



TREES

by Shirley Bauer

SUMMARY

Trees are for birds.
Trees are for children.
Trees are to make tree houses in.
Trees are to swing swings on.
Trees are for the wind to blow through.
Trees are to hide behind in 'Hide and Seek.'
Trees are to have tea parties under.
Trees are for kites to get caught in.
Trees are to make cool shade in summer.
Trees are to make no shade in winter.
Trees are for apples to grow on and pears;
Trees are to chop down and call, "TIMBER-R-R!"
Trees make mothers say,
"What a lovely picture to paint!"
Trees make fathers say,
"What a lot of leaves to rake this fall!"

Explanation: The poet lists out the various purposes of the trees and the activities which can be done on the trees. The poem begins with how the trees are used by birds and children. Birds build their nests and take shelter on trees; thus, providing the birds a home. In the same way, trees also provide enjoyment to the children. People make tree houses and swings on the trees and play hide and seek behind the trees. Adults have their share of fun by having tea parties under the trees. However, sometimes, trees act as obstacles. They trap kites in between their branches and leaves.

The trees play a role in keeping the surrounding place cool and fresh by letting the wind blow through it and providing shades during the summer season. However, in the winter season, trees don't provide shade as all the leaves have fallen off. Instead,

trees give fruits like apples and pears. Trees are useful even when they are cut down. These chopped down trees, which are called timber, are used to make furniture. The addition of double 'r' in timber denotes the excitement people feel when they get timber.

Trees are also used for artistic purposes. Mothers often find trees to be a painting subject. They are delighted with the beautiful scenery of the trees. On the other side, fathers are distressed and complain about the effort it would take to gather the fallen leaves in the autumn season.

Word – Meaning

Word	Meaning
Shade	An area of darkness
Chop down	Cut down
Rake	To gather or collect

