

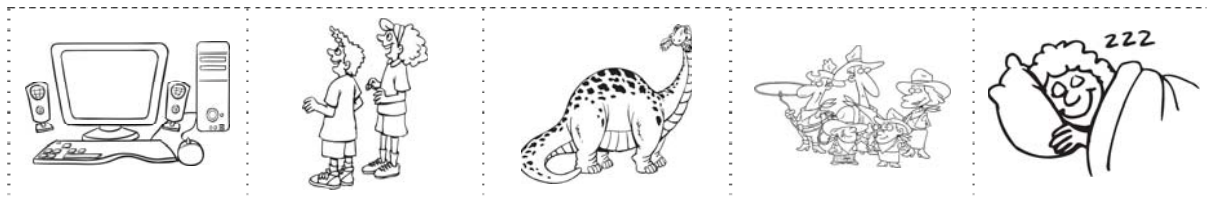
The author says that she is glad that she's not a \_\_\_\_\_.

When does she write her best songs?

Does she use a pen or a computer for writing?

What is she writing about now?

Who asked her to "please write another song?"

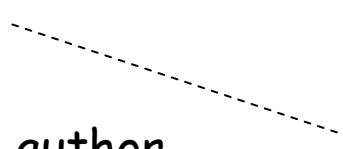







## Yes or No?

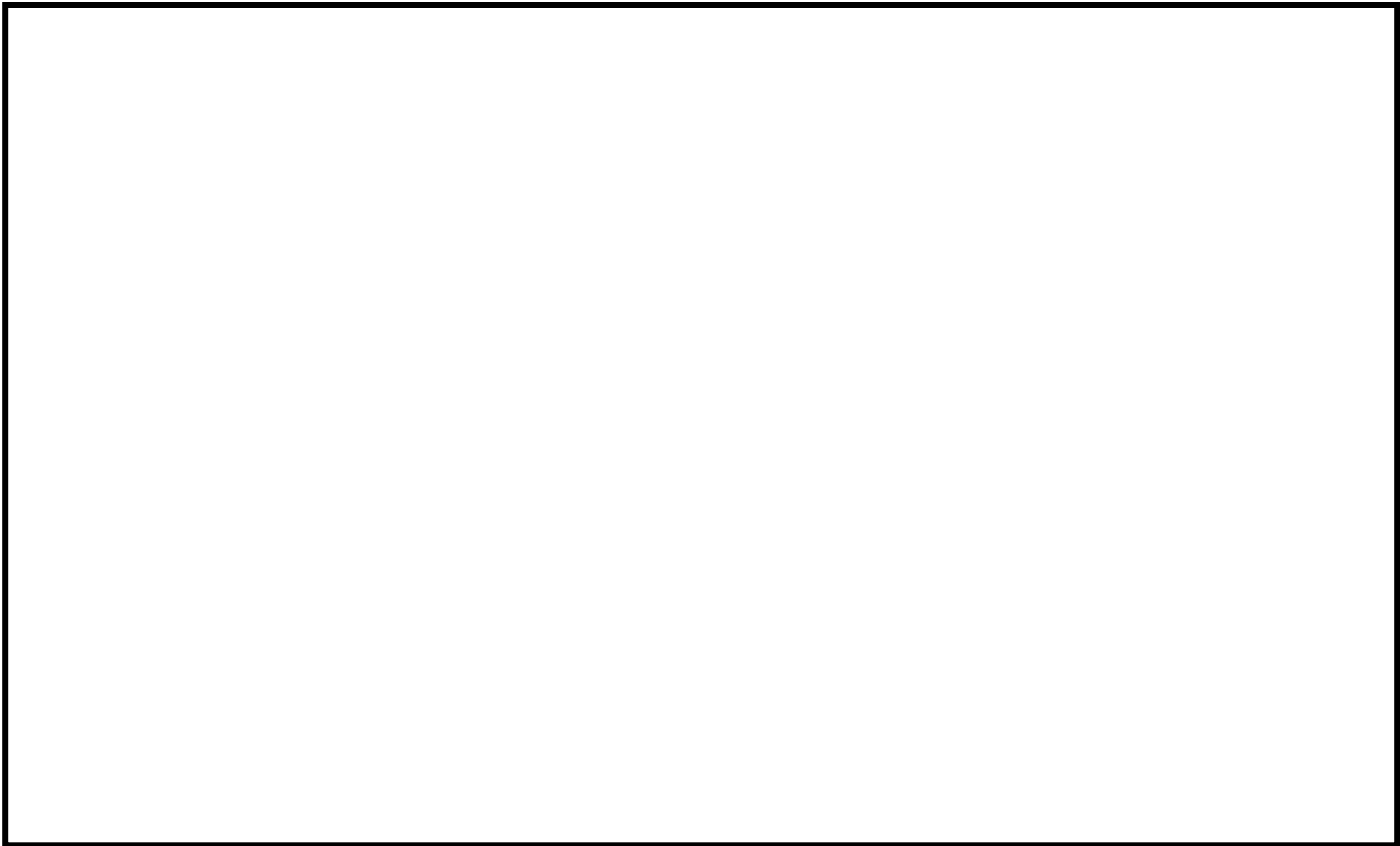
- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Does the author want to be a dinosaur?                 | yes | no |
| 2. Does she have to think about her topics?               | yes | no |
| 3. Does she write songs while eating?                     | yes | no |
| 4. Did she write songs while <i>driving</i> a motorcycle? | yes | no |
| 5. Does she like to write songs?                          | yes | no |

