

Song of the Seasons

- 5 In spring time, the forest, 56 Ah, wind, is it winter?
9 In summer, the sea, 60 Yes, winter is here;
13 In autumn, the mountains, 65 With snow on the meadow,
17 In winter, we freeze. 69 And ice growing near.
22 How nice, the old branches 73 The daylight is short,
25 Bursting with buds, 78 But the firelight is long;
29 The primrose and bluebell 82 Ice-skating's our sport,
34 Freshly grown in the woods. 87 Then a story and song.
38 All green things unfolding, 92 In spring time, the forest,
42 Where merry birds sing! 96 In summer, the sea,
47 I love in the woodlands 100 In autumn, the mountains,
51 To wander in spring. 104 In winter, just me.

Quick Questions

1. '...where merry birds sing!' In this line, what does 'merry' mean?



2. Number these seasons from 1 to 4 to show the order they appear in the poem.

_____ autumn _____ spring
_____ summer _____ winter



3. How does the author feel about the branches in spring time? Find evidence from the poem.



4. Fill in the missing words below using the text to help you.



'The daylight is _____ but the firelight is _____.'

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Answers

1. '...where merry birds sing!' In this line, what does 'merry' mean?



Accept any answer related to merry meaning 'happy' or 'cheerful'.

2. Number these seasons from 1 to 4 to show the order they appear in the poem.



3 autumn **1** spring
2 summer **4** winter

3. How does the author feel about the branches in spring time? Find evidence from the poem.



Accept any sensible answer linked to the text, e.g. The author likes the branches in spring time because he says, 'how nice'.

4. Fill in the missing words below using the text to help you.



'The daylight is long but the firelight is short.'