

**IMPORTANT** Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

**1. Read a poem**

- Read *Dancing Disk in the Sky*. Read the poem twice – once in your head and once out loud.
- What do you like about this poem? Is there anything that you dislike? What would you ask the poet about this poem?

**2. Remind yourself about metaphors**

- Use the *Revision Card* to remind yourself about metaphors.
- Complete *Metaphor Ideas*. Try to think of more than one metaphor for each of the objects. Try to make the object do something unusual too, like Hibaq Osman does.
- Choose your three favourite metaphors. Why are you pleased with these?

Well done. Share your three favourite metaphors with somebody else. Can they come up with any themselves?

**3. Write your own poem**

- Read *Writing Ideas*.
- Try writing your own poem about a comforting object, with metaphors and with a similar start to *Dancing Disk in the Sky*.

**Try these Fun-Time Extras**

- Practise reading your poem and *Dancing Disk in the Sky* out loud. Read *Top Tips for Reading a Poem Aloud* to help you.
- Record and share your readings with somebody else.

## Dancing Disk in the Sky

by Hibaq Osman



If you asked what The Moon is  
people would tell you  
in their proudest voices:

The Moon is a circle in the sky  
waiting for your greeting  
you should say hello  
in any of the languages you know  
or maybe say them all  
just in case!

The Moon is a reflection in the water  
that jiggles with the wind

It is a silver plate dancing with you  
by the river bank

It has many friends  
who speak to it at night  
and you, with your small voice,  
no need to worry  
The Moon is a very good listener!

Look up and see  
If you peek behind your curtains  
The Moon will dance for us  
so nobody feels lonely.

## Revision Card - Metaphors

A **metaphor** is a comparison in which a place, person or thing is described as if it was another entirely different but similar thing.

*George is a greedy pig.*

George is not actually a pig - he's a boy - but the comparison to a greedy pig is very effective in telling us that George obviously tucks into his food like a farm animal at meal times!

**Metaphors** very often contain the verbs **is** or **are**, **was** or **were**.

*The stars **were** jewels in the night sky.*

*Life **is** a journey.*

*The children in my class **are** a dream.*

*He **was** a big baby, moaning about the weather like that.*

**Metaphors** are different to **similes**

**Similes** describe people, places, situations or things by comparing them to something that they are like.

**Similes** either contain the word **like** or the phrase **as...as...**

*George ate **like** a snuffling pig.*

*George was **as** greedy **as** a pig.*

*In **Dancing Disk in the Sky**, Hibaq Osman uses two **metaphors** to describe the moon.*

a circle in the sky waiting for your greeting  
a silver plate dancing with you by the river bank

Hibaq Osman chooses quite ordinary metaphors – (The moon is a circular shape and it does look like a silver plate) BUT she then makes the moon do unusual things. It waits for your greeting and it dances with you by the river bank!

### Metaphor Ideas

*Choose metaphors for each of these objects. You could make the object do something unusual too – just like Hibaq Osman does. (Think ‘What is it like? What could it be doing?’)*

The Moon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A circle in the sky waiting for your greeting</li><li>• A silver plate dancing with you by the river bank</li></ul>
The Sun	
The Stars	
The Sea	
The Sky	
The Wind	
The Rain	

## Writing Ideas

Hibaq Osman wrote **Dancing Disk in the Sky**, thinking about the many children and adults around the globe who need a friend and thinking about what a calming presence the moon can be in those times.

The poem has a very particular start:

*If you asked what The Moon is  
people would tell you  
in their proudest voices.*

