

READER reads the following poem.

Mother to Son
Langston Hughes

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor --
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So, boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.
Don't you fall now --
For I've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

RECORDER records the group responses to the following questions (one set of answers/group - all must be able to explain).

1. Give three emotions/attitudes expressed by the poem.
2. What are your reactions (feelings and thoughts) to the poem? (3)
3. What is the poem saying?
4. Does this poem describe a student in your school?

SOCIAL SKILLS MONITOR makes sure everyone participates equally and listens actively.