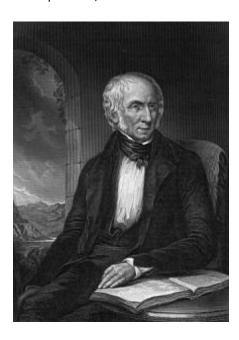
### Tea Time: William Wordsworth

post written by Wende

William Wordsworth was born in England on April 7, 1770. His love for poetry was firmly established while he was in grammar school. While a boy, both William's mother and father died, leaving him and his four siblings orphans. This life experience, as well as a walking tour he took of Europe during college, heavily influenced his poetry. He believed that poetry should be written for the "common man", using everyday speech. By 1805 Wordsworth wrote his most famous work, *The Prelude*. The poem, which Wordsworth wrote about his spiritual life, marked the birth of a new genre of poetry, English romanticism. Although Wordsworth worked on *The Prelude* throughout his life, the poem was published after his death on April 23, 1850.



In honor of Springtime, featured here is William Wordsworth's poem,

## Daffodils

I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd,— A host of golden daffodils Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze. Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I, at a glance,
Tossing their heads in a sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee;
A poet could not be but gay
In such a jocund company;
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought.

For oft, when on my couch I lie, In vacant or in pensive mood, They flash upon that inward eye Which is the bliss of solitude; And then my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffodils.

### **Extend Your Learning**

Read: Poetry for Young People, William Wordsworth

Recite or memorize the poem "Daffodils"

Record what you learn about Wordsworth on the notebooking page.

Analyze "Daffodils" using the study questions.

#### Tea Time Treat

For your tea time treat, why not help your children make a <u>Daffodil Cake</u>?

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#### **Daffodils**

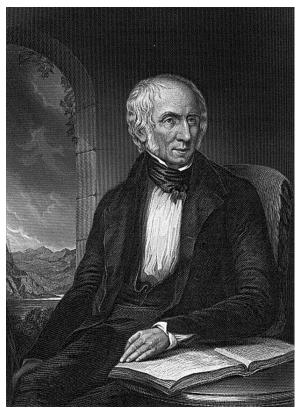
### By William Wordsworth

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## William Wordsworth

	Date of Birth:
	Place of Birth:
	Date of Death:
	Place of Death:
	What is he famous for?
**********	18

# **Daffodils** by William Wordsworth First Stanza

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,—
A host of golden daffodils
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

# Daffodils by William Wordsworth Second Stanza

Continuous as the stars that shine	
And twinkle on the Milky Way,	
They stretched in never-ending line	
Along the margin of a bay:	
Ten thousand saw I, at a glance,	
Tossing their heads in a sprightly dance.	

# **Daffodils** by William Wordsworth Third Stanza

The waves beside them danced, but they
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee;
A poet could not be but gay
In such a jocund company;
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought.

# **Daffodils** by William Wordsworth Fourth Stanza

For oft, when on my couch I lie,
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

First Stanza

l we 	indered lonely as a cloud
	That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
Whe	n all at once I saw a crowd,-
	A host of golden daffodils
Besii	de the lake, beneath the trees,
 Flut 	tering and dancing in the breeze.

Second Stanza

Continuous as the stars that shine	
And twinkle on the Milky Way,	
They stretched in never-ending line	
Along the margin of a bay:	
Ten thousand saw I, at a glance,	
Tossing their heads in a sprightly dance.	

Third Stanza

Fourth Stanza

For oft, when o	n my couch I lie, 	
In vacant	or in pensive mood,	
They flash upon	that inward eye	
Which is th	re bliss of solitude;	
And then my h	reart with pleasure fills,	
and dances with	h the daffodils.	

St	udy Notes	
	Define:	
	Host:	
	Sprightly:	
	Jocund:	
	Pensive: _	
	Solitude:	
	Inward eye:	
	Interpret: Explain why the p	ooet's heart fills with pleasure.
	Look at the individ	dual elements of the poem. Give examples of the following: rison using the words "like" or "as"
	Personification - v	when the writer gives human like qualities to a non-human
	Assonance - the r	repetition of vowel sounds in neighboring words
	Evaluate: The value of a popoem make you for	em is determined by the impact it has on its reader. How does this eel?

#### Study Notes Answers

Host: a great number or multitude

Sprightly: lively; brisk; vigorous

Jocund: merry; lively; airy; sportive

Pensive: thoughtful and sad; sorrowful; depression of mind

Solitude: loneliness; remoteness from society

Inward eye: mind's eye; thoughtful vision within the mind or soul

□ Interpret:

Explain why the poet's heart fills with pleasure.

Answers will vary. Should include that the visual memory of the lively, cheerful daffodils pulls the writer out of his depressed mood.

#### □ Examine:

Look at the individual elements of the poem. Give examples of the following:

Simile - a comparison using the words "like" or "as"

I wandered lonely as a cloud Continuous as the stars that shine

Personification - when the writer gives human like qualities to a non-human

Daffodils said to have heads and to dance

Assonance - the repetition of vowel sounds in neighboring words

A host of golden daffodils

Beside the lake, beneath the trees

Which is the bliss of solitude

And dances with the daffodils

#### ☐ Evaluate:

The value of a poem is determined by the impact it has on its reader. How does this poem make you feel?

Answers will vary.