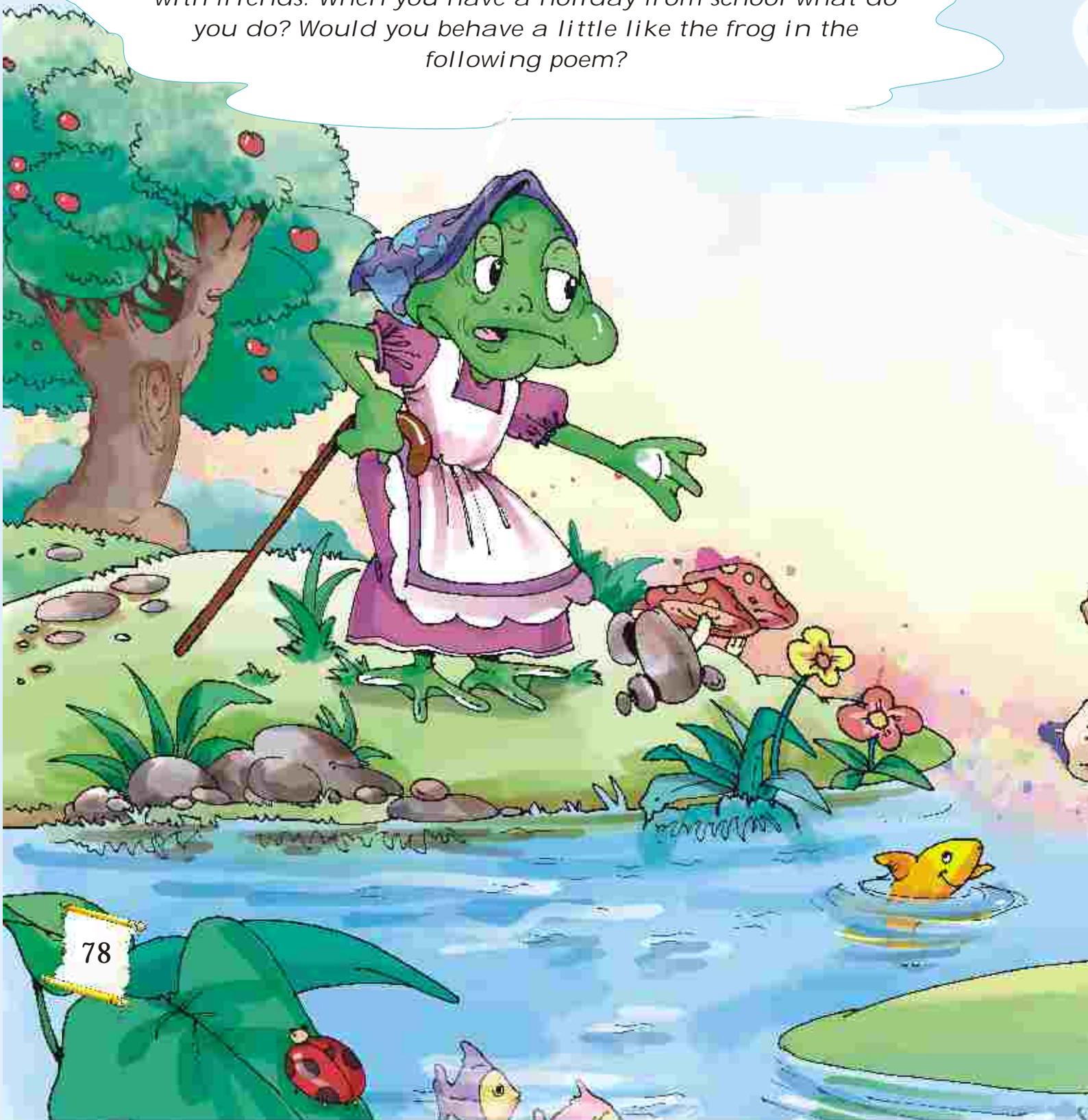


# The Lazy Frog

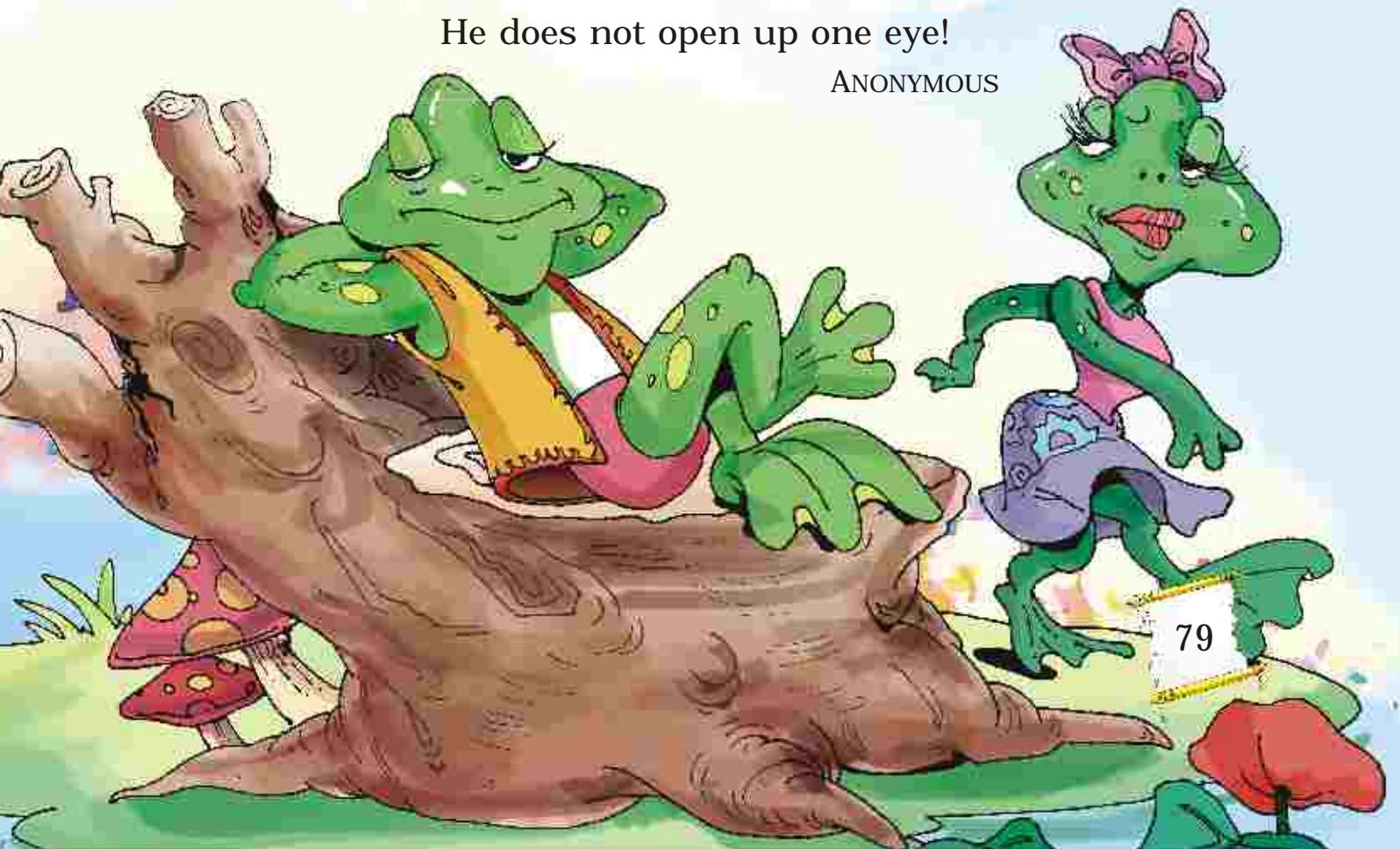
*On a school day, you are busy studying, playing and chatting with friends. When you have a holiday from school what do you do? Would you behave a little like the frog in the following poem?*

