**Genre: Realistic Fiction**

**Subject: Flowers**

**The Jollys**

**Flower Rhymes**

**by Catherine A. Stafford**

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www.phenixpublishing.co.uk

Business cooperation: sales@phenixpublishing.co.uk

Customer care: feedback@phenixpublishing.co.uk

Offices: London - Hong Kong - Beijing

ISBN:

Printed in China

One sunny day, Anne and Piper went to the park with their mothers. They walked along a brick path. They saw lots of trees and flowers and insects.

Soon, Anne saw a tiny yellow flower near the ground. She asked her mom what kind of flower it was.

“It’s a buttercup,” said Anne’s mom.

“It’s so tiny and pretty,” said Piper. She picked the little flower and held it in her hand. It was as small as the tip of her finger.

Piper’s mother leaned over and put her face near the flower. Then she said, “What’s up, Buttercup?”

Piper and Anne, who were both five years old and best friends, looked at each other and laughed. “You made a rhyme, Mom!” said Piper.

“How do you know about rhymes?” asked Piper’s mom.

“At school this morning, Ms. Fisher taught us rhyming words,” Anne said.

“Cat and hat rhyme,” said Piper.

“Hot and pot rhyme, too,” said Anne.

“That’s good!” Anne’s mom said. “Let’s keep walking. This is a beautiful park. Maybe we can find more flowers here.”

Anne and Piper saw a wall up ahead near the path. There were lots of roses by the wall. Some were pink, some were white, and some were red.”

“Look! A pink rose!” Anne ran over to the wall. “It smells so good!”

“How pretty! Let’s take a picture,” said Piper’s mom. Then she said to the flowers, “Give me a pose, Rose.”

“Mom!” laughed Piper. “You have lots of funny rhymes!”

“Don’t be silly, Lily,” said Piper’s mom. The girls laughed again.

“Lilies are my favorite flower,” said Anne’s mom. “Some are yellow and pink with black spots. Some are purple and white. Some are even gold.”

Anne asked, “But which color is your favorite, Mom?”

“I like white lilies the best. They’re my favorite flower in the whole world,” she said with a smile.

Anne, Piper and their mothers kept walking on the path. They could hear birds singing. They saw more flowers and trees. Then they came to a hill.

“That’s a big hill, Daffodil!” said Anne’s mom. “Do you think we can climb it?”

Piper and Anne laughed. “You made your first rhyme, Mom!” said Anne. “Do you think we can find some daffodils in the park, too?”

“I’m not sure. Maybe we’ll spot one later,” said Anne’s mom.

The four climbed the big hill. The girls were tired. Just then, Anne spotted a playground that looked like a small castle. It even had a tower and a bridge.

“Can we go there?” asked Anne. “I want to go down the slide!”

“I’m getting tired of walking,” said Piper.

“Don’t be so lazy, Daisy,” said Anne. Everyone laughed. "Look, some daisies are growing over there, right near the slide!"

Then Piper said, “Okay, I’ll race you to the tower, Sunflower!” The girls ran as fast as they could until they reached the slide. They climbed the ladder to the tower. Then they slid down the slide together.

Anne and Piper’s mothers sat on a bench to watch the girls play. The day was getting hotter and hotter.

“Girls, let’s go find some water to drink,” said Anne’s mom. “It’s getting too hot.”

They found a small shop by the park and bought four bottles of water.

“Take a sip, Tulip,” whispered Anne to Piper. They both laughed again. “I didn’t know we knew so many flower names!” said Piper.

Just then, they saw Jack. He was a boy from school. He was with his mother. Anne liked Jack because he was smart and funny, and a little bit cute, too.

Piper pointed to Jack and said, “Look Lilac, it’s Jack!”

“Oh, Piper!” Anne’s face turned a little bit red. “Can we stop rhyming now?”

They all laughed and drank their water. It had been a fun day making flower rhymes in the park.

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Name some things Piper and Anne saw in the park.
2. What is a rhyming word? Try to name all the flowers you can find in the story and the word they rhyme with.
3. Why do you think Anne wanted Piper to stop making rhymes in the end?

**Word count:**

**Proofreading Checklist**

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