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Reread the story and look back at the graphic organizer. Circle each correct answer.

- Where did the turkey, squirrel, and blue jay sit to watch the trucks?
 - on a hill
 - in an oak tree
 - on a bench
 - in a nest
- Which one did not drive by?
 - a station wagon
 - a garbage truck
 - a delivery van
 - a freight truck
- Which vehicle went past the animals third?
 - a delivery van
 - a freight truck
 - a garbage truck
 - a dump truck
- What word describes the freight truck as it went by?
 - clattered
 - rattled
 - whooshed
 - sped
- What did the animals eat after the trucks went by?
 - acorns
 - seeds
 - grass
 - cornmeal

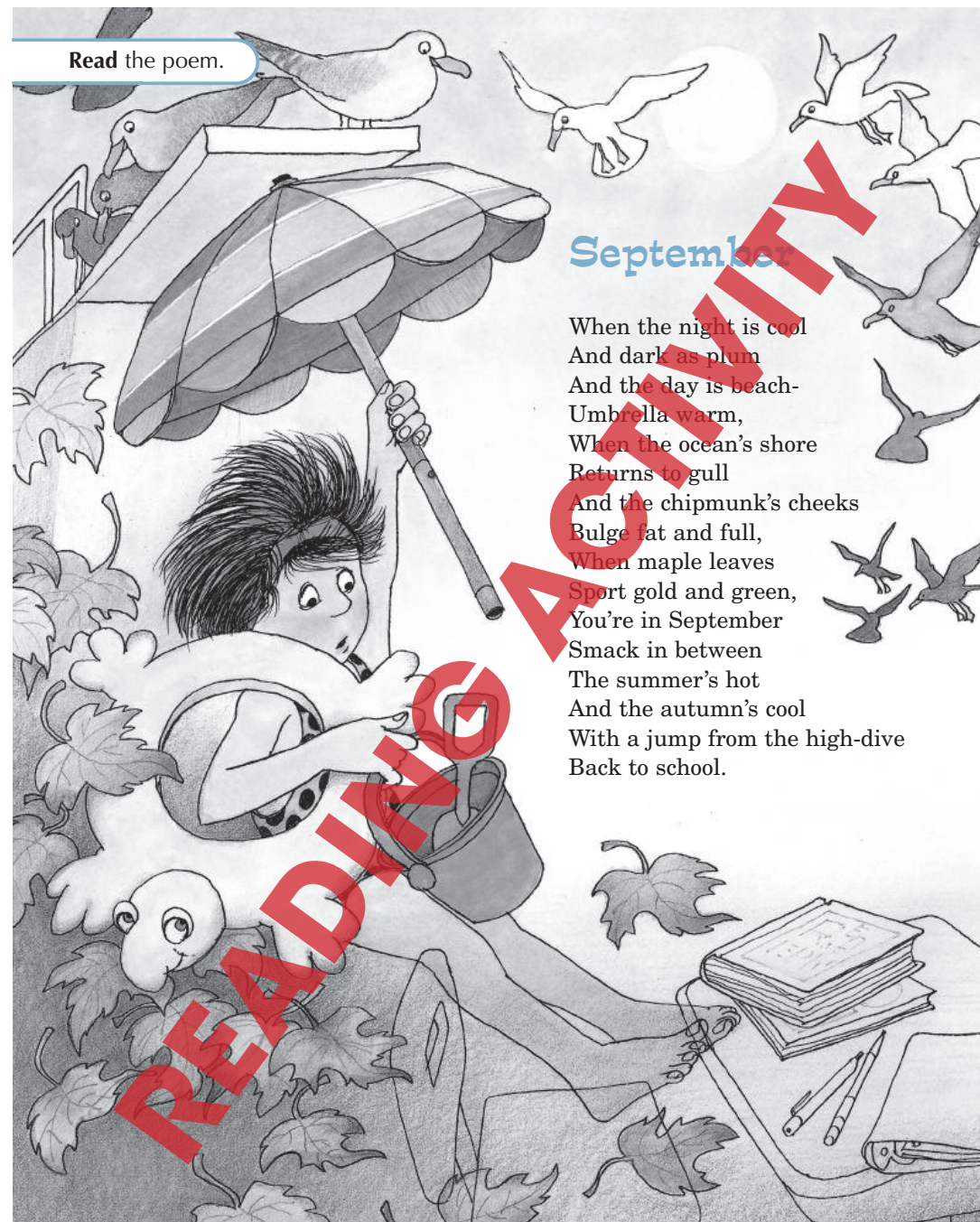
Analyze and Write

What do you think? Write your answers below.

6. Why did the animals call each truck a "nutcracker"?

7. Why did the squirrel say the freight truck was "the biggest and best nutcracker of all"?

Read the poem.



September

When the night is cool
And dark as plum
And the day is beach-
Umbrella warm,
When the ocean's shore
Returns to gull
And the chipmunk's cheeks
Bulge fat and full,
When maple leaves
Sport gold and green,
You're in September
Smack in between
The summer's hot
And the autumn's cool
With a jump from the high-dive
Back to school.

Analyze and Write

What do you think? Write your answers below.

5. Why does the author say September is "smack in between"?

6. What part of the month of September do you like best . . . "a beach-umbrella day" or "the high dive back to school"? Why?