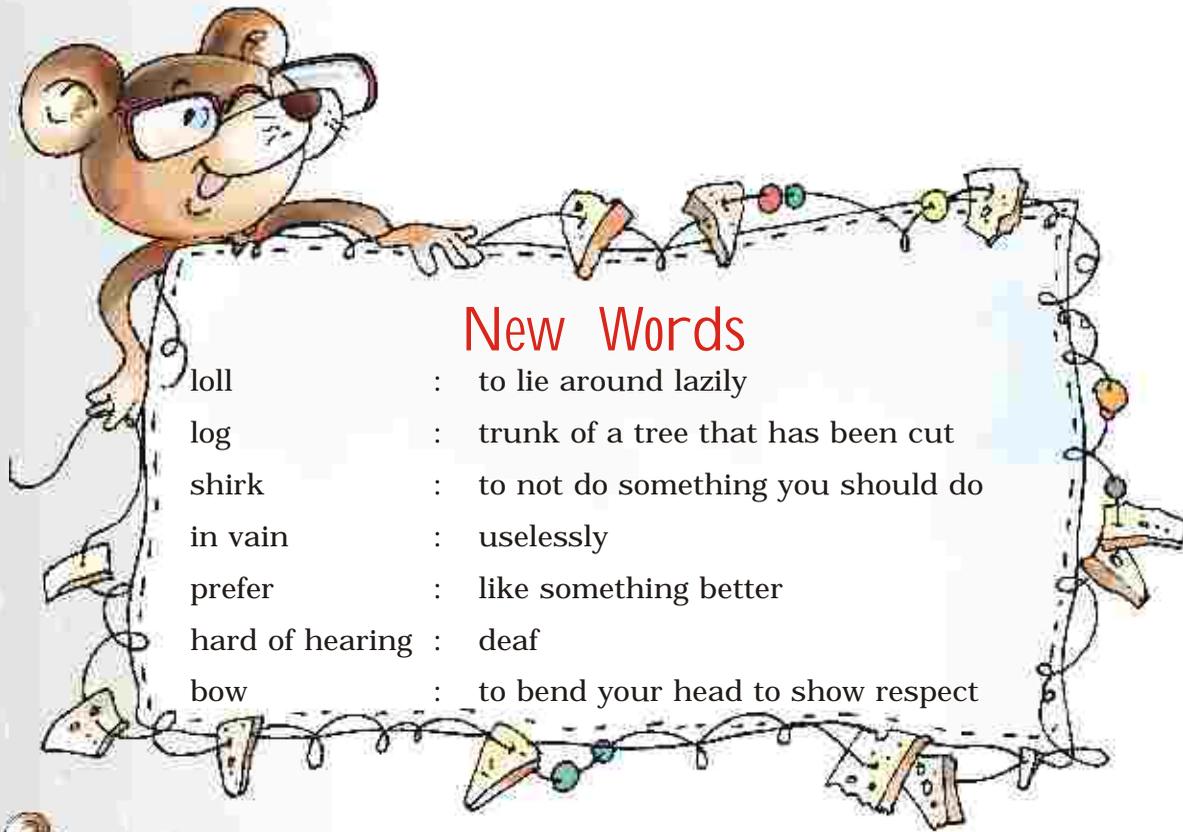


Fred is a very lazy frog  
Who lolls all day upon a log.  
He always manages to shirk  
Doing a single stroke of work.  
His poor old mother calls in vain  
“Come in and help!” he does not bother  
To move two inches, much preferring  
To be extremely hard-of-hearing.  
He lies there in a silent heap,  
And stays conveniently asleep.

If a lady frog hops past  
You’d think he would get up at last  
To bow, and help her on her way?  
But no, I am ashamed to say  
That when a lady frog comes by  
He does not open up one eye!

ANONYMOUS





## New Words

loll	:	to lie around lazily
log	:	trunk of a tree that has been cut
shirk	:	to not do something you should do
in vain	:	uselessly
prefer	:	like something better
hard of hearing	:	deaf
bow	:	to bend your head to show respect



## Let's Read

1. What did the frog do all day?
2. Besides lazy, what other word can you think of to describe the frog?  
*(Hint: how he behaved with his mother..., when a lady frog walked by..)*
3. Complete the sentences with reference to the poem.
  - (i) When the frog's mother called him, he pretended to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (ii) When a lady frog hops by, he does not even \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you like the frog's behaviour?



## Let's Write

Refer to the poem and understand.

The frog loved to laze and lie around all day.

He did not like to do any work at all.

Now make true sentences about yourself!

Write about the people you like, a game you play, a hobby, a habit you have. You may use the following clues.



I love.....

I like.....

I don't mind.....

I don't like.....

I hate.....



Try and find out the same from your family members also.



## Say Aloud

Add one more matching word to each pair. One has been done for you.

log

frog

dog

shirk

work

\_\_\_\_\_

vain

deign

\_\_\_\_\_

preferring

hearing

\_\_\_\_\_

heap

keep

\_\_\_\_\_

past

last

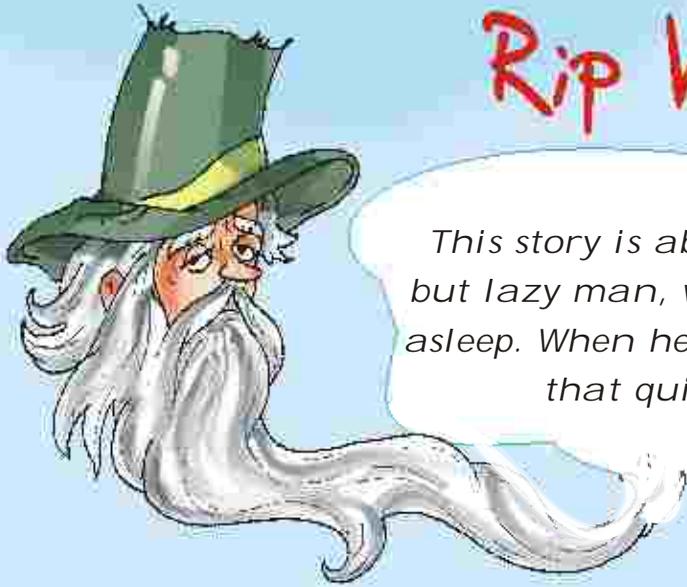
\_\_\_\_\_

way

say

\_\_\_\_\_

# Rip Van Winkle

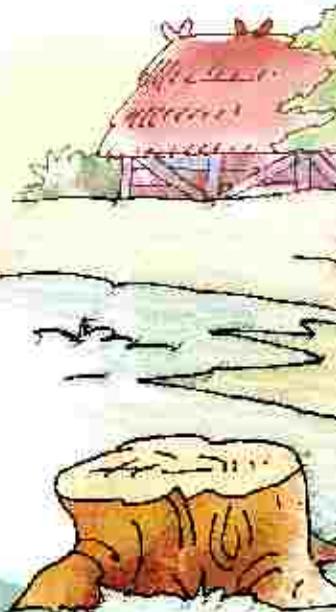


*This story is about Rip Van Winkle, a good-natured but lazy man, who goes away into the hills and falls asleep. When he awakens twenty years later, Rip finds that quite a few things have changed!*

Many years ago, at the foothills of the Kaatskill (Kat-skill) mountains, was a little village. In the village lived a simple, good-natured fellow named Rip Van Winkle. He was a kind neighbour, ready to help anyone. Everyone in the village liked him. The children of the village shouted with joy whenever they saw him because he played with them, he taught them to fly kites and shoot marbles, and told them long stories.

The only problem with Rip was that he was very lazy. He did no work on his own farm and just idled away his time. His fences were falling to pieces. His cow was going astray. Weeds grew on his farm. Rip's constant companion was his dog, named Wolf. To avoid work, he would walk away into the forest with his dog.

One day, Rip just walked on and on and reached the highest part of the mountains. It was late in the afternoon when he reached there. Tired after his long climb, he lay down and began daydreaming. It was soon evening and he realised it would be night by the time he





reached his village.

Suddenly, he heard a voice calling out, “Rip Van Winkle, Rip Van Winkle!” He looked around and saw a short, old man, with thick hair and a grizzled beard walking towards him with a barrel. He made signs to help

him carry the barrel. Rip hurried to help the stranger who caught his hand tightly. Together they reached a place where there were some more odd looking men, playing ninepins. They were all dressed the same way and all of them had beards of various shapes and colours. Even



though they were playing a game, their faces were serious and there was silence! The only sound was the noise of the balls, which echoed in the mountains like thunder.

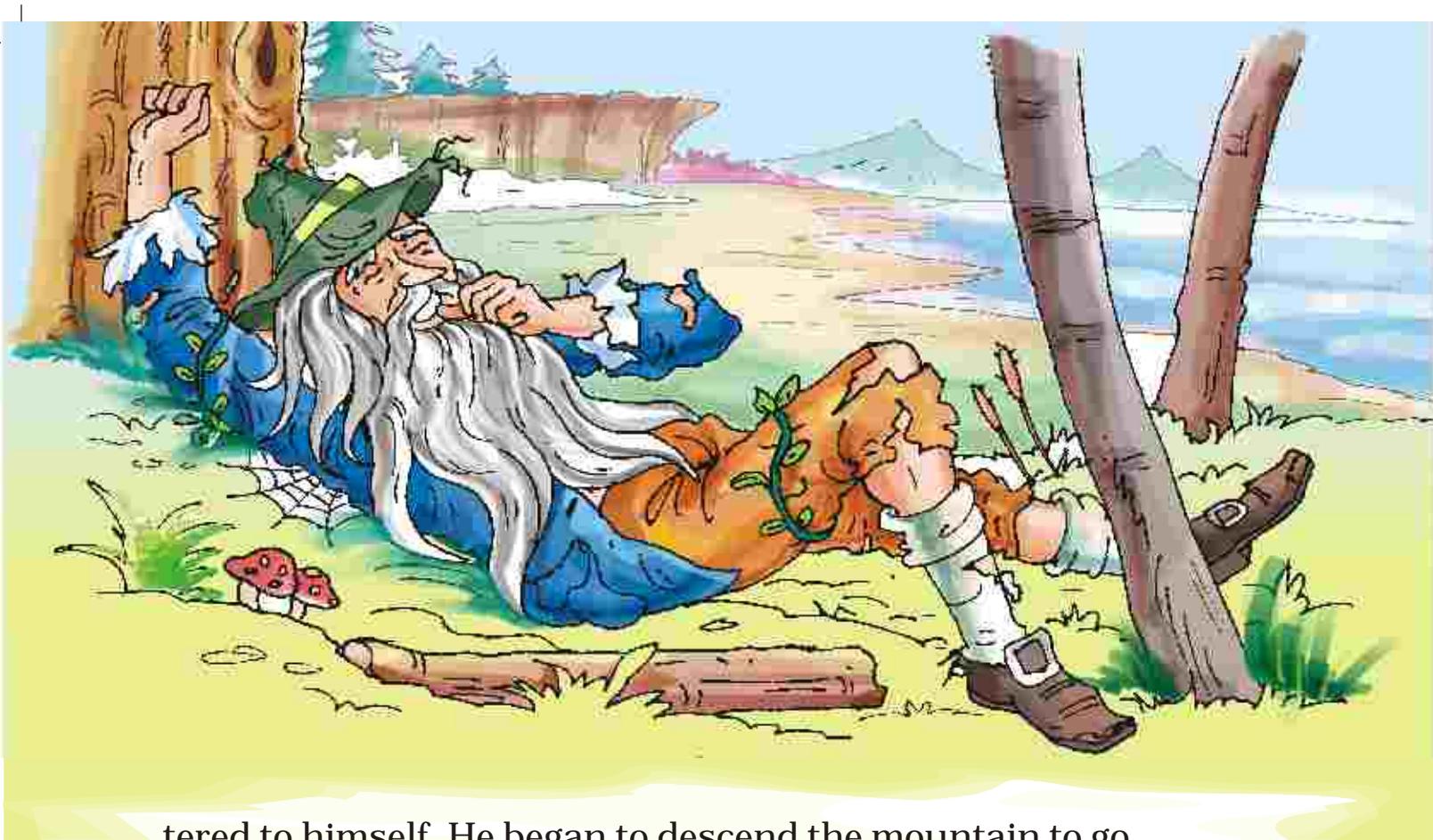
As Rip and his companion reached them, they stopped playing and stared at Rip with a fixed gaze. Rip was really frightened. His companion emptied the contents of the barrel into glasses and made Rip drink it. Rip obeyed as he was trembling with fear. Since he was thirsty he drank a few more glasses and slowly fell into a deep sleep.

On waking up, he found that he was at the place where he had first met the old man. He rubbed his eyes — it was a bright sunny morning. “Surely, I have not slept here all night,” thought Rip.

