

## POEM: 4

# For a Five Year Old

### Questions and answers for class 8

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C1. Answer the following questions and share your responses with your partner:

1. Name the creature mentioned in the Poem.

Answer: The creature mentioned in the poem is a snail.

2. Who do you think is the speaker?

Answer: The speaker in the poem is a mother.

3. Who is the speaker addressing?

Answer: The speaker is addressing her child.

4. What does the child want his mother to see?

Answer: The child wants his mother to see a snail crawling up the windowsill.

5. What does the mother tell the child?

Answer: The Mother told the child to carry the snail outside carefully and to leave it on a daffodil to eat.

C2. Read and discuss your responses with your partner. Then write.

1. Why does the mother say 'a kind of faith prevails'?

Answer: Mother says to her son to show kindness to snail. She asks him to carry the snail outside carefully. She moulds in her son the character of gentleness only by words but not by practice. So she says "a kind of faith prevails".

2. How has the mother treated other animals?

Answer: The mother has ill-treated other animals. She has trapped mice and shot wild birds, she has also drowned kittens.

3. Do you observe any difference between the mother's treatment of the snail and her treatment of other animals and her own relatives?

Answer: Yes, there is a lot of difference between the treatment of snail and other animals. Other animals were treated cruelly. She had even ill-treated her own relatives. She does not practise what she preaches.

4. How does the mother console herself? Read the last two lines and comment.

Answer: The mother consoles herself saying that she and her child are kind to snails, and this mattered more than anything else, as this is the order of the day.