



Metaphors

Read this **poem** aloud.

What is the Sun?

the Sun is an orange dinghy
 sailing across a calm sea

it is a gold coin
 dropped down a drain in Heaven

the Sun is a yellow beach ball
 kicked high into the summer sky

it is a red thumb-print
 on a sheet of pale blue paper

the Sun is a milk bottle's gold top
 floating in a puddle



Wes Magee

How many **metaphors** for the Sun can you find in this **poem**? Make a list of them below.
Remember: A **metaphor** is something described as if it were something else. It is like a simile but does not include the words like or as.

an orange dinghy.....

.....

.....

Rewrite one of the five **verses**, and change the **metaphor** to a **simile**. To do this, you only need to add one word.

.....

.....

.....

Pick a **verse** from the **poem**, and write a short paragraph explaining what is meant by the description of the Sun.

.....

.....

Which of the **metaphors** in the **poem** seems most effective to you? Why?

.....

.....

Write your own metaphors



Use the pattern of the poem *What is the Sun* to write a poem of your own that includes metaphors. Choose one of the titles below or make up your own.

What is a cloud?

What is the sea?

What is the Moon?

What is? (your choice)



..... (title)

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an orange dinghy, a gold coin, a yellow beachball, a red thumb-print, a milk bottle's gold top

Rewrite one of the five **verses**, and change the **metaphor** to a **simile**. To do this, you only need to add one word.

the Sun is like an orange dinghy

sailing across a calm sea

Pick a **verse** from the **poem**, and write a short paragraph explaining what is meant by the description of the Sun.

Which of the **metaphors** in the **poem** seems most effective to you? Why?

This page helps your child to appreciate how metaphor works and to differentiate between metaphor and simile. Again, the questions are open-ended – accept any answers that can be sensibly argued from the poem.

