9. Your teacher will divide you into four or eight groups. Each group work on the stanza given to you. In your group discuss the stanza given to you and write the main idea of the stanza in two or more sentences. Then collect all the passages and paste them on a chart paper along with the poem, and Rang the chart in the class.**

**Ans : Stanza (1)** The poet was wondering lonely like a piece of clond floating high in the sky. Then he suddenly saw some blooming daffodils by the side of a lake. The flowers were fluttering and dancing in breeze.



**Stanza (2)** Like the stars twinkling on the Milky way, the flowers stretched along the side of the bay (lake) in a never ending line. The poet at one of his sight saw unnumbered daffodils tossing their heads to and fro.

**Stanza (3)** The waves beside the flowers were dancing. But the flowers defeated the sparkling waves in dance. The poet could not become full of joy to see the joyful flowers. He gazed and thought what wealth the flowers brought to him.

**Stanza (4)** When the poet was lying in his bed without thought in a sad moment. The sight of the daffodils came to his mind's eye. It was his joy in loneliness and his heart filled with pleasure with the dances of the daffodils.

*Q. 10. Let's learn some grammar:*

**Here are some lines that tell us what the poet said he was doing in the poem. Working with your partner fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the word.**

**One day the poet William Wordsworth was wandering alone along a lake. All at once, he .....(see) a host of golden daffodils. The daffodils .....( dance) in the breeze**

**The poet.....(compare) the daffodils to the stars on the milky way. They .....(stretch) in a never ending line along the side of the lake. He.....(notice) that the waves of the lake were also.....(dance) joyfully. He ..... (enjoy) the scene very much.**

**Later, in his sad moments, when the poet often.....(recall) the scene, his heart filled with joy and .....(begin) to dance with the daffodils.**

**Ans :** One day poet William Wordsworth was wandering alone along a lake. All at once, he saw a host of golden daffodils. The daffodils were dancing in breeze.

The poet compared the daffodils to the stars on the milky way.

They stretched in a never ending line along the side of the lake. He noticed (notice) that the waves of the lake were also, dancing joyfully. He enjoyed the scene very much.

Later, in his sad moments, when the poet often recalled the scene, his heart filled with joy an began to dance with the daffodils.

**Q. 11. Read the poem carefully. Pick out the words from each stanza that indicate or refer to some kind of action or work. In your exercise book, make a list of all the action words that you have picked out. Use the dictionary to find out the meaning of the unfamiliar action words.**

**You can list the words and their meanings in a table as shown below.**

**Action Word                      Meaning**

Ans :

Action Word	Meaning
1. Wander	1. ঘূৰি ফুৰা ।
2. float	2. ওপঙা, উৰা ।
3. Saw	3. দেখিছিল ।
4. fluttering	4. পাখি কোবোৱা ।
5. Dancing	5. নাচি থকা ।
6. Shine	6. পোহৰ দিয়া ।
7. twinkle	7. তিৰতিৰাই থকা ।
8. Stretch	8. বিয়পি থকা ।
9. tossing	9. লৰাই থকা ।

10. Out did	10. চেৰ পেলাইছিল ।
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**12. (a) The action words that you have listed refer to some kind of action or work done by the poet. Such words are called verbs. Write down some action words in Column B that match with the nouns in Column A.**

**Column A**

**Column B**

**Ans :**

<b>Column A</b>	<b>Column B</b>
1. Clouds	1. float
2. golden daffodils	2. bloom
3. Stars	3. Sparkle
4. Sparkling waves	4. Dance

**(b) Working with your partner, use the verbs in Column B and write four sentences that tell what the nouns in Column A were doing. One has been done for you.**

**(i) The cloud was floating over vales and hills.**

**(ii) .....**

**(iii).....**

**(iv).....**

Ans : (ii) Golden daffodils were blooming beside the lake.

(iii) Stars were sparkling in the sky.

(iv) Sparkling waves were dancing in the margin of the bay.

**Q. 13. You have come across the term preposition. You know that prepositions are words like at, as, by, for, to, etc. These words are usually placed before a noun or a pronoun to show their relation to place, time, direction, means, etc.**

**Look at these phrases from the poem :**

(i) over vales and hills

(ii) beside the lake.

(iii) beneath the trees

**The underlined words are prepositions denoting place.**

**Here are some more examples :**

(i) in the morning.

(ii) at noon.

(iii) on Monday.

**The underlined words above are prepositions denoting time.**

**Now read these phrases :**

(i) up the hill (ii) down the road (iii) to the north.

**The underlined words in these three examples are prepositions denoting direction.**

**Here are some more phrases :**

(i) by car (ii) on foot (iii) with a knife

Here by, on, with denote how something is done. For example, I cut the apple with a knife.

**Now complete the sentences with the correct preposition.**

**(i) Clouds float.....hills and Valleys (on/over/by)**

**(ii) The daffodils bloomed.....A lake. (beneath/beside/between).**

**(iii) Stars were shining..... the night sky (on/in/over)**

**(iv) They formed a line..... the shore of a bay.(beneath/along/for)**

**(v) He would often lie.....his couch lost in thoughts (on/in/by)**

Ans : (i) Clouds float over hills and valleys.

(ii) The daffodils bloomed beside a lake. between).

(iii) Stars were shining in the night sky.

(iv) They formed a line along the shore of a bay.

(v) He would often lie on his couch lost in thoughts.

**Q. 14. Discuss in groups and write a few lines on.**

**(a) How you felt after you saw a beautiful garden full of blooming flowers.**

**Ans:** I felt an un explainable pleasure after sacking the beautiful flower garden full of blooming flowers. The sight of the garden will remain forever in my mind.

**(b) a place without trees and flowers**

**Ans :** After seeing the place without a single tree and a flower my mind became very melancholy. Flowers and green trees bring freshness to our mind and body. A place with out trees and flowers is a desert I think.

15. (a) *Let's play a game :*

**Sit in a circle. Your teacher will tell you a story. After a few sentences,** she/he will stop narrating. Each student will continue to narrate the story from the point where the previous one has stopped. Each student is supposed to add four to ten sentences. You may add new characters, events, descriptions, **and so on. The one who comes up with the maximum number of sentences will be the winner.**

**(b) Now, write the story in your own words. Give a suitable title.**

**Ans : The Story of a Happy Man.**

Once upon a time there was a very powerful king in a country. But for some reasons he lost his peace of mind. He consulted with a famous astrologer about regaining his peace of mind. The astrologer after his astrological calculations advised the king's to wear the shirt of a happy man as a means to regain the king's peace of mind.

There after the king asked his men to find out a very happy man in his country. They tried their best but could not find a happy man. One day the king while sitting on his usual place saw a man passing his way singing happily. He was a day labour and was returning home after his day's labour. The king thought him to be a very happy man. He summoned the man. The king on his arrival asked if he was a happy man. The day labour in fear of the king replied that he was happy enough.

The king having heard this was pleased and ordered the man to give him his shirt the next day in the morning. The day labour then very politely requested the king telling that he had no shirt to wear. The king then realised that man's happiness does not depend on wealth and power but on the mind. Then the king offered the day labour some money to buy a shirt and let go. The day labour went home more happily praising the king.