

# The Seagull

by Elizabeth Trach

The seagull lives along the shore  
And flies above the ocean's roar.  
His body gleams in gray and white  
Against the sky when he takes flight.

The seagull doesn't chirp or tweet  
when yet he finds a yummy treat.  
Instead, he makes a lonely cry  
that echoes out across the sky.

The seagull skims the sea for fish,  
(It's probably his favorite dish).  
But when the children come to play  
The seagull has a special day.

For when the children have a snack  
That's when the seagull cries, "Attack!"  
And dives to grab what food he can  
Directly from an open hand.

So when you picnic at the beach  
Keep all your lunch snacks out of reach,  
Or you may lose your chance to eat  
When seagull steals your special treat!

**Questions**

1. Where do seagulls live?
2. What do seagulls look like?
3. Why does the seagull like the days that children come to play?
4. Give two examples of two words that rhyme.

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**Vocabulary List**

Each of the vocabulary words below are used in the reading passage. As you read the passage, pay attention to context clues that suggest the word's meaning.

1. shore
2. gleams
3. skims
4. yummy
5. echoes
6. directly

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**Context Clues**

Using context clues from the sentences in the passage, underline the correct meaning of the word in boldface.

1) "The seagull lives along the **shore**..."

- a. path of shells    b. forest's edge    c. ocean's edge    d. mountains

2) "His body **gleams** in gray and white..."

- a. shines    b. hides    c. flies    d. grows fur

3) "The seagull **skims** the sea for fish,"

- a. swims under    b. travels on    c. splashes in    d. circles around

4) "...when yet he finds a **yummy** treat.

- a. expired    b. fishy    c. dirty    d. tasty

5) "Instead, he makes a lonely cry that **echoes** out across the sky."

- a. makes clouds    b. repeats    c. disappears    d. grows louder

6) "...And dives to grab what food he can **directly** from an open hand."

- a. straight    b. immediately    c. especially    d. except for

