

What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare ?  
No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.  
No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.  
No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.  
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.  
No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.  
A poor life this if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.

By William Henry Davies (1871-1940)

1. What is the meaning of the word 'boughs'?  
a) stars in the sky b) blades of grass c) branches of a tree d) streams of water
2. Several lines start with 'no time'. What is the purpose of this repetition?
3. Find and copy a phrase which could mean the same as 'too occupied with worry'.
4. The word 'Beauty' has been given a capital letter - why do you think this has been done ?
5. Find and copy the word that means the same as to take a quick or hurried look at someone or something.
6. What is the main message of the poem?