

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Phoneme Poems: I Know a Hill

Hello from me, Fezziwig the owl! This is a nice poem but it is full of gaps! Can you choose the correct word for each line? Use each word once. One has been done for you.

below      slows      snows

~~know~~      shows      flows      crow

shallow      grow      blows

At the top of a hill, the wind \_\_\_\_\_,

It never rains up here, it \_\_\_\_\_,

The animals \_\_\_ *know* \_\_\_ that they must try,

To \_\_\_\_\_ long fur to be warm and dry.

In the stream on the hill, the water \_\_\_\_\_,

Down and down, and then it \_\_\_\_\_,

In \_\_\_\_\_ parts, a fish's fin,

Helps it swim and dive and spin.

\_\_\_\_\_ the hill, is a little wood,

Home to a \_\_\_\_\_. Its wings are good

at flying. It \_\_\_\_\_ off, flying around,

as it looks for food, like worms on the ground.

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## Phoneme Poems: Answers

At the top of a hill, the wind blows,  
It never rains up here, it snows,  
The animals know that they must try,  
To grow long fur to be warm and dry.

In the stream on the hill, the water flows,  
Down and down, and then it slows,  
In shallow parts, a fish's fin,  
Helps it swim and dive and spin.

Below the hill, is a little wood,  
Home to a crow. Its wings are good  
at flying. It shows off, flying around,  
as it looks for food, like worms on the ground.

Can you think of any other words with this 'ow'  
sound?

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The word 'down' sounds different. Can you think  
of any words that rhyme with 'down'?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Guidance for Parents

This reading and writing activity should help your child practice their phonics. This activity is aimed at early readers and writers i.e. KS1 who are able to sound out and read simple texts and are confident forming letters. It is designed to practice reading and writing known phonemes/‘encoding’ to help learners with checking work.

The focus is on the ‘ow’ phoneme/sound as in ‘throw’ or ‘own’. This is represented by the ‘ow’ grapheme/letters. This is taken from the national curriculum. If your child’s school uses the ‘Read Write Inc’ phonic scheme, this phoneme is from Set 2 and is called *‘ow, blow the snow’*.

Children should read through the poem with your help, identifying each occasion where there is a gap. They should then read the words at the top of the page, sounding them out and choosing the best word from the options to complete the lines of the poem. If there are several potential correct words, they should choose which makes the most sense. The rhyme scheme may help. They can then practice writing the word.

The word down has been included as this contains a different phoneme ‘ow’ (‘ow, brown cow’), but uses the same letters/grapheme as the target phoneme. This phoneme is from Set 3 on Read, Write Inc. When confronted with unfamiliar words or expressions, recognising the two potential sounds can help children practice decoding words that may look alike but sound very different. The primary purpose of this exercise is decoding of the ‘ow’ phoneme, but this can also be used to practise comprehension. Encourage them to try to infer meaning from the context of the sentence or story and then discuss if they worked it out correctly.