

A Small Dragon by Brian Patten

I've found a small dragon in the woodshed.
Think it must have come from deep inside a forest
because it's damp and green and leaves
are still reflecting in its eyes.

I fed it on many things, tried grass,
the roots of stars, hazel-nut and dandelion,
but it stared up at me as if to say, I need
foods you can't provide.

It made a nest among the coal,
not unlike a bird's but larger,
it is out of place here
and is mosttimes silent.

If you believed in it I would come
hurrying to your house to let you share this wonder,
but I want instead to see
if you yourself will pass this way.



Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 Find and copy the phrase from verse 1 that shows that the poet thinks the dragon has only recently come out of the forest.

2d

 1 mark

2 "... and is mosttimes silent."

Why do you think the poet used the underlined word instead of saying "most of the time" or "usually"?

2g

 1 mark

3 Complete this table showing the main idea of each verse.

Verse	Main idea
1	
2	
3	
4	

2c

 3 marks

4 Find a line from the poem that suggests that the dragon is not at home in the woodshed.

2d

 1 mark

5 Choose which of the following are **true** and which are **false** to show things we are told about the dragon in the text.

	T	F
It is in the poet's woodshed.		
It has come from a forest.		
It is red.		
It is about the same size as a bird		
Its nest is made of coal		
It is quiet		

2b

 2 marks

6 What is the poet's feeling about the dragon? Use words from the poem in your answer.

2d

 2 marks