What to Feed a Dragon
by Kimber Krochmal

I have a new pet dragon.
He followed me from a dream.
But I can’t tell my mom,
It would only make her scream.

I tried to feed him fried rice,
But he didn’t like the spice.

So I tried to feed him applesauce,
But he said it made his eyes cross.

I tried to feed him gingerbread,
But he said it only hurt his head.

So I tried to feed him sprinkle cake,
But he said that would keep him awake.

I tried to feed him last night’s dessert,
But he said it made his stomach hurt.

So I tried to feed him some fish,
But he really didn’t like that dish.

Then I tried to feed him cheese,
That’s when he said “more please.”

Now my mom is wondering why,
We can’t keep cheese in the house.
I heard her last night telling Dad,
She thinks we have a mouse.
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1. Why wouldn't the dragon eat rice?
______________________________________________________________________________

2. Why wouldn't the dragon eat sprinkle cake?
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What type of poem is this?
   a. non-fiction   b. fantasy
   c. science fiction   d. biography

4. Lines 27 and 28 of the poem say:
   My mom is wondering why,
   We can't keep cheese in the house.
What does this mean?
   a. Mom wonders why the cheese smells rotten.
   b. Mom thinks the cheese needs to be kept outside.
   c. Mom wonders why the store is out of cheese.
   d. Mom wonders why the cheese keeps disappearing.

4. Which of these sentences describes something that could happen in real life?
   a. Last night's dessert made my dragon's stomach hurt.
   b. I told my mom that I have a pet dragon.
   c. I tried to feed my pet dragon applesauce.
   d. My pet dragon said, “More please.”

Now try this: Read the poem aloud to a friend, parent, or teacher. Practice reading with expression.
What to Feed a Dragon

Vocabulary

The words below are scrambled words from the poem. Unscramble each word and write in on the line. Be sure you spell the words correctly when you unscramble them.

1. e s e r
   s d t
   ________________
   Clue: sweet snack served after dinner

2. a e l e
   ________________
   Clue: polite word to use when you ask for something

3. t u
   ________________
   Clue: have trouble speaking

4. c o t h
   m s a
   ________________
   Clue: organ in your body that holds food

5. d m a r e
   ________________
   Clue: something your brain does while you sleep

6. p p a e
   u s c l e
   ________________
   Clue: soft food made from a red fruit

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What to Feed a Dragon

by ____________________________

(Your Name)

I have a new pet dragon.

He followed me from a dream.

But I can’t tell ____________________,

(special person)

It would only make ____________ scream.

(him or her)

I tried to feed ___________________________________________________________.

(Mention a food that the dragon does not like.)

But _____________________________________________________________________.

(Tell why the dragon doesn’t like it.)

So I tried to feed _______________________________________________________.

(Mention a food that the dragon does not like.)

But _____________________________________________________________________.

(Tell why the dragon doesn’t like it.)

I tried to feed _________________________________________________________.

(Mention a food that the dragon does not like.)

But _____________________________________________________________________.

(Tell why the dragon doesn’t like it.)

So I tried to feed _______________________________________________________.

(Mention a food that the dragon does not like.)

But _____________________________________________________________________.

(Tell why the dragon doesn’t like it.)

Then I tried to feed ______________________________________________________.

(Mention a food that the dragon does like.)

That’s when _______________________________________________________________.

(Tell what the dragon did when it ate this food.)

Now ___________________ is wondering why

(special person; same as line 3)

We can’t keep ________________ in the house.

(food that the dragon likes)

I heard __________ last night telling ____________,

(him or her) (another special person)

_________ thinks _____________________________________________________________________.

(He or she) (Why your special person thinks the food is disappearing)
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   He didn't like the spice.

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   He said it would keep him awake.

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   b. fantasy
   c. science fiction
   d. biography

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   dessert
   Clue: sweet snack served after dinner

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   e e n s
   please
   Clue:

3. t u
   Clue:

4. c o t h
   m s a
   stomach
   Clue: organ in your body that holds food

5. d m a
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   dream
   Clue: something your brain does while you sleep

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   applesauce
   Clue: soft food made from a red fruit

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