

PBS Lesson Series

# ELA, Grade 4, Lesson 13

Teacher Packet

# “The Echoing Green” by William Blake

Character	Description
Birds	
Children	

# “The Echoing Green” by William Blake

The Sun does arise,  
And make happy the skies.  
The merry bells ring,  
To welcome the Spring,  
The sky-lark and thrush,  
The birds of the bush,  
Sing louder around,  
To the bells cheerful sound,  
While our sports shall be seen  
On the Echoing Green.

# “The Echoing Green” by William Blake

Old John with white hair  
Does laugh away care,  
Sitting under the oak,  
Among the old folk.  
They laugh at our play,  
And soon they all say,  
Such, such were the joys,  
When we all, girls & boys,  
In our youth time were seen,  
On the Echoing Green.

# “The Echoing Green” by William Blake

Till the little ones weary  
No more can be merry  
The sun does descend,  
And our sports have an end:  
Round the laps of their mothers,  
Many sisters and brothers,  
Like birds in their nest,  
Are ready for rest:  
And sport no more seen,  
On the darkening Green.

# Guided Practice

In the poem, “The Echoing Green,” William Blake used imagery of birds and children to describe what was happening on the Echoing Green. In stanza one, Blake used imagery to help the reader hear the sound of the birds. Blake chose words like merry and cheerful to describe the bells. The birds are singing with the bells and louder than the bells so the reader can infer the birds are also merry and cheerful.

# Independent Practice

Write a paragraph explaining how William Blake used imagery of birds and children in his poem, “The Echoing Green.” Then, write why Blake might have chosen to start and end the poem with imagery. Be sure to use specific examples from the poem, include an introduction and conclusion to your paragraph, and consider how you will link your thoughts together.

Creative Assignment: Imagine the location of the birds on or near the Echoing Green. Draw the picture of the birds.