



## Chapter - 2.

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HIDE AND SEEK

By - John Vernon Scannell

## Summary :-

Hide and seek by Vernon Scannell is a free verse poem that explores the major theme of irresponsibility or negligence. The poem begins with the obvious energy of the child as he calls out to the other children to come and find him. He hides himself in a toolshed and he doesn't want to be found. So he makes sure to hide himself properly. He also reminds himself to be quite and still. He continues to wait silently holding himself back to ensure that he isn't caught by others to face his negligence. Eventually there comes a point when he realizes that everyone is "gone". No one is reaching out for him anymore. He begins to ~~panic~~ panic but doesn't want to see desperate so he decides to wait until until he is sure no one will try to pull him out of his negligence. He believes ~~for~~ he has "caught" up with the others just by acknowledging that his silly games are over. Unfortunately, he realizes that it is too late. Just because he has now chosen to pick up his slack does not mean others were willing to pause their lives for him, for as long as it was convenient for him. "The sun is gone", the source of warmth, life, and essentially life is gone from his life. He is too late. There he is standing alone, realizing the consequences of his negligence. In his hiding he lost all those who sought him.

# Word meanings :- (Learn)

1. toolshed :- a small building in a garden, used for storing tools.
2. Scuffle of words :- indistinct exchange of words.
3. frowning :- bringing your eyebrows closer together so that lines appear on your forehead.
4. Stir :- move slightly.

# Answer these Questions :- (write and learn)

Q1- where is the child hiding?

Ans → The child is hiding himself in a toolshed.

Q2. what makes the child think that the others will never be able to find him?

Ans → The child thinks that the others will never be able to find him so he makes sure to hide himself properly. He also remind himself to be quite and still.

Q3. What advice does the speaker give to the one who is hiding?

Ans The speaker gives advice to the one who is hiding that this simple game can easily be a metaphor for a person who hides away from people and friends in great energy



# Student's work. (Write in your notebook)



A Answer these questions.

1. Do you think the child is happy for not being found by the others in the end? Give reasons for your answer.

2. Do you think the child experiences both pleasure and pain during this game? Comment.

# Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. You make yourself little in the salty dark, close your eyes tight and hope your feet aren't showing.

Better not risk another call, they might be close.

a. Who is 'you' here?

b. Who are 'they'?

c) What is 'salty dark'?

2. 'I've won the game! You couldn't find me! The darkening garden watches. Nothing stirs. The bushes hold their breath. The air is cold.

a) Who does 'I' refer to?

b) Why is the garden described as darkening?

c) What does the garden watch?

d) Why doesn't anything stir?