

CRADLE SONG

Sarojini Naidu

SUMMARY:- The poem 'Cradle Song' by Sarojini Naidu is a lullaby sung by mothers across the world to put their child to sleep. The poem is full of beautiful nature images which makes the poem lively and colourful.

In the first stanza, the poet makes the child imagine beautiful things around by telling that she is bringing "a little lovely dream" from the land where trees of spices are grown, from the fields of rice and from the stream of lotus flowers. The dream is not just a dream but a beautiful glittering dream with dew in it.

In the second stanza, the poet tells the child to gently shut the eyes and dream about the fire flies dancing around the sacred neem tree. This little dream of the child has been stolen from the poppy plants with bright coloured flowers.

In the final stanza, the child goes to sleep and the poet wishes him goodnight with stars gleaming around in the golden light and gently cares him with "a little lovely dream".

COMPREHENSION

(Please copy the question answers in the school note book)

1) List the places from which the mother brings 'a little lovely dream' for her child.

Ans) The mother brings 'a little lovely dream' for her child from the groves of spice, from the fields of rice, from the stream of lotus flowers and from the poppy-bole of bright coloured flowers.

2) Why do you think the mother chose these places? What effect might they have on the sleeping child?

Ans) The mother chose these places as these are very beautiful and attractive. The land of spices is green, the field of rice is lustrous and golden, the stream looks pink with full of lotus flowers in it and the poppy plant seems as bright as the sun. With the mere recalling of these places, a child can easily be lulled.

These images have beautiful visual effect, which helps the child to imagine, as he/she must have already seen it in reality. So it connects them instantly with nature.

3) Where do you think the poem is set?

Ans) The poem is set in South India, as spices are grown there. Moreover, the poet too belongs from the South.

HOMEWORK

(To be done in Note Book)

❖ Question No. 4 & Question No. 5