## It's a Match!

Draw a line to connect the naming part of the sentence with the action part of the sentence. Read them to yourself to make sure that they make sense. The first one is done for you.

- I'm  has to think about and study her topics.
- The author  glad I'm not a dinosaur.
- She  use her songs to teach children.
- Children  writes poems and songs for children.
- Teachers  come from people, places and things.
- Her ideas  would often ask for another song.

Draw a poster to go with one of your favorite songs.



### Fill in the Blanks

Read each sentence below. Circle the missing word and write it in the space.

1. Children like to _____ songs _____. _____
2. Teachers say, " _____ write a new song for me." _____
3. _____ songs often help children learn and remember. _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## I'm Glad I'm Not a Dinosaur

I'm glad I'm not a dinosaur, a frog, or even a silly goose. The diet of these critters just doesn't sound appetizing to me! Exciting, yes, but eating bugs and beetles and bushes is not something to sing about!

As a poet and writer of children's song lyrics, I do find that I have to look upon the daily doings of many of Mother Nature's creatures before I write about them. As a school teacher I often heard, "Please write another song for us to sing together!" The goofy and often silly words always seemed to please the kids the most.

When do I write these silly ditties? Where do I get my ideas? How many have I written? These are questions that I get asked by other teachers, parents, and children.

Believe it or not, I write many of my best songs in my sleep! I know that sounds hard to believe, but it's true. If I go to bed after thinking about a topic or if I've had a request for a new song, I tend to dream about it. I make up the words to the song, sing them in my sleep, and then wake up in the morning to type the words on my computer! Sometimes I do the same thing while I'm standing in the shower or riding in the car! When I was younger, I even wrote songs while riding on the back of my husband's motorcycle.

My ideas come from a wide variety of people, places and things. I get many requests for songs in my email, some from as far away as Australia! Let's face it, children all over the world like to sing and it's looked upon by teachers as a way to help them learn and to remember things.

*I'm Glad I'm Not a Dinosaur* is the name of just one dinosaur song that I wrote about thirty years ago when I was still teaching school. Right now I'm writing a collection of cowboy songs for a teacher in Arizona!

How many songs have I written? I've lost count, but I know that it's several hundred. Time for a nap and another song!

Find and circle the special story words. How many did you find?

upon \_\_\_\_\_ these \_\_\_\_\_ sing \_\_\_\_\_ together \_\_\_\_\_ please \_\_\_\_\_