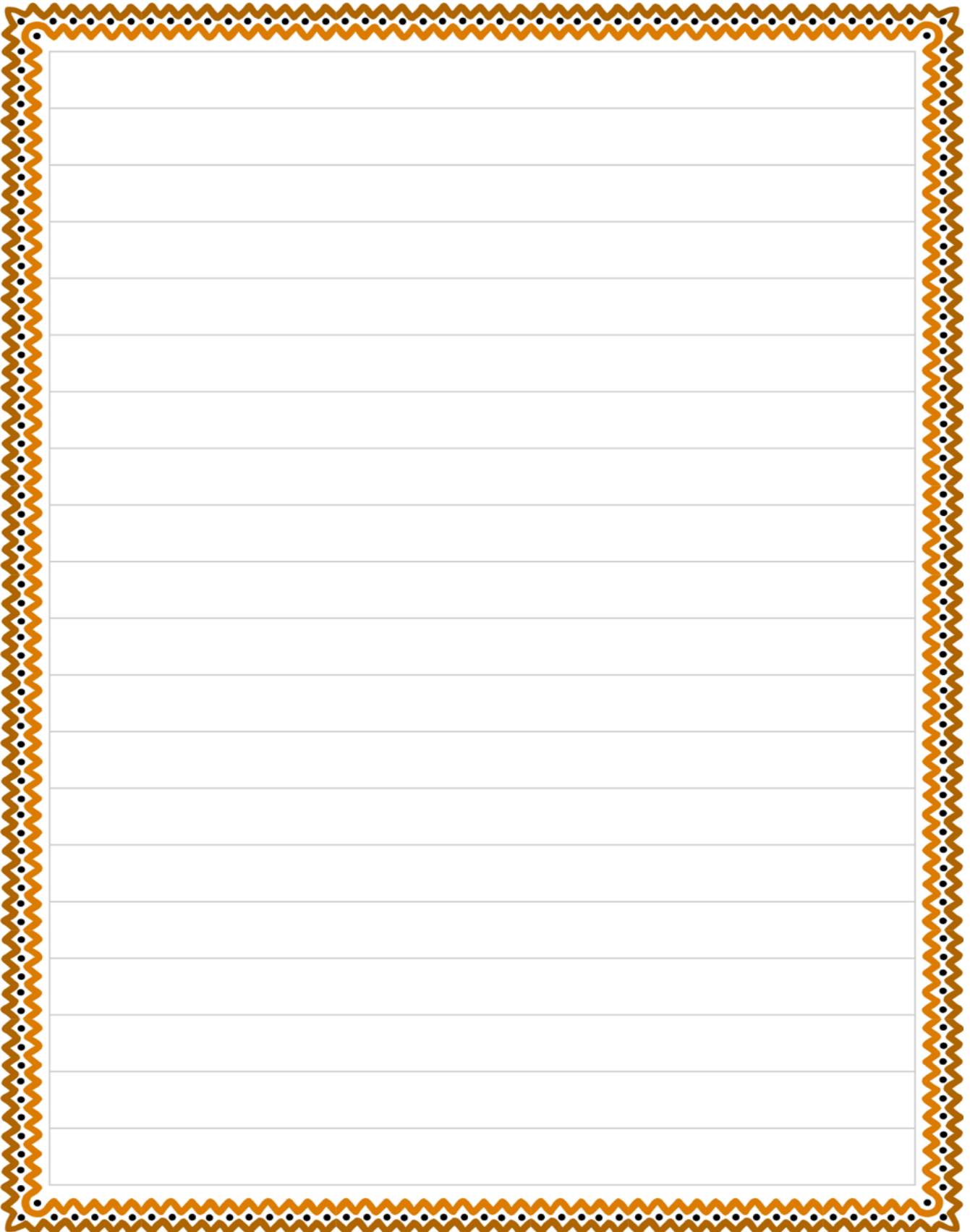
*Can you change this start and write a new poem?*

Think of another natural object that could comfort people. It could be the sun, the rain, the wind, the sea, a tree or plant or animal.

Change the start of the poem (think what sort of voices people would use) and then write two or three descriptions of your object.

- What is it like?
- What could you imagine it doing for people?
- What should they do in response?

Write your poem



A large rectangular area with a decorative border. The border consists of a repeating pattern of orange zigzags and black dots. The interior of the rectangle is white and contains 20 horizontal lines, providing space for writing a poem.

### Top tips for reading a poem aloud

- Work on the **tricky words**. Find out what they mean and how they are said. Practise saying them.
- Look for the **full stops**. Make sentences flow to the full stop, even when there's a new line.
- **Slow down**. Speak slowly when you're reading a poem, so that others can hear the words.
- **Project your voice**. Imagine someone on the other side of the room and speak to them.
- **Practise**. Read and read and read your poem, so that you get better each time.

