

**LESSON 62: MEMORY LESSON — LITTLE THINGS****I CLASSICAL MEMORY LESSON • THE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS**

• **Poetic Meaning:** Tiny drops of water make the great ocean, and small deeds of kindness and gentle words make our world beautiful.

• **Poetry Rules:** Every line of poetry begins with a capital letter. Commit these verses to memory to recite aloud with expression.

**♦ CLASSICAL POEM • JULIA A. CARNEY (1845)**

*Little drops of water,  
Little grains of sand,  
Make the mighty ocean  
And the pleasant land.  
Little deeds of kindness,  
Little words of love,  
Make our earth an Eden,  
Like the heaven above.*

**• WRITE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS AND COPY THE POEM:**

1. What two little things make the mighty ocean and pleasant land?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What do little deeds of kindness and words of love make our earth become?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Which rhyming words end lines 2 and 4 in each stanza?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Stanza 1: Little drops of water, / Little grains of sand,

\_\_\_\_\_

Make the mighty ocean / And the pleasant land.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Stanza 2: Little deeds of kindness, / Little words of love,

\_\_\_\_\_

Make our earth an Eden, / Like the heaven above.

\_\_\_\_\_

**SELF CHECK** Every response is a full statement • Capital letter at start • Period (.) at end.

## LESSON 62: MEMORY LESSON — LITTLE THINGS — ANSWER KEY

### CLASSICAL PEDAGOGY & MEMORY RECITATION

**Pedagogical Objective:** The classical discipline of *memoria* (committing elevated verse to heart). Memorizing poetry builds rich inner vocabulary, rhythm, and moral imagination. Children learn the foundational rule of English prosody: every line of poetry begins with a capital letter, regardless of grammatical sentence boundaries.

**Socratic Classroom Sequence:** Recite the poem aloud to pupils with clear meter. Ask: 'What is a single drop of water like? Can a single drop make an ocean? What happens when billions of drops join together?' Explain what 'Eden' means (a garden of peace and happiness). Have pupils recite in unison, then by rows, and finally individually from memory.

### EXEMPLARY ANSWERS & SENTENCE CONSTRUCTION MODELS

#### • Question 1: What makes the ocean and land?

**Model Answer:** Little drops of water make the mighty ocean, and little grains of sand make the pleasant land.

**Teaching Guidance:** Full compound sentence echoing the poem's parallelism.

#### • Question 2: What makes our earth an Eden?

**Model Answer:** Little deeds of kindness and little words of love make our earth an Eden like heaven.

**Teaching Guidance:** Explain 'Eden' as a paradise on earth created through human love and kindness.

#### • Question 3: Rhyming pairs

**Model Answer:** The word 'sand' rhymes with 'land', and the word 'love' rhymes with 'above'.

**Teaching Guidance:** Highlight the abcb rhyme scheme characteristic of classical ballads and hymns.

#### • Copywork Transcription Models (Exact Orthography)

Little drops of water, Little grains of sand,

Make the mighty ocean And the pleasant land.

Little deeds of kindness, Little words of love,

Make our earth an Eden, Like the heaven above.

**Teaching Guidance:** Insist that each line begins with a capital letter, even though line 3 ('Make...') and line 4 ('And...') continue the same grammatical sentence.

**Common Errors to Address:** Check that 'Eden' is capitalized as a proper noun. Ensure commas after 'water', 'sand', 'kindness', and 'love' are correctly reproduced.