



BOOK WEEK SECTION

Have you ever read a book of interesting stories or very clear descriptions of far-away places? How did you feel toward the book?

Here is a poem in which a child tells what he thinks about the value of a good book. Read it through and find the part that tells about a good book's worth. Read it aloud.

Read the parts that answer the following questions.

For what two things does the speaker wish?

About what things does he read in books?

(Nook means corner)

Oh for a book and shady nook
 Either indoors or out;
 With the green leaves whispering overhead
 Or the street cries all about
 Where I may read all to my ease
 Both of the new and old;
 For a jolly good book whereon to look
 Is better to me than gold.

If a book is better than gold, how should you use it?

Here is a poem entitled "The Goops." It tells about what the goops do with the books they read. Are you a goop? If not, how do you handle a book?

THE GOOPS

The Goops, they wet their fingers
 To turn the leaves of books;
 And then they crease the corners down
 And think that no one looks.
 They print the marks of dirty hands,
 Of lollypops and gum,
 On picture books and fairy books
 As often as they come.

The poem below tells about children who are not "goops." Find out what they do and what they do not do when handling a book.

"You are old, little book," the small boy said,
 "Yet your pages are still clean and white,

Your covers are stiff and your corners are straight,
 Do you think at your age it is right?"
 "In my youth," said the book, "I came into hands
 Of children who 'handled with care';
 They opened me gently, their fingers were clean,

My margins they kept clean and fair."
 "They never used pencils as bookmarks,
 nor tried
 To pull me apart in their strife.
 With such kindly treatment my strength
 and my looks
 Will last me the rest of my life."

Playing Soldier

Words by CAROLYN BAILEY

Music by I. ALFONSO

The musical score for "Playing Soldier" is written in 6/8 time. It features a melody line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "Rub - a - dub - dub! Rub - a - dub - dub! Rub - a - dub - dub - a - dub boom! The sol-diers are march-ing make room, make room. Shoul - der your knap sack and put on your hat a plume or a cockade you'll fasten to that put on your hat a plume or a cockade you'll fasten to that Pick up your drum sticks and steadi - ly beat. Rub - a - dub - dub marks the time for your feet. Rub - a - dub - dub! Rub - a - dub - dub! Rub - a - dub - dub - a - dub boom! The sol-diers are march-ing make room, make room." The score includes dynamic markings such as "cresc." and "rit." and a repeat sign at the end.