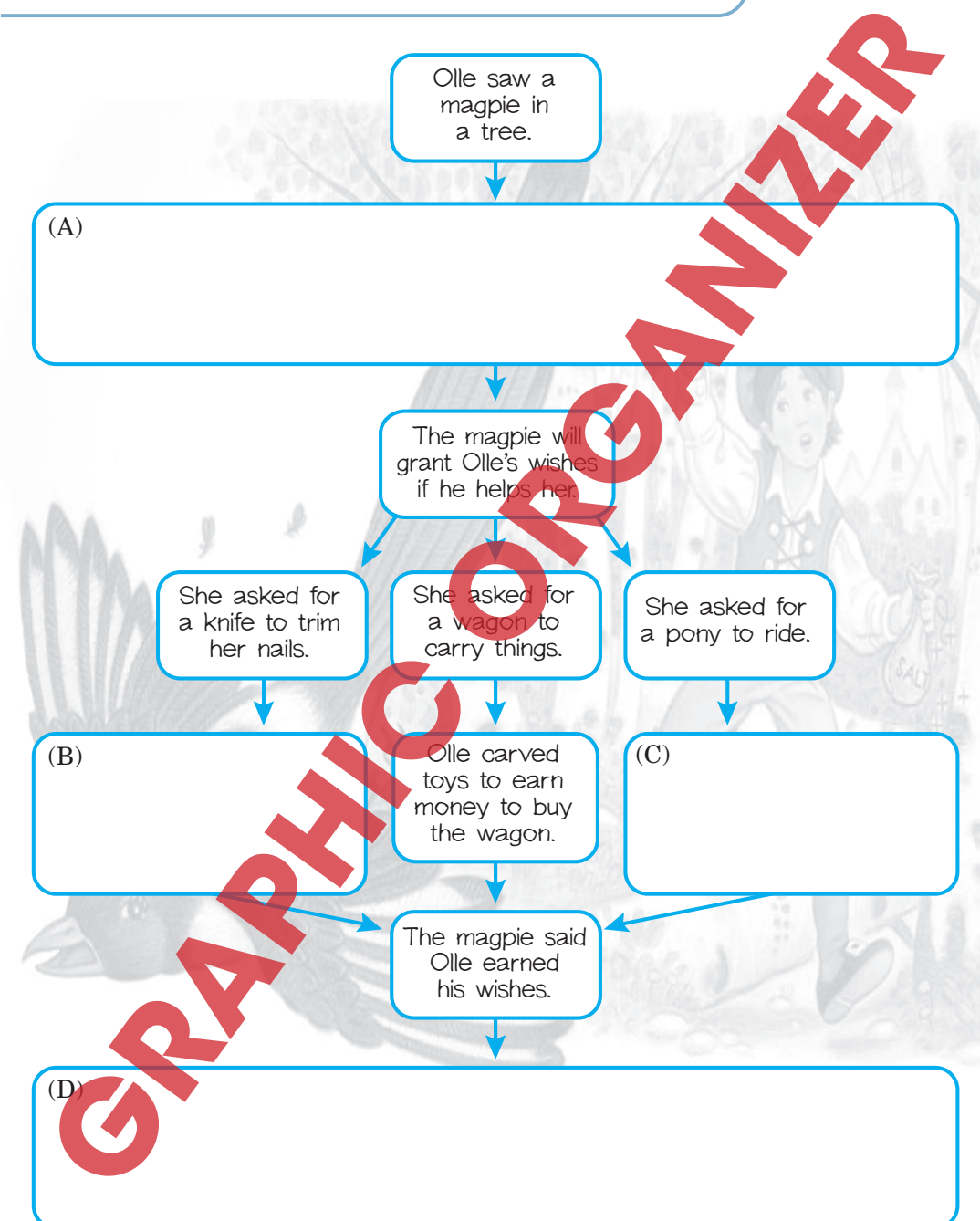
7. Would "Autumn" be a good title for this poem? Why or why not?

Think and Write

Use what you know and what you have just learned. Write your answer below.

8. Write four more lines for the poem. (Think of other sights, smells, and events that happen in September.)

Complete the graphic organizer with information from the story.



Think and Write

Use what you know and what you have learned. Write your answers below.

8. Do you think the magpie was trying to teach Olle something? Why or why not?

9. What did Olle learn in this story?

Complete the graphic organizer with information from the story.

Mandy's life during the drought

Mandy took a bath with such little water that her boat could hardly float.

Mandy turned off the water when she brushed her teeth.

(A) Daddy _____

(B) Mother _____

(C) Clouds _____

What happens when it rains

Rain will make plants grow.

Rain made tap-tap-tap sounds like fingers on glass.

The sky was dark gray like Smoky's fur.

(E) Rain looks like _____

Rain will turn the hills green.

(D) Rain is wet and cool. It prickles and _____

(F) Mandy _____

Reread the story and **study** the graphic organizer. Circle each correct answer.

- This story is about
 - a smart cat
 - a magic chair
 - a little mouse
 - a good book
- Tara liked to read mystery stories every
 - morning
 - noon
 - night
 - evening
- Squiggles was supposed to sit on Tara's lap or on a
 - bed
 - blanket
 - sofa
 - chair

Analyze and Write

Interpret the story and graphic organizer. Write your answers below.

- When did Tara always see the chair rocking? _____
- What three things did Tara do to solve the mystery? _____
- Why did Tara cut the blanket in two? _____

Complete the graphic organizer with information from the story.

Mom took out the ingredients and ate a few chocolate chips. She said, "Mmm, chocolate chips." Then Mom _____

Dad ate a few chocolate chips. He said, "Mmm, chocolate chips." Then he _____

Sister ate some chocolate chips. She said, "Mmm, chocolate chips." Then she _____

Big Brother ate some chocolate chips. He said, "Mmm, chocolate chips." Then he _____

Big Brother's friends said, "Mmm, chocolate chips." They ate some chocolate chips. Then they _____

Little Brother ate all the rest of the chocolate chips one by one. He said, "All gone." Then he _____

Mom baked the cookies and put them in a jar.