

Slinking Snake

Read the poem "Slinking Snake" below and try to answer the questions on the next page.

Slinking snake, slimy snake, slithering snake,
Through the dry bamboo,
Curling through stalks,
Silently squirming through the forest
Rapid, darting tongue forks.

Slinking snake, slimy snake, slithering snake,
Eyes unblinking, dark and sharp,
Concentration looking for prey.
A crackling scurry in the undergrowth,
That's the food for the day!

Slinking snake, slimy snake, slithering snake,
Stalking its meal through grass
With a busy tongue and mesmerising eyes,
Body coiled and ready to strike,
Hoping to engulf its prize.

Questions

1. In the poem, there is one line repeated three times.
 - A) What do you notice about it?
 - B) Why has the poet done this?
 - C) Has the poet done this anywhere else in the poem?
 - D) Do you know what this is called?
2. What clues are in the poem that tell you where it is set?
3. What do you think might have made "a crackling scurry"?
4. What does **mesmerising** mean?
5. What four words are used to describe the snake's eyes?
6. The poet has used the words "**stalks**" and "**stalking**", they have different meanings. What are they?
7. What other word could be used instead of engulf?