

Guided Reading – Thursday

Today you are going to look at some of the nonsense words in the poem and decide what you think they might mean. There's an extra challenge but it is optional.

Nonsense word	What I think it means	Real word which could be used instead
frumious		
toves		
gimble		
slithy		
manxome		
uffish		
outgrabe		
snicker-snack		
galumphing		
frabjous		

Extra Challenge

Use a dictionary or the Internet to discover the definitions for some of the other unusual words used in the poem that are actually real words.

Word	Definition
gyre	
gimble	
chortled	
mimsy	
burbled	

Jabberwocky

BY LEWIS CARROLL (1872)

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand;
Long time the manxome foe he sought—
So rested he by the Tumtum tree
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

