

Personification

Lockdown Park

Cawston Park watches and waits.
Suddenly, squealing children enter, laughing.
The rope swing giggles.
The slide smiles.
The trampoline tenses.
A child clutches the thick, frayed rope and swings and
sways over the soft sand, shrieking.

Another child skids down the slide, grinding to a
sudden halt.
The gentle thump, thump, thump of a distant
trampoline provides a steady heartbeat.
Steel spring squeak in rhythm, providing a welcome
tune.
Cawston Park sighs and smiles.

Lockdown Park watches and waits.
Suddenly, a sign arrives with shackles.
No squeals. No laughter. No children.
The rope swing stares.
The slide glares.
The trampoline slackens.
No one clutches the thick, frayed rope.
No one swings and sways over the soft, yellow sand.
No steady heartbeat. No squeaky tune.

Empty, Lockdown Park scowls and frowns.

The house watches and waits.

Suddenly a child enters squealing and laughing.

The TV stares.

The mat smiles.

The table awaits.

A child stretches and strains, watching TV PE.

Weekly street clapping provides a new heartbeat.

Steel saucepans and wooden spoons provide a new
clanging tune.

A child clutches an array of thick, coloured crayons and
creates.

Red. Orange. Yellow. Green...

Something to display in the window of hope.

Lockdown Park watches and waits.

Task

Revisit the poem from this week again - Lockdown Park.

<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/lockdown/s-BWLqMEakDjp>

In the poem, objects have been brought to life by giving them human emotions and actions. This is called **personification**. For example: The slide smiles.

The slide is not really smiling. The writer has made the slide seem like it is alive by making it do what people do - people smile!

Can you find the examples of personification in the poem?

Let's make two lists. Try and add in *at least* 5 more examples.

List things that you find in a playground or park (nouns)	List things you do (verbs) Tip: Try words for 'look' or 'said'
Swing Slide Trampoline grass	Laugh Giggle Dance sing

Now choose one word from each list and put them together to make a sentence that brings the park to life!

For example:

The swings *giggled*.

The trampoline *chanted* a bouncy tune.

The grass *whispered* secrets.
