

The Meteor Shower



10 We had been learning about space in school and our
19 teacher had told us about the expected Perseid meteor
29 shower. I managed to convince my mum that I 'needed'
40 to stay up to watch it, so we converted my trampoline
50 into a viewing station, with warm blankets, flasks of hot
59 chocolate, my binoculars, a torch and notebook and pen
63 (to record our sightings).

73 Although it had been drizzling most of the week, the
80 sky cleared that evening! Excitement bubbled inside
92 me like a lava lamp and I got cosy, lying back, staