

The First Day of School

Name: _____ Date: _____

It doesn't matter what grade I am in.
Every year I get anxious again,
Thinking about returning to school.
I know it isn't very cool.
But my heart races and my palms sweat,
And there is always something I forget.

I love school shopping every year,
When that first day of school comes near.
I get new clothes and new supplies,
And it never fails, mom cries.
"You're getting older and growing up."
I giggle and claim, "I'm no little pup."

During the summer, it's out of mind,
But as it grows closer I find
All I can think about is that first day,
And my nerves begin to fray.
New teachers, new classes,
And I probably need new glasses.

The day finally comes and off I go.
I am on my way, and wouldn't you know,
I can't wait to get there and see my friends.
It's funny how my nervousness mends.
New classes sound like fun,
And in track I'll get to run.

Familiar faces make me happy to be back,
Until the teachers send homework by the stack.
But I am prepared and ready for class.
I promised my mom not to sass.
Instead I will just learn what I can,
Till next year when I'm nervous again.



The First Day of School

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer each question using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. What details from the poem support the inference that the speaker is nervous?

2. What is the meaning of the phrase, "It's funny how my nervousness mends" as used in stanza 4?

3. How does the speaker's attitude change throughout the poem, and what is the reason for this change?

4. Determine the speaker of the poem. What evidence from the poem supports your inference?



BACK TO SCHOOL: WHO'S THE SPEAKER?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Complete the graphic organizer by describing the point of view of the story and providing the evidence to support the point of view.

Point of View

Evidence

How does the point of view affect the way the story is told?

