Spring Surprises

by Guy Belleranti

Spring has arrived with surprises.

A lot of them are weird.

My Dad is growing fins and gills

My goldfish grew a beard.

Zoo animals are leafing out.

Gardens are sprouting fur.

Cats are meowing, "Ruff, ruff, ruff"

And dogs are saying, "Purrrrrr".



Bees are making chocolate milk.

Cows are giving honey.

Birds aren't singing, they're telling jokes!

Most of them are funny.

Kids are going to work each day.

Parents are back in schools.

And here's the top surprise of all—

Happy April Fool's!

Name:		
_		

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1. What does the last line of the poem reveal about the events that happen earlier in the poem?



- a. The poet is describing a dream he had.
- **b.** The wacky events the poet describes didn't really happen.
- **c.** The poet is from a magical land where things are backward.
- d. The poet is telling a bedtime story to his son.
- 2. What is the tone, or mood, of this poem?
 - **a.** sorrowful
- **b.** hopeful
- **c.** dreamy
- d. humorous
- 3. Onomatopoeia is a long, fancy word that describes words that mimic sounds. Examples of onomatopoeia are: buzz, zoom, bang, bow-wow, clip-clop, hiss, and honk.

Find two examples of onomatopoeia from the poem.

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4. What is the rhyming pattern of this poem? Use the letters A, B, C, and D.

Name: _____

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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the poem.

Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



1. s ___ o u __ i n g

clue: budding; growing

1. _____

2. ___ e ___ r ___

clue: strange; unusual

2.

3. ___ o ___ y

clue: sweet sticky liquid made by

bees

3. _____

4. ___ u ___ p ___ i ___ e

4. _____

clue: an unexpected event

5. g ___ s

5.

clue: organs in fish that allow them

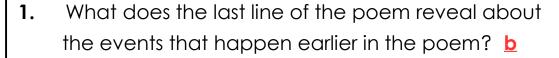
to breathe

Name:
Spring Surprises
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In the poem, "Spring Surprises," the poet describes a series of wacky events that turn out to be an April Fool's joke.
Have you ever pulled a prank on April Fool's Day? Has someone ever "fooled" you on the first of April? Describe what
happened on the lines below.

ANSWER KEY

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Find two examples of onomatopoeia from the poem.

Ruff and **Purrrrrr**

- **4.** What is the rhyming pattern of this poem? Use the letters A, B, C, and D.
 - A
- <u>B</u>
- <u>C</u>
- <u>B</u>

ANSWER KEY

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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the poem.

Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



1. sprouting

s p r o u t i n g 1.

clue: budding; growing

clue: strange; unusual

2. weird weird

3. <u>h</u> o <u>n</u> <u>e</u> y

2.

3. honey clue: sweet sticky liquid made by

bees

4. surprise 4. surprise

clue: an unexpected event

5. gills 5. gills

clue: organs in fish that allow them to breathe