

## Chapter 8: Meadow Surprises

### Working with the Poem

#### Question 1:

Read the lines in which the following phrases occur. Then discuss with your partner the meaning of each phrase in its context.

- (i) Velvet grass
- (ii) Drinking straws
- (iii) Meadow houses
- (iv) Amazing mound
- (v) Fuzzy head

#### Answer:

- (i) 'Velvet grass' refers to the soft grass of the meadows.
- (ii) 'Drinking straws' refer to the part from which the butterfly sips the nectar from the flowers.
- (iii) 'Meadow houses' refer to the various habitats of animals, birds, and insects living in the meadow.
- (iv) 'Amazing mound' refers to the place made of mud where the ants live. It is a tall structure made by them beneath tall grasses or trees.
- (v) 'Fuzzy head' refers to the flower dandelion, which was golden when it had freshly bloomed. However, it had turned into a light airy structure, which fluttered if one blew on it.

#### Question 2:

Which line in the poem suggests that you need a keen eye and a sharp ear to enjoy a meadow? Read aloud the stanza that contains this line.

#### Answer:

The line in the poem that suggests that 'You may discover these yourself, if you look and listen well.'