

Name: _____

Raccoon Rex

by Ruth Donnelly

I walk by night, in darkness.
I sneak without a sound.
I overturn the garbage can.
Oh! What a treat I've found!

I grab the picnic sandwiches.
(I haven't yet been seen.)
I take my bounty to the brook,
And wash it squeaky clean.

I creep up to the campers' tent
And snatch a hot dog bun.
The campers yell. They scream and shout.
But I'm just having fun!

A mask of fur around my eyes,
A smile upon my face,
My paws can open garbage cans.
I move with stealth and grace.

I steal from people's garden plots,
From porches and from decks.
Yes, I'm a fearless bandit--
And my name is Raccoon Rex!



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1. According to the poem, a raccoon is much like a....

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| a. gardener | b. carpenter |
| c. thief | d. chef |



2. How do the campers feel in this poem?

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a. disappointed | b. exhausted |
| c. satisfied | d. angry |

3. The seventh line of the poem says, "*I take my bounty to the brook.*"
What does this mean?

4. The sixteenth line of the poem says, "*I move with stealth and grace.*"
Define the word *stealth*. Use a dictionary if you need help.

Challenge: Look up the word raccoons in an encyclopedia.
Find out what raccoons eat in the wild.

Name: _____

Raccoon Rex Vocabulary Match



Re-read "Raccoon Rex" and complete the vocabulary table.

Line Number	Word from the Poem	Synonym
Line 9	creep	
Line 3		flip
	snatch	
Line 19		outlaw
	fearless	
Line 8		shining
Line 7		creek

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Raccoon Rex

Creative Writing Task



How might campers protect their food from being stolen by Raccoon Rex? On the lines below, write a paragraph to describe your idea. Then, on a separate sheet of white paper, draw a detailed picture to illustrate your idea.

ANSWER KEY

Raccoon Rex

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1. According to the poem, a raccoon is much like a.... **c**

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a. gardener | b. carpenter |
| c. thief | d. chef |



2. How do the campers feel in this poem? **d**

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a. disappointed | b. exhausted |
| c. satisfied | d. angry |

3. The seventh line of the poem says, "*I take my bounty to the brook.*"
What does this mean?

The raccoon takes the sandwiches (food) to the creek.

4. The sixteenth line of the poem says, "*I move with stealth and grace.*"
Define the word stealth. Use a dictionary if you need help.

Stealth means to move around without being noticed.

Challenge: How might campers protect their food from raccoons?
Write your answer on the back, or on a separate sheet of paper.

Answers will vary.

ANSWER KEY

Raccoon Rex Vocabulary Match



Re-read "Raccoon Rex" and complete the vocabulary table.

Line Number	Word from the Poem	Synonym
Line 9	creep	sneak
Line 3	overturn	flip
Line 10	snatch	grab
Line 19	bandit	outlaw
Line 19	fearless	brave
Line 8	squeaky	shining
Line 7	brook	creek