



Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Grade 3

Answer Key

The Old Oak Tree

*The old oak tree stands tall and wide,
its branches reaching far and free,
like arms stretched out on every side,
inviting birds to stop and see.*

*Its trunk is rough like elephant skin,
gray and wrinkled, thick and strong,
it's stood through storms and held within
the rings that count how long, how long.*

*In autumn, leaves turn gold and red,
they flutter down like tiny kites,
and make a crunchy, colorful bed
below the tree on cool fall nights.*

*Squirrels dash up its bark like stairs,
and robins build their nests up high,
the old oak tree has time to spare
for every creature passing by.*

*Long after I have grown and gone,
this oak will still be standing there,
a quiet friend from dusk to dawn,*

still reaching out its arms of care.

Circle the Correct Answer

1. What does the poem compare the oak tree's branches to?

Answer: a) Arms stretched out on every side

2. What does the poem compare the tree's trunk to?

Answer: b) Elephant skin

3. What does the poem compare falling leaves to?

Answer: a) Tiny kites

4. According to the last stanza, what will the oak tree still be doing long after the speaker has grown?

Answer: a) Standing there as a quiet friend

True or False

5. The poem says squirrels dash up the tree's bark like stairs.

Answer: True

6. Robins build their nests low to the ground in this poem.

Answer: False

7. The poem suggests the oak tree will still stand long after the speaker has grown up.

Answer: True

Fill in the Blank

8. The poem says the leaves make a crunchy, colorful _____ below the tree.

Answer: bed

9. The oak's rings count how _____ the tree has stood through storms.

Answer: long

Think and Explain

10. This poem uses similes, comparisons using the words "like" or "as." Find two similes in the poem and explain what each one helps you picture or understand about the tree.

Sample answer: Accept reasonable answers identifying similes such as 'branches...like arms stretched out,' 'trunk is rough like elephant skin,' 'leaves...flutter down like tiny kites,' or 'squirrels dash up its bark like stairs,' explaining how each comparison helps the reader picture the tree's size, texture, or

the movement of its leaves and animals more vividly.