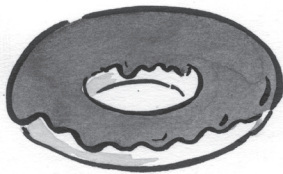


# Opposites

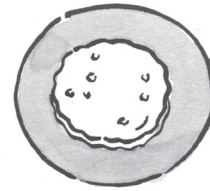


Read this poem aloud.

## Some Opposites



What is the opposite of *riot*?  
It's *lots of people keeping quiet*.



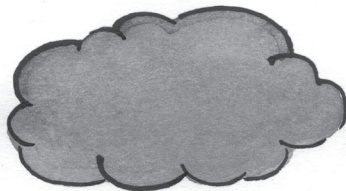
The opposite of *doughnut*? Wait  
A minute while I meditate.  
This isn't easy. Ah, I've found it!  
*A cookie with a hole around it.*



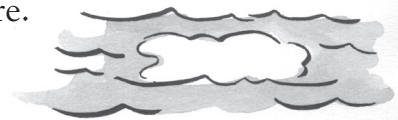
What is the opposite of *two*?  
*A lonely me, a lonely you.*



The opposite of a cloud could be  
*A white reflection in the sea,*  
*Or a huge blueness in the air,*  
Caused by a cloud's not being there.



The opposite of *opposite*?  
That's much too difficult. I quit.



Richard Wilbur

In the list below, underline the words that can have **opposites**, and draw a circle around those that cannot. Then write down the underlined words and their **opposites**.

far      door      blue      wrong      grass      quickly      pencil      light  
happy      fridge      ten      town      small      computer      duck

far - near

Now look at the words you have circled. Pick three, and make up **words** or **phrases** that could be "joke" **opposites** for them. Write your "joke" **opposites** and your reasons below.

door - wall (a wall is what is left if you have no door!)

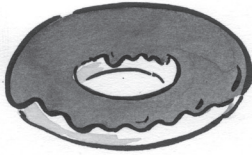
You may have found words that cannot even have "joke" **opposites**. Write them here.

# Opposites



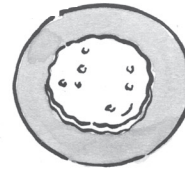
Read this poem aloud.

## Some Opposites



What is the opposite of *riot*?  
It's *lots of people keeping quiet*.

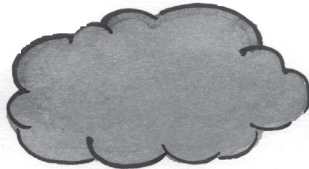
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The opposite of *opposite*?  
That's much too difficult. I quit.



Richard Wilbur

In the list below, underline the words that can have **opposites**, and draw a circle around those that cannot. Then write down the underlined words and their **opposites**.

far      (door)      (blue)      wrong      (grass)      quickly      (pencil)      light  
happy      (fridge)      (ten)      (town)      small      (computer)      (duck)

far - near, wrong - right, quickly - slowly, light - heavy or dark, happy - sad,  
small - big

Now look at the words you have circled. Pick three, and make up **words** or **phrases** that could be "joke" **opposites** for them. Write your "joke" **opposites** and your reasons below.

door - wall (a wall is what is left if you have no door!)

**Answers may vary**

You may have found words that cannot even have "joke" **opposites**. Write them here.

The activities on this page focus on opposites. If your child comes up with justifiable opposites that are not included here, you could discuss the validity of the concept of opposites (which is the theme of the poem).