

Slide No. 1

Class: VII-English  
HONEYCOMB  
Topic: Poem

*CHIVVY*

— Michael Rosen



# Stanza-wise explanation of the poem:

*Grown-ups say things like:*

*Speak up*

*Don't talk with your mouth full*

*Don't stare*

*Don't point*

*Don't pick your nose*



In the above stanza the poet says that elders/older people always instruct small children such as to speak when they feel shy or when they are not speaking properly . Sometimes, children eat and talk at a time. So the elders prevent them from talking while eating. They also instruct not to look at something with great concentration or to direct someone's attention by showing his/her finger. The grown-ups also don't like children putting their fingers in the nose. So they tell them frequently not to do so.

## Slide No. 3

*Sit up*

*Say please*

*Less noise*

*Shut the door behind you*

*Don't drag your feet*

*Haven't you got a hankie?*

*Take your hands out of*

*your pockets*



In this stanza the poet says that grown-ups used to say to sit straight. The small children should say 'please' whenever they need help or something from someone. If the children make loud noise they say to make less noise. If they want to close the door while a child standing near the door they will ask him/her to close the door but will not do it themselves. They will ask you not to drag your feet if you are doing so knowingly or unknowingly. They will ask you whether you are carrying your hankie or not if it is necessary. They don't like to put hands in the pockets so whenever they notice the child doing so they will ask to take the hands out of his/her pockets.



## Slide No.4

***Pull your socks up***  
***stand up straight***  
***say thank you***  
***Don't interrupt***  
***No one thinks you're funny***  
***Take your elbows off the table***



In this stanza the poet gives other examples of 'do' and 'don'ts'. Grown-ups ask children to pull up their socks, to stand straight if they are unstable while standing. They also ask them not to interfere in the discussion. They neglect or condemn the child when he/she is trying to make others laugh. They don't like the child putting his/her hands on the table so they ask the child not to do so in front of others.

# Can't you make your own Mind up about anything?

In this couplet (two-lines) the poet brings out the contrast in the instructions like 'do' and 'don'ts' by the grown-ups. When the children try to apply their mind to do something with their own at that time they are prohibited to do so. But if they follow their instructions as it is, they are considered that they cannot apply their own mind.

