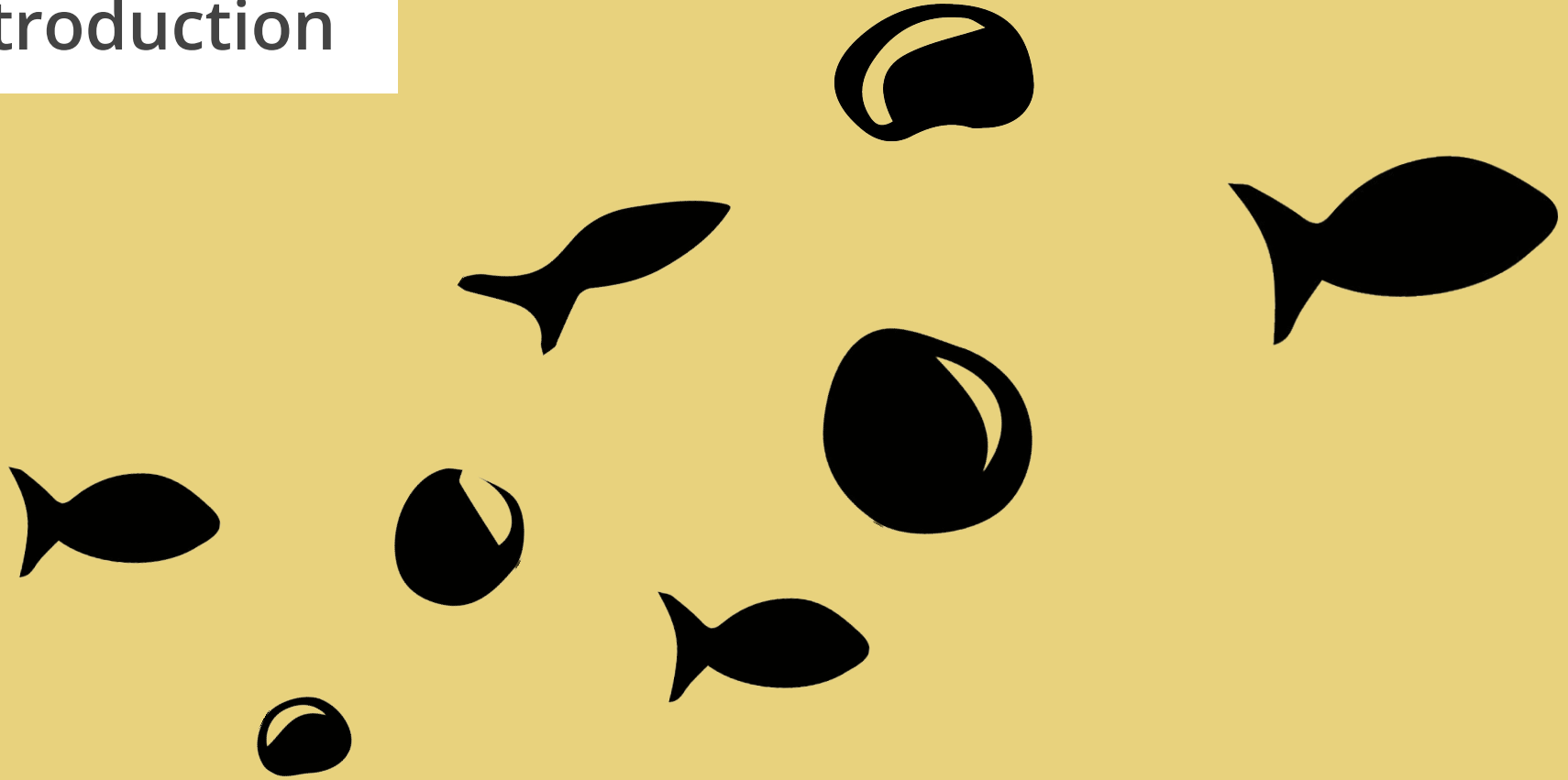


POETRY

Grade 2 Lesson 3: "The Crocodile"
by Lewis Carroll



Introduction



Today we will read a poem about a crocodile. You may have heard the poet’s name, Lewis Carroll, before. He wrote many books, including *Alice in Wonderland*.

As we read the poem, listen for what the crocodile looks like and the things he does.

Read “The Crocodile” by Lewis Carroll aloud.

The poem can be found on the program’s digital components site.

Is the crocodile clean or dirty?

What lines from the poem tell you so?

What does the crocodile do to the fish?

Is the crocodile clean or dirty?

clean

What lines from the poem tell you so?

Possible answers include “shining tail,” “golden scales,” etc.

What does the crocodile do to the fish?

He welcomes them in.

The crocodile is welcoming the fish with his jaws. If the fish swim into his jaws, what does that mean?

The crocodile is welcoming the fish with his jaws. If the fish swim into his jaws, what does that mean?

The crocodile eats the fish.

In our last lesson, we learned about rhyme scheme.

What is the rhyme scheme of this poem?

The Crocodile

Lewis Carroll

How doth the little crocodile

 Improve his shining tail,

And pour the waters of the Nile

 On every golden scale!

How cheerfully he seems to grin,

 How neatly spreads his claws,

And welcomes little fishes in,

 With gently smiling jaws!

What is the rhyme
scheme of this poem?

ABAB CDCD

The Crocodile

Lewis Carroll

How doth the little crocodile	A
Improve his shining tail,	B
And pour the waters of the Nile	A
On every golden scale!	B
How cheerfully he seems to grin,	C
How neatly spreads his claws,	D
And welcomes little fishes in,	C
With gently smiling jaws!	D

Reading



Today we’re going to talk about a **theme** in the poem.

