

The Kitten at Play by William Wordsworth

See the kitten on the wall,
Sporting with the leaves that fall,
Withered leaves, one, two and three,
Falling from the elder-tree;
Through the calm and frosty air
Of the morning bright and fair.

See the kitten, how she starts,
Crouches, stretches, paws and darts;
With a tiger-leap half way
Now she meets her coming prey.
Lets it go as fast and then
Has it in her power again.

Now she works with three and four,
Like an Indian conjuror;
Quick as he in feats of art,
Gracefully she plays her part;
Yet were gazing thousands there,
What would little Tabby care?



Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 In the verse 1, what does the word “sporting” mean?
Choose **one**.

- competing
- kicking
- playing
- running

2a

1 mark

2 The poem is set in the autumn or winter.
Find **two** pieces of evidence from verse 1 to support this statement.

2d

2 marks

3 Look at verse 2.
Find and copy two words that show how the kitten moves.

2b

1 mark

4 “Now she meets her coming prey.”
What is the kitten’s prey?

2d

1 mark

5 In verse 3, why does the poet compare the kitten to a conjuror?

2g

1 mark

6 What is the kitten doing throughout verses 2 and 3?
Choose **one**.

- She is looking at the leaves falling.
- She is trying to catch the leaves.
- She is chasing her tail.
- She is jumping and leaping for fun.

2c

1 mark