

## 1.3 Basketful of Moonlight

### Warming up!

#### Chit-Chat

1. Did you like to hear bedtime stories when you were a child?
2. Who usually told you the bedtime stories?
3. Why did you like them?
4. Do you still like to hear those stories, again?

1. Discuss in groups about the procedure of planting a tree. Write the steps in bullet points and present it before the class.

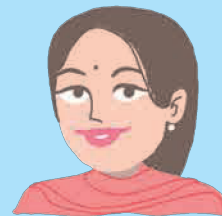
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

2. Discuss in pairs and write what your father and mother do for your family.



**Father**

- Works hard to earn a living
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....



**Mother**

- .....
- keeps the house clean
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

## Basketful of Moonlight

O moon,  
give me moonlight,  
basketful or two baskets full,  
with seeds of moonlight.



From the city to my village,  
on the sides of the path  
I want to sow many,  
small, small moons of light.  
The whole village goes to the city  
daily to work.

It becomes dark on its way back  
as my village is quite far.

The route is tough and full of  
snakes and scorpions.

Neither bus nor cart **plies**.

When my father returns home  
I am asleep.

And he goes back early in the morning  
while I am sleeping.

O moon  
give me a basketful of moonlight  
on loan.

I want to light the dark route  
so that my father returns early.

I too want to hear fairy tales  
and stories from him.

O moon,  
give me a basketful of moonlight.

I want to sow seeds of moon  
on the sides of the path.

- Sunil Sharma (Translated from Dogri)

- ◆ What does the poet wish to get from the moon and why?
- ◆ Why is the road from the city to the village dangerous?
- **plies** : travels regularly over a route
- ◆ Why does the poet want his father home early?
- ◆ How do you spend your evening time with your family members?

**1. Complete the following sentences with the help of the poem.**

- (a) The child wants to sow small moons of light from .....
- (b) According to the child the route of his village is tough and full of .....
- (c) The child wants a basketful of moonlight on .....
- (d) The child wants to light the dark route so that his .....

**2. Write down the describing words used for the following nouns.**

- ..... moons
- ..... route
- ..... village
- ..... morning

**3. The child in the poem wants to solve the problems of his village. How can the child solve them with the following wishes? Answer in your notebook.**

- (a) Give me moonlight, basketful or two baskets full, with seeds of moonlight.
- (b) I want to light the dark route so that my father returns early.

**4. Pick out and write the lines from the poem that prove the following.**

- (a) Father reaches home late, after dark. ....
- (b) Eager to hear fairy tales from his father. ....
- (c) Remove darkness and bring light among the darker paths. ....

**5. Write as many words as you can, using –ful as suffix.**

For example, basketful, ..... bucketful, .....  
.....

**6. Pick out the examples of Alliteration and Repetition from the poem.**

**7. Write an appreciation of the poem. (Refer to Page 5.)**

**8. Write an imaginary letter to the moon, to convey your feelings about it. Discuss about it with your partner and draft the letter using the poem as a basis for the letter.**

**Supporting points :**

- (a) Sign of beauty
- (b) Symbol of joy
- (c) Infinite pleasure
- (d) Urge to compose poems/songs/music.

9. Discuss with your friend/brother/sister/your classmate and write your list of wishes to make your village/town/city people happy.

You can use the following words.

- great
- wish
- share
- talk
- help
- cooperate
- communicate

10. Let's compose imaginary poetic lines.

Sowing the seeds of moonlight

Travelling among stars in a galaxy

Encourage the students to discuss freely for composing lines. The discussion and composition of the creativity and imagination should be appreciated more.