A theme is the underlying message or big idea of a poem or other work.

One way to figure out the theme is to look at how characters in the poem act in situations.

We are going to read the poem again. As we do, think about how the crocodile acts around the fish.

Read “The Crocodile” by Lewis Carroll aloud.

The poem can be found on the program’s digital components site.

Find some examples from the poem that describe how the crocodile looks and acts.

Do the describing words sound positive or negative?

Find some examples from the poem that describe how the crocodile looks and acts.

Possible answers include "shining tail," "golden scale," grinning "cheerfully," etc.

Do the describing words sound positive or negative?

positive

Now find some examples from the poem that describe how the crocodile eats the fish.

Do the describing words sound safe or dangerous?

Now find some examples from the poem that describe how the crocodile eats the fish.

Possible answers include "How cheerfully he seems to grin," "welcomes little fishes in," "gently smiling jaws," etc.

Do the describing words sound safe or dangerous?

safe

Why might the poet use those kinds of words to describe the crocodile eating the fish?

Why might the poet use those kinds of words to describe the crocodile eating the fish?

We would expect the describing words to make the situation seem more dangerous, but these words do the opposite.

We learned earlier that one way to find the theme of a poem is to look at how characters act in situations.

Based on the lines that describe the crocodile eating the fish, what do you think the theme of this poem is?

Based on the lines that describe the crocodile eating the fish, what do you think the theme of this poem is?

Answers may include that you can't always trust a situation that looks safe or that things are not always as they seem.

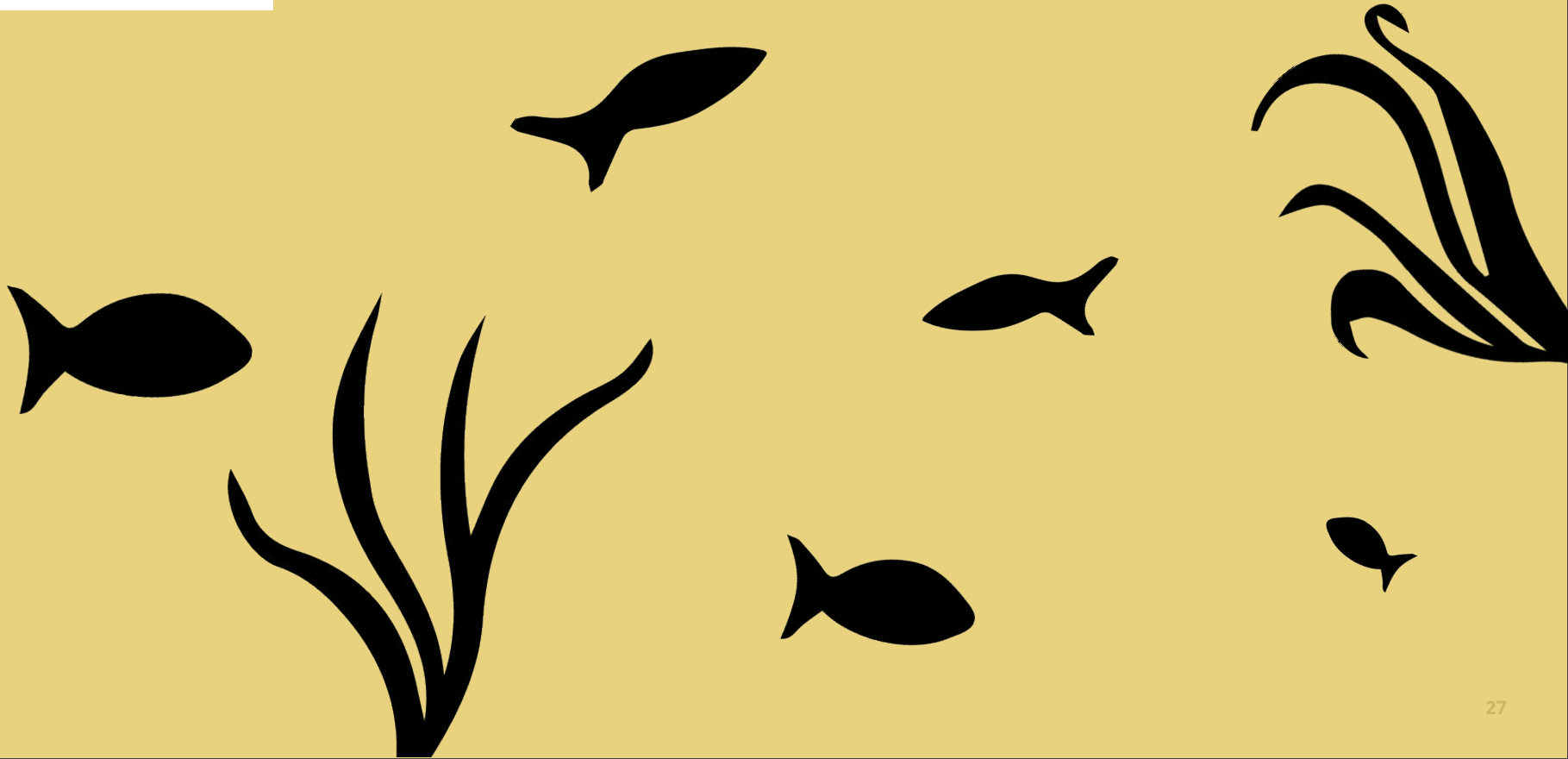
Wrap-Up



What is a theme?

What is one way to figure out a theme?

Answer



What is a theme?

A theme is the underlying message or big idea of a poem or other work.

What is one way to figure out a theme?

Look at how characters in the poem act in a situation.