

**A** Read the story. What happens when the boy falls asleep?

**B** Read the story again. How does the boy describe what he visualizes? Remember, poets choose words carefully to help readers see pictures in their minds.

# VISUALIZING NATURE

Yesterday afternoon, I was watching TV when I fell asleep. While I was sleeping, pictures floated through my mind. First, I saw a **robin** with a bright red front. It was hopping on dry, colorful leaves in our yard. In my mind, I visualize the robin joining other robins. The robins are beautiful as they fly through the sky.

## Think

What pictures does the writer see in his mind?

Then I saw **snowflakes** dancing in the air. They were big and white. They looked like frozen dancers performing an icy dance.

When I woke up, I decided to write a poem to tell what I saw in my dreams. "What words should I use?" I asked myself. I will use action **verbs** to describe the robin flying and hopping. I will use an **adjective** to describe how the robins looked when they flew all together. And I will use lots of other adjectives to describe the snowflakes: *big, white, frozen*.

## Think

What pictures does the writer see in his mind?



I think about poems I know: acrostic poems, haikus, cinquain poems, nature poems, and funny poems. Some of the poems use **rhyming words**. Others have a specific number of **syllables**. I ask myself, "What kind of poem do I want to write?" I sit down at my desk and take out a piece of paper and a pencil. And then I begin to write.

## Comprehension

- A** Why does the boy write a poem? What was one of the things he visualized? What did he say they looked like to him?
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- B** Answer the questions. Check (✓) more than one answer for some questions.

1 What happens when the boy falls asleep?

- ☐ a He writes a poem.  
☐ b He gets hungry.  
☐ c He sees pictures in his mind.  
☐ d He watches TV.

2 What will he write about?

- ☐ a robins  
☐ b ladybugs  
☐ c kangaroos  
☐ d snowflakes

3 What kinds of words will he use?

- ☐ a adverbs  
☐ b verbs  
☐ c syllables  
☐ d adjectives

4 Which words rhyme?

- ☐ a fly  
☐ b white  
☐ c sky  
☐ d robin

- C Words in Context** Match each word to its definition.

1 exact •

• a to watch or see someone or something

2 describe •

• b to make a picture of something in your mind

3 observe •

• c completely correct

4 imagine •

• d to say what someone or something is like