

# The Land of Counterpane

by Robert Louis Stevenson *from A Child's Garden of Verses*

*A counterpane is a quilt or bedspread.*

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When I was sick and lay a-bed,  
I had two pillows at my head,  
And all my toys beside me lay  
To keep me happy all the day.

And sometimes for an hour or so  
I watched my leaden soldiers go,  
With different uniforms and drills,  
Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

And sometimes sent my ships in fleets  
All up and down among the sheets;  
Or brought my trees and houses out,  
And planted cities all about.

I was the giant great and still  
That sits upon the pillow-hill,  
And sees before him, dale and plain,  
The pleasant land of counterpane.

**Questions**

1. List two sets of rhyming words.
2. Are the soldiers, cities, trees, and houses in the poem real or imaginary?
3. Who is the giant in the poem?
4. What games do you play when you are sick and in bed?