

**“Shadow Boy” by Kate Wakeling**

Watch Kate’s introduction to 3EE [here \(https://vimeo.com/418408494\)](https://vimeo.com/418408494)

Then listen to Kate read her poem “Shadow Boy” [here \(https://vimeo.com/418408941\)](https://vimeo.com/418408941)

Listen to Kate’s reading of her poem “Shadow Boy”, have a read of it yourself, then try the following questions by referring back to the poem.

1. She opens the poem by saying that “Shadow boy’s as shy as they come”. What reasons can you think of about why she describes the shadow boy as shy?
2. Can you find some metaphors or similes Kate uses to describe Shadow Boy to help describe him? List them and say if they are a simile or a metaphor. Can you think of other similes or metaphors that could describe your own shadow on a sunny day? Try writing two.
3. Why do you think he “tries his best/to brave the dark”? Why would he be afraid of the dark?
4. What does Shadow Boy try to show he’s brave?
5. What time of day is it in the second half of the poem? What words and images does Kate use to describe what time of day it is?
6. This is called “Shadow Boy” – do you think a Shadow Girl would be similar or different to Shadow Boy, and why?

**Photography component**

Photographing shadows can be lots of fun, but also challenging because they are just dark outlines. What creative shadows can you photograph around your home, garden or park? They can be of you, your family, your pet, objects you find. Take many and save your best to share with the class.



## Shadow Boy

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Shadow boy's as shy as they come,  
Dark as charcoal,  
thin as air,  
he tiptoes at the heels of his friends,  
or lingers  
patiently  
under trees,  
behind the wall,  
at the base of a lamppost,  
hoping to catch  
a friendly foot.

Shadow boy's as shy as they come.  
He tries his best  
to brave the dark,  
daring  
to grow taller  
and taller  
as the sun sets.  
But come the night,  
shy shadow boy can only fade  
then wait  
until the bright dawn breaks.