

 This text is from *The Macmillan First Nursery Collection: The Emperor's New Clothes and Other Stories* and is retold by Mary Hoffman.

Dick Whittington

There was once a little boy called Dick Whittington who had a very difficult start in life. He lived in a village in England where food was scarce. And it became even scarcer for Dick after both his parents died. The little boy was left an orphan and had to beg for food from the villagers.

He grew up a very hungry and skinny child, always dreaming of what it must be like to have a full stomach. Sometimes Dick heard people talk of London, the great city that was the capital of England.

The way they talked made it seem as if everyone in London was a rich lady or gentleman. "The streets are paved with gold there," they said. And that made Dick dream of a grand city with golden pavements where, if you were hungry, you could just break off a bit of gold and exchange it for a meat pie.

He determined that the only way to make his fortune was to get to London. One day he saw a wagon and he guessed it might be going to London. The wagoner was a kind man and took pity on the ragged boy who wanted to see the big city, so he gave him a lift.

Dick couldn't believe his eyes when he saw London. The buildings were so tall and grand, the streets were full of horses and carriages and there were people absolutely everywhere. Dick had never seen so many people all together.

"But where is the gold?" thought Dick. He searched everywhere, but the roads and pavements seemed made of dirt to him, not of precious gold.

He didn't know how to pay for food and his lodgings were the same dirty streets. He begged for a few pence, but Londoners weren't as kind as the people in his own village, who knew him. So Dick went hungry.

He had nothing to eat for three days, and on the fourth he fainted on the doorstep of a rich merchant.



 This poem is by Richard Edwards.

How?

How did the sun get up in the sky?
-A billy goat tossed it up too high,
Said my uncle.

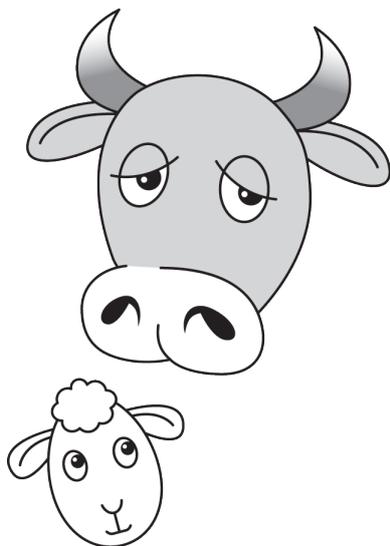
How did the stars get up there too?
-They're sparks from the thunder-horse's shoe,
Said my uncle.

And tell me about the moon as well.
-The moon jumped out of an oyster shell,
Said my uncle.

And how did the oceans get so deep?
-I'll tell you tomorrow. Now go to sleep,
Said my uncle.



 This poems is by Robert Clairmont.



The Answers

"When did the world begin and how?"
I asked a lamb, a goat, a cow:

"What's it all about and why?"
I asked a hog as he went by:

"Where will the whole thing end, and when?"
I asked a duck, a goose and a hen:

And I copied all the answers too,
A quack, a honk, an oink, a moo.

Name:	Class:	Date:
-------	--------	-------

Dick Whittington

- 1 Dick had a *difficult start in life*. In what way was the beginning of his life difficult? Write **one** thing.

	AF2
1 mark	

- 2 Why did Dick want to go to London? Explain your answer as fully as you can, using the story to help you.

	AF2
2 marks	

- 3 Draw lines to **match** each word with **who** or **what** it describes in the story.

Word

skinny

kind

great

Who or what it describes

the wagoner

the city of London

Dick Whittington

	AF2
1 mark	

- 4 *Dick couldn't believe his eyes when he saw London.*

What did Dick find so amazing when he first got to London? Write **two** things.

1 _____

2 _____

	AF2
2 marks	

	/ 6
Total for this page	

5 Why was Dick disappointed by the pavements in London?

AF3
1 mark

6 When Dick got to London, *his lodgings were the same dirty streets*.
What does this mean? Tick **one**.

- The streets in London were all the same.
- Dick had no home and had to sleep outside.
- Dick didn't have any money to pay for food.
- The lodgings in London were all full.

AF3
1 mark

7 **Number** these sentences **in the order** in which they happen in the story.
The first one has been done for you.

- Dick got a lift to London in a wagon.
- Dick fainted because he was so hungry.
- 1 Dick lived in a village in England.
- Dick begged for food on the London streets.
- Dick heard people talk about London.

AF4
1 mark

8 Which of the following sentences **best** describes Dick's life so far? Tick **one**.

- His early life was hard but it got better when he met the wagoner.
- His early life was hard because he lived in London.
- His early life was hard and it stayed that way in London.
- His early life was hard but it got easier when he went to London.

AF3
1 mark

/ 10
Total for this test

Name:	Class:	Date:
-------	--------	-------

How?/The Answers

1 Look at the poem 'How?'. Who is answering all the questions?

	AF2
1 mark	

2 Look at the poem 'How?'. What are the questions in this poem **mostly** about? Tick **one**.

- where the stars are
- shells in the ocean
- the solar system
- how we live on earth

	AF2
1 mark	

3 Look at the poem 'How?'.
Draw lines to match the question in the poem with the answer.

Question about...

Answer

the sun

came out of a shell

the stars

came from a horse's shoe

the moon

thrown by a goat

	AF2
1 mark	

4 Look at the poem 'How?'.
The answer to the last question is: *I'll tell you tomorrow. Now go to sleep.*
Why do you think this answer is given?

	AF3
1 mark	

	/ 4
Total for this page	

5 Look at the poem 'The Answers'.
A quack, a honk, an oink, a moo.
 Why were they 'the answers'?

AF3
1 mark

6 Think about the rhyme in 'The Answers'. Which of these is **true**? Tick **one**.

- Lines 1 and 3 rhyme.
- Lines 5 and 6 rhyme.
- Lines 4 and 5 rhyme.
- Lines 2 and 6 rhyme.

AF4
1 mark

7 Think about both poems. **Tick** to show which question appears in which poem. One has been done for you.

	'How?'	'The Answers'
When will the world end?		
How did the stars get in the sky?	✓	
How did the world start?		
Why are the oceans so deep?		

AF2
2 marks

8 Think about the two poems. Which did you enjoy more and why?
 Explain your answer as fully as you can, using the poems to help you.

How? The Answers

AF6
2 marks

/ 10
Total for this test