Sock Balls
by Liana Mahoney

There are sock balls on my dresser,
And more sock balls on the floor.
Though I tried to hit the hamper,
One just rolled right out the door.

But the ones that hit the hamper
Don’t make Mother proud at all.

For lumping up a flattened
Pillow on a sleepless night.

And sock balls are to bedrooms
What snowballs are to snow;
When little brothers happen by
You pick them up and THROW!

The greatest thing about them—
What I think is really neat—
Is when supplies are running low,
You roll more off your feet!

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1. Is this poem about dirty socks or clean socks? How can you tell?

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2. Name two things the narrator of the poems likes to do with his or her sock balls.

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3. Why do you think Mother says that socks should not be in a ball when you take them off?

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4. Make up another fun use for sock balls that is not mentioned in the poem.

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1. Is this poem about dirty socks or clean socks? How can you tell?

This is a poem about dirty socks. You can tell because the poem says the socks have been taken off.

2. Name two things the narrator of the poems likes to do with his or her sock balls.

The narrator likes to throw sock balls at his/her little brother and stick them in his/her pillow case.

3. Why do you think Mother says that socks should not be in a ball when you take them off?

Mother probably does not like the dirty socks in balls because they won’t come clean in the wash that way. They’d have to be un-balled before they went in the washing machine.

4. Make up another fun use for sock balls that is not mentioned in the poem.

Answers will vary. Possible answer: Sock balls could be used for playing soccer on the bedroom floor.
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