

Daddy Fell into the Pond by Alfred Noyes

Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey.
We had nothing to do and nothing to say.
We were nearing the end of a dismal day.
And there seemed to be nothing beyond,

Then

Daddy fell into the pond!

And everyone's face grew merry and bright,
And Timothy danced for sheer delight.
"Give me the camera, quick, oh quick!
He's crawling out of the duckweed!" Click!

Then the gardener suddenly slapped his knee
And doubled up, shaking silently,
And the ducks all quacked as if they were daft,
And it sounded as if the old drake laughed.
Oh there wasn't a thing that didn't respond

When

Daddy fell into the pond!



Name:

Date:

Read the text, then answer the questions.

1. What is the poet trying to do with the two short sentences on the first line of the poem?

2. In the third line of the poem, what word with the same meaning could have been used instead of "dismal"?

3. What sort of day do you think that the narrator has had, from the details in verse 1? Explain using evidence from the text.

4. How does the mood of the characters change between verse 1 and verse 2? Why does this happen?

5. What does Timothy do in verse 2? Tick all that apply.

He takes a photograph. He laughs at Dad.

He crawls out of the duckweed. He dances around.

6. Tick **true** or **false** to the following statements from verse 3 of the poem.

	True	False
The gardener was laughing very hard.		
Everyone and everything reacted in some way.		
The old duck was silent and shocked.		
The ducks made lots of noise.		

7. What do you think Dad might say? What do you think might happen next?
