

Good Morning, Mrs. Hamster

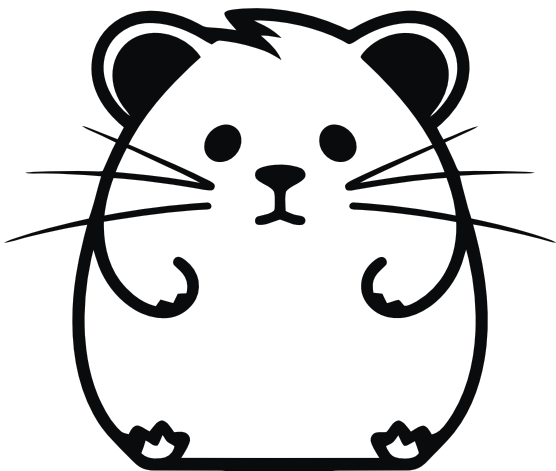
Read this poem and follow the instructions on the back

The teacher performed an experiment
she probably shouldn't have tried.
Some chemicals flashed and exploded.
She ended up frazzled and fried.

Her eyebrows were sizzling and smoking.
Her clothing was covered with soot.
She looked like a cartoon coyote
whose cannon had just gone kaput.

But something astonishing happened
as soon as her test went awry.
The teacher was caught by the shock wave,
and so was her hamster nearby.

The universe inside the blast zone
was literally rearranged,
affecting the teacher and hamster,
and somehow their brains were exchanged.



The hamster climbed up near the blackboard
and handed out homework galore.
The teacher, by contrast, was squeaking
and crawling around on the floor.

The principal quickly came running
the instant he learned of the news.
The hamster said, "Welcome. Please join us."
Our teacher was sniffing his shoes.

I'm sorry to say our poor teacher
now sits in a cage eating grass.
The principal made her our pet,
and the hamster's in charge of the class.

— Kenn Nesbitt

Name: _____

Date: _____

Context Clues

Find three unfamiliar words in the poem and write them in the spaces below. Then use context clues to figure out the meaning of each word and write your definition on the lines below the words..



