

# **SUPPLEMENTARY READER**

## **STD-VIII**

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH**

**CHAPTER NUMBER:4**

**PERIOD NUMBER : 1**

**CHAPTER NAME :THE SONG OF THE WHALE**

**POET:KIT WRIGHT**

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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# EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Recitation of the poem
- Being acquainted with poem and poet's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the poem
- Developing LSRW Skills

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES/ EXTENDED OBJECTIVES

- Recitation of the poem
- Being acquainted with poem and poet's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the poem
- Developing LSRW Skills



# INTRODUCTION TO THE POET



**Kit Wright** (born 17 June 1944 in [Crockham Hill, Kent](#)) is the author of more than twenty-five books, for both adults and children,<sup>[1]</sup> and the winner of awards including an Arts Council Writers' Award, the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, the [Hawthornden](#) Prize, the Alice Hunt Bartlett Prize and the Heinemann Award. After a scholarship to Oxford University, he worked as a lecturer at Brock University, St Catherine's, in Canada, then returned to England and a position in the Poetry Society. He is currently a full-time writer.

Born: 17 June 1977, Crockham Hill, United Kingdom.  
Nationality: English Genres: children's literature  
Award:Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, Hawthornden Prize, Cholmondeley Award

# THEME OF THE POEM

The poet is feeling for the plight of the whale who is being personified with all human feelings and is suffering due to human cruelty and selfishness. The innocent animal is killed for the benefit of human as many products are made from the whale body parts. The poet seems to be invoking the whale that she feels for this innocent animal as it is killed for no fault of its own. The animal is sacrificed for the cruel human. The animal can't fight back when all its flesh, blood and other parts are extracted. only other sound's the sweep/ of easy wind and downy flake" gives the feeling of serenity and calm when admiring the wintery scene. The poem also gives the reader a feeling of discomfort



# CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

It is about a sympathetic boy who believes we're killing whales for not necessary things.

The poet writes about the merciless and pointless killing of magnificent animals to satisfy human needs which is done for things like the whales fat, used in making soap, and in many other things including lipstick and shoe polish. I think it is pointless that these animals are being killed for things that we don't need.

# EXPLANATION

- ***“Heaving mountain-----your dying”***
- The poet has compared the whale to a crying mountain which is in a deep state of unhappiness as it has been in coma since the human have started preying on them, hunting them to satisfy their needs and human have been using these innocent animals and victimizing them to cater to their selfish needs.
- Vocabulary-
  - heaving-rising and falling
  - grieving-feeling extremely sad
- Poetic devices—metaphor-
  - mountain-the whale compared to a mountain
  - personification.
  - grieving, crying-the whale is being presented as crying and grieving for its loss

# EXPLANATION

- ***“Lipstick for our painted faces-----like a heartbeat”***

The poet vividly mentions that many beauty products are prepared from the body parts of the whale. Calling out itself as a mountain, the poet feels very sorry that it suffers due to heartless attitude of the humans. The whales are keenly personified who cry for their siblings who are in deep sadness over the loss of their kith and kin to the human cruelty.

Vocabulary---

tumbling-falling quickly with a rolling movement

keening-singing a loud sad song

Poetic Device- Personification-

the whale behaving like a human

simile- the whale's keening seems like heartbeat

# EXPLANATION

- “**We would make you-----polish for our shoes”**

The human will make the whale dumb after they are silenced by perpetual killing. In the forest of the sea, only the sadness and wailing of the whale is heard. The poet invokes all that we should be kind to the silent animals and save their life.

- Poetic devices—Metaphor

In the forest of the sea---

Sea is compared to a forest

Refrain----

Lipstick for our painted faces

Polish for our shoes

# HOMEWORK----

Solve the questions in notebook, 1 page handwriting

**THANK YOU**  
**ODM EDUCATIONAL GROUP**