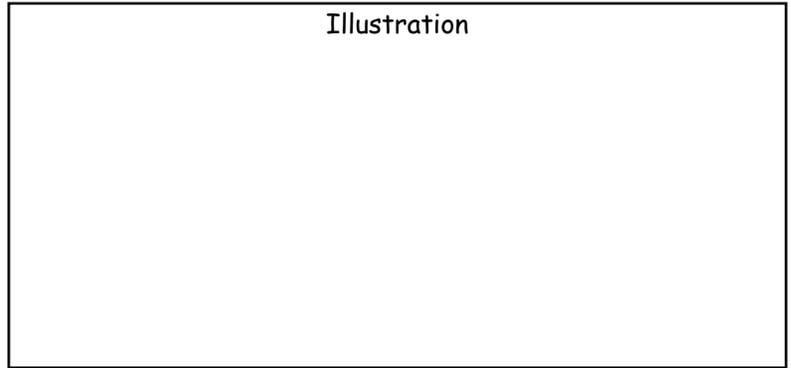




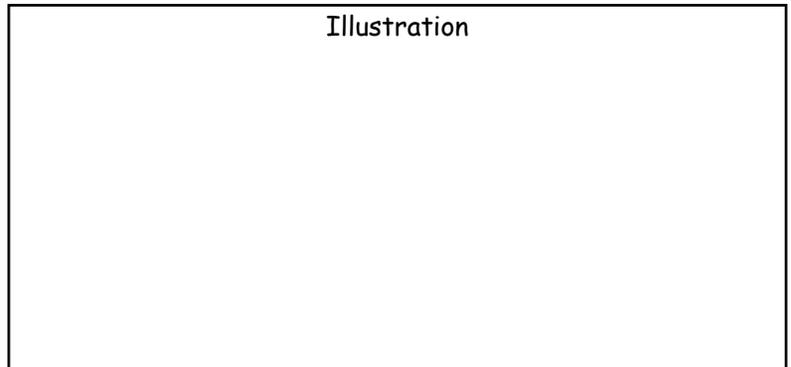
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Sky's Giant Drum

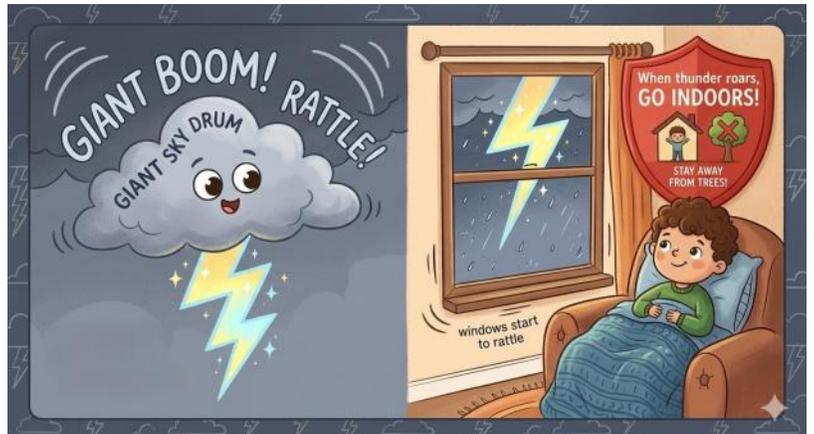
The air feels thick and heavy,  
The sun begins to hide,  
The fluffy white of morning  
Is gray and dark inside.  
The warm air starts to travel up,  
A climb that never stops,  
To build a giant mountain-cloud  
With cold and icy tops.



Inside that "cauliflower" sky,  
The ice and raindrops play,  
They bump and crash and tumble round  
In a busy, crowded way.  
Like socks upon a carpet floor,  
The sparks begin to grow,  
Until a flash of jagged light  
Puts on a brilliant show!



The air explodes—a giant BOOM!  
The windows start to rattle,  
It sounds as if the clouds above  
Are having quite a battle.  
But even though the show is grand,  
The safest place to be  
Is tucked inside your cozy house,  
Away from every tree.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In the poem, the author says the "windows start to rattle." What does this tell the reader about the sound of thunder?
  - A. The sound is very quiet and sneaky.
  - B. The thunder is actually hitting the house.
  - C. The windows are broken and need to be fixed.
  - D. The sound is powerful and causes physical vibrations.
  
2. The passage describes the clouds as "reaching for the stars." This is an example of personification. What does it help the reader visualize?
  - A. The clouds are moving very slowly across the grass.
  - B. The clouds are extremely tall and growing high into the atmosphere.
  - C. The clouds are shaped like actual stars in the sky.
  - D. The stars are coming down to touch the clouds.
  
3. What is the overall tone of the section "Staying Safe"?
  - A. Silly and playful.
  - B. Angry and loud.
  - C. Serious and helpful.
  - D. Sad and lonely.
  
4. The poem describes the ice and raindrops as if they "play" and "tumble round." What kind of feeling does this word choice give the middle of a storm?
  - A. It makes the movement inside the cloud seem active and energetic.
  - B. It makes the storm seem like it is falling asleep.
  - C. It makes the clouds seem like they are made of stone.
  - D. It suggests the raindrops are bored.
  
5. In the poem, the author calls the storm a "battle." Why is this a metaphor?
  - A. Because the clouds are wearing armor.
  - B. Because actual soldiers are hiding in the clouds.
  - C. Because it compares the loud, crashing noises of a storm to the sounds of a fight without using "like" or "as."
  - D. Because the clouds are trying to win a prize.
  
6. Create an illustration for the first and second stanza.