

## Understanding the text

- 1 What is the setting for the poem?
- 2 Who are the characters in the poem?
- 3 In what season does the poem take place?
- 4 What living things does the poet see?
- 5 What has the poet played on in the children's playground?

## Looking at language

- 6 Explain these phrases in your own words.

**a** slipped off      **b** well on its way      **c** turned to grey stone

- 7 Explain the meaning of these words as they are used in the poem. Use a dictionary to help you.

**a** announced      **b** scampered      **c** flick      **d** briefly      **e** tug

## Exploring the poem

- 8 Explain in your own words why Dad thought it was a good idea to go to the park.
- 9 What are these similes describing?  
**a** soundless as snails      **b** sharp as vinegar
- 10 Do you think they are good descriptions? Why? Why not?
- 11 What does the poet mean when he describes the slide as 'lonely'?
- 12 Why do think the poet describes the slide as having a 'slippery, red tongue'?
- 13 How do you think the poet felt about the trip to the park with his Dad? Explain your reasons.