

Introductory Activities

- In spoken English, we often use contracted forms as :

Full form	Contracted form
I am busy.	I'm busy.
They are tired.	They're tired.
He is not coming.	He isn't coming. (OR) He's not coming.
You will like it.	You'll like it.
She will not like it.	She won't like it.
We had been for a trip.	We'd been for a trip.
It must not happen again.	It mustn't happen again.
That would be fine.	That'd be fine.
Do you not like it?	Don't you like it?

- Fill up the gaps in the table below.

Contracted form	Full form
Let's	
Shan't	
	They have
	Were not
We're	
	Cannot
	Where is
What're	
There's	

CHIT - CHAT

- (1) Have you got a prize in any competition?
- (2) How did you feel at that time?
- (3) Have you ever failed in your efforts?
- (4) Do you think we should accept success as well as failure?
- (5) What will be your reaction if you are not selected in a team?

(1) A. Read aloud the following sets of words.

- (a) river, stream, sea, ocean
- (b) hill, stone, mountain, rock
- (c) plant, sapling, tree, seed
- (d) child, adult, baby, youth

B. Rearrange each of the above sets of words according to the increasing order of their size/growth.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

(2) In your pre-primary classes you must have learnt the story of 'The Lion and the Mouse.' Read it in English and fill in the gaps using words given in the box:

A lion was sleeping in a A mouse started playing on him. The lion got up He caught the mouse and was ready to it.

The begged the lion to leave it and said that someday it would the lion. The lion and let it go.

One day the lion was in a net set up by hunters. He loudly as he tried too hard to escape.

The mouse the lion and came. It up the net with its sharp teeth and set the lion

(help, angrily, caught, forest, mouse, kill, roared, free, chewed, heard, laughed)

Moral of the story :

Be The Best

Be The Best

If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a **scrub** in the valley – but be
The best little scrub by the side of the **rill**;
Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a bush be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can't be a **muskie** then just be a **bass** –
But the liveliest bass in the lake!

We can't all be captains, we've got to be **crew**,
There's something for all of us here,
There's big work to do, and there's **lesser**, to do,
And the task you must do is the near.

If you can't be a highway then just be a **trail**,
If you can't be the sun be a star;
It isn't by size that you win or you fail –
Be the best of whatever you are !

– Douglas Malloch

◆ *What is the main difference between a pine tree and a scrub?*

● **scrub** : an area covered with small, low, plants.

● **rill** : a stream

◆ *What do people like to see along the highway?*

● **muskie and bass** : names of fish

● **crew** : sailors who work on a ship

● **lesser** : unimportant

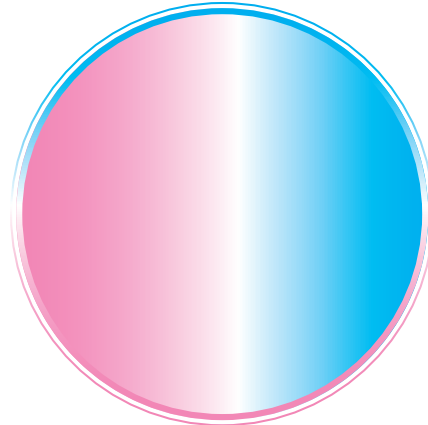
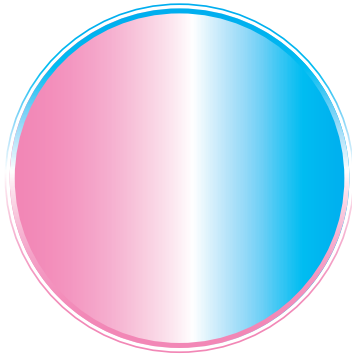
● **trail** : a narrow path

◆ *What is the message given at the end?*



1. Read the words / names given below. Put the big-sized/ bigger ones in the big circle and the smaller ones in the small circle.

(muskie, tree, pine, lake, bass, bush, highway, scrub, rill, sun, star, trail)



2. Form groups of four. Read each stanza in the poem turn by turn.

3. Find and write the pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

(a) (b)
(c) (d)

4. Complete the following with appropriate words/ phrases from the poem.

(First one is done for you.)

- (1) If you can't be a pine, be a scrub.
(2) If you can't be a tree,
(3), be a bass.
(4) If you can't be a captain,
(5), be a trail.
(6) If you can't be the sun,

5. Write whether the following are true or false :

- (1) All must be the Captains of the teams.
(2) A bit of grass can make the highway happier.
(3) We win or fail depending upon size or position.
(4) A scrub is found at the top of the hill.
(5) If your work is not important, don't do it.
(6) Whatever job you have, do your best.

6. Write an appreciation of the poem with the help of the points given below.

- (1) The title of the poem is
- (2) The poem is written by
- (3) The poem has stanzas. Each stanza has lines.
- (4) The lines that rhyme in each stanza, are
- (5) The poet compares big things with
- (6) is a repeated expression in the poem.
- (7) The line – I shall always remember is

7. Read the given extract from the poem ‘Little Drops of Water’ by Julia Fletcher Carney. Learn it up. Set it to a tune and enjoy singing it. You may ask your teacher to help you.

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean
And the pleasant land.

Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Help to make earth happy,
Like the heaven above.

Encourage the students to discuss freely all points in detail. Teacher may explain more about appreciation of the poem.

