

# Where Do All the Teachers Go?

For a little child a teacher is special. It is difficult for a small child to think of his/her teacher as an ordinary person.

*Where do all the teachers go  
When it's four o'clock?  
Do they live in houses  
And do they wash their socks?*

*Do they wear pyjamas  
And do they watch TV?  
And do they pick their noses  
The same as you and me?*

*Do they live with other people  
Have they mums and dads?  
And were they ever children  
And were they ever bad?*

*Did they ever, never spell right  
Did they ever make mistakes?  
Were they punished in the corner  
If they pinched the chocolate flakes?*

*Did they ever lose their hymn books  
Did they ever leave their greens?  
Did they scribble on the desk tops  
Did they wear old dirty jeans?*



*I'll follow one back home today  
I'll find out what they do  
Then I'll put it in a poem  
That they can read to you.*

PETER DIXON

### WORKING WITH THE POEM

1. Answer these questions.
  - (i) Why does the poet want to know where the teachers go at four o'clock?
  - (ii) What are the things normal people do that the poet talks about?
  - (iii) What does he imagine about
    - (a) where teachers live?
    - (b) what they do at home?
    - (c) the people with whom they live?
    - (d) their activities when they were children in school?
  - (iv) Why does the poet wonder if teachers also do things that other people do?
  - (v) How does the poet plan to find out? What will he do once he finds out?
2. What do you think these phrases from the poem mean?
  - (i) punished in the corner
  - (ii) leave their greens