He looked around for Wolf, but he was nowhere. Rip whistled for him. “Wolf! Wolf!” he then shouted. No dog was to be seen. “Where has this dog gone?” he

mut





tered to himself. He began to descend the mountain to go back to his village.

As he neared the village, he met a number of people but he didn't know any of them. The villagers also stared at him equally surprised. "Who is this man?" said one.

"I've never seen him before," said another, "look at his long white beard and his wrinkled face."

On hearing this, Rip stroked his chin and, to his astonishment, he found his beard had grown a foot long, and it was all white!

An old woman walked up to him and looked at his face for a moment. Then she exclaimed — "It is Rip Van Winkle! Welcome home again, old neighbour! Where have you been these twenty long years?"





## Fun with New Words

(Adapted from *The legend of Rip Van Winkle* by Washington Irving)

1. Circle the correct meaning of the given words. You may need to use the dictionary.

idled away	wasted	rested	admired
constant	coffee	construct	steady
companion	dog	stranger	partner
realise	to understand	to set free	real
descend	to not send	to be decent	to move down
barrel	a wooden container	a musical instrument	a bag
contents	to be happy	the ingredients	the index of a book



2. Match the words in the box with their meanings. You may take the help of a dictionary.

grizzled      astonished      foothills  
 stroked      familiar

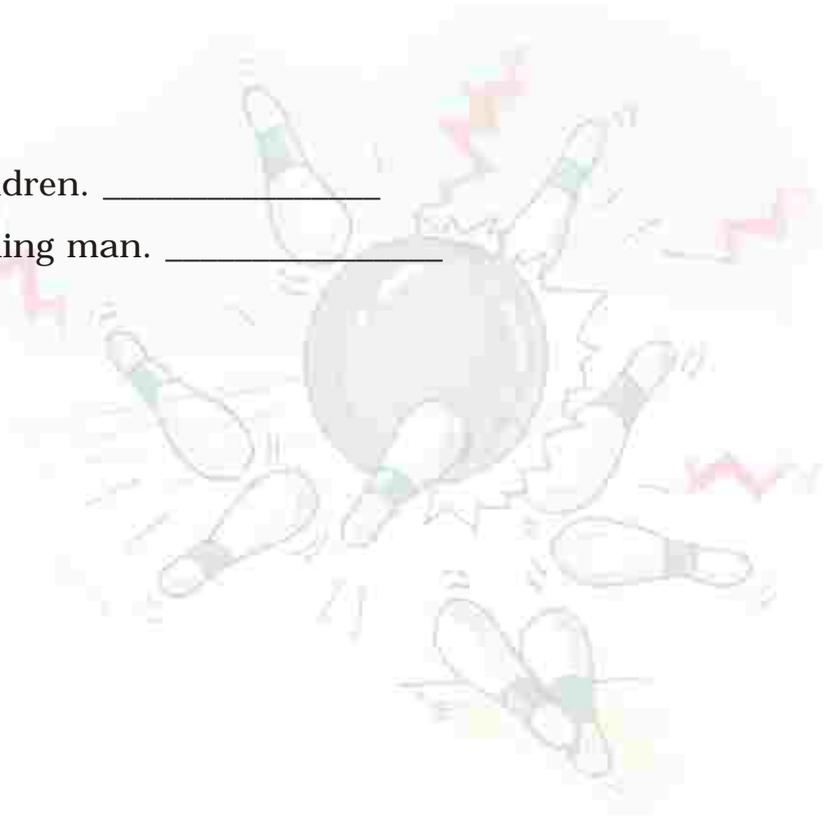
- near the lower part of a mountain \_\_\_\_\_
- with grey hair \_\_\_\_\_
- to rub gently \_\_\_\_\_
- surprised \_\_\_\_\_
- known to you \_\_\_\_\_



## Let's Read

1. Say whether the following sentences are **True** or **False**.

- (i) Rip was kind to children. \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) Rip was a hardworking man. \_\_\_\_\_



Let's Write

complete the given paragraph.

