**Mermaid**

If I could breathe beneath the sea,

Half person and half fish,

I’d dive down till I found a coral door

And in I’d swish

To swim through weedy canyons

And find the hall of stone

Where Neptune rules the oceans

From his dolphin-guarded throne.

Richard Edwards

**Listen**

Shhhhhhhhhhhhh!

Sit still, very still

And listen.

Listen to wings

Lighter than eyelashes

Stroking the air.

Know what the thin breeze

Whispers on high

To the coconut trees.

Listen and hear.

Telcine Turner

**On the Ning Nang Nong**

On the Ning Nang Nong

Where the Cows go Bong!

And the Monkeys all say boo!

There's a Nong Nang Ning

Where the trees go Ping!

And the teapots Jibber Jabber Joo.

On the Nong Ning Nang

All the mice go Clang!

And you just can't catch 'em when they do!

So it's Ning Nang Nong!

Cows go Bong!

Nong Nang Ning!

Trees go Ping!

Nong Ning Nang!

The mice go Clang!

What a noisy place to belong,

Is the Ning Nang Ning Nang Nong! Spike Milligan

**Cats**

Cats sleep
Anywhere,
Any table,
Any chair,
Top of piano,
Window-ledge,
In the middle,
On the edge,
Open drawer,
Empty shoe,

Anybody's
Lap will do,
Fitted in a
Cardboard box,
In the cupboard
With your frocks –
Anywhere!
They don't care!
Cats sleep
Anywhere.

Eleanor Farjeon

**Bed in Summer**

In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer, quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
The birds still hopping on the tree,
Or hear the grown-up people's feet
Still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
When all the sky is clear and blue,
And I should like so much to play,
To have to go to bed by day?

Robert Louis Stevenson

Mrs Moon

Mrs Moon
sitting up in the sky,
little old lady
rock-a-bye,
with a ball of fading light
and silvery needles
knitting the night.

**Alligator**

If you want to see an alligator
you must go down the muddy slushy end
of the old Caroony River.

I know an alligator who’s living down there.
She’s a-big. She’s a-mean. She’s a-wild.
She’s a-fierce.

But if you really want to see an alligator
you must go down to the muddy slushy end
of the old Caroony River.
Go down gently to that river and say

‘Alligator Mama
Alligator Mama
Alligator Mamaaaaaaa.’
And up she’ll rise
but don’t stick around
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE.

Grace Nichols

**I’m a Tree**

Autumn leaves,

In the breeze

Falling down

On the ground.

On my knees

In the leaves,

Rolling round

On the ground.

Look at me -

I’m a tree,

Leaves all brown

And falling down!

Tony Bradman