- long-sleeved                      high-heeled
- open-mouthed                  sweet-looking
- part-time



Mrs Das has a \_\_\_\_\_ job in a \_\_\_\_\_ shop. Yesterday, an \_\_\_\_\_ woman walked \_\_\_\_\_ She was wearing \_\_\_\_\_ shoes. A \_\_\_\_\_ dog was with her. "I want a \_\_\_\_\_ shirt for my dog, please," she said. "For your dog?" asked Mrs Das. \_\_\_\_\_ in surprise. "Yes," replied \_\_\_\_\_ woman. "I want him to be \_\_\_\_\_ my next party."

3. **Silent** letters

What is common in the following groups of words?

- (i) **k**nee, **k**nife, **k**not, **k**now
- (ii) neighbour, daughter, fight, st\_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) honest, honour, hour, heir \_\_\_\_\_



Try and make more silent letter words.

- g**nat : \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- t**ongue : \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- ch**alk : \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- wh**istle : \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

4. Read the two paragraphs given below.

My mother is always **awake** before anyone else in the family. I usually **wake up** after 6 o' clock. I loll around **lazily** for a few minutes. Then I **get up** and get dressed for school. At bedtime, I read a story book. When I feel tired I **lie down**

and go to sleep very **quickly**. I fall asleep in no time at all!

- (i) Now find the opposites of the following words from the paragraphs and complete the table.

awake	asleep
wake up	_____
get up	_____
lazily	_____

- (ii) Fill in the blanks using the words in the previous questions.

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ quickly! You will be late for school.
- (b) Shh! The baby is \_\_\_\_\_. Don't make a sound, or she will \_\_\_\_\_.
- (c) Are you still \_\_\_\_\_? You should be \_\_\_\_\_ now or you will not be able to \_\_\_\_\_ in the morning for school.



1. Lots of things must have happened in the village when Rip was away. Imagine you are the neighbour who greets Rip after 20 years. One student should act as Rip. Tell Rip about all that had happened in the village after he left.

*(Talk about what happened to his family, to his friends, to the other villagers, to the children he played with, the changes in the village...etc. Your teacher will guide you.)*

**You may start this way:** Guess what happened on the day you left. When you didn't come home in the evening, your wife...

2. Read the speech bubbles. Who walks to school most often?  
Put them in order.

1. Write about yourself using the following expressions (do you play in the park, go to bed late, fuss over food, study hard, etc.?)

always                      frequently                      usually

often                      sometimes                      rarely

For example: I always do my work neatly.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) \_\_\_\_\_

(v) \_\_\_\_\_



### Let's Talk

2. Use the following clues to complete the following exercise.

play   stop   buy   learn   see   meet   learn   be  
eat   go   travel   start   read   visit

(i) Write three **new things you have done** in the last three years.

(a) I have started \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

**Anu**  
I **don't usually** walk to school. I often go by cycle.

**John**  
I **never** walk to school. I live very

**Arjun**  
I **always** walk to school. I live right opposite the school.

**Mini**  
I **sometimes** walk to school, at times I take the bus also.

**Nazim**  
I **usually** walk to school. It's a nice way to start the day.



## Creative Writing

- (ii) Write three **things you have not done** in the last three years.



Poem: *The Lazy Frog*  
Story: *Rip Van Winkle*

### THEMES

Value of time  
Social behaviour  
Discouraging laziness  
Encouraging hard work

### READING TIME

The meanings of the difficult words have to be explained alongside. The children should also learn to use the dictionary on their own. Silent reading by the students should be done before attempting the **Let's Read** exercises. This will help them to develop the reading skills of skimming and scanning.

### CONVERSATION TIME

Each child should get a chance to be Rip's neighbour. Let them speak sentences that are in the lesson. The children should also be encouraged to imagine what all had happened in the twenty years that Rip was away. However, the teacher should see that they don't commit factual errors that contradict the main storyline.  
E.g. all those playing the part of the village children can have English names.

### WRITING TIME

Many of the questions are open-ended and could have a variety of responses. This should be encouraged. Some of the exercises in the unit are reflective and allow the child to think about and understand his likes and dislikes.

### PROJECT WORK

The meaning of the proverb 'Time and tide wait for no man' can make an important contribution to the character-building of the children.

The importance of being on time must also be stressed upon and the children should be asked to cite examples and situations from their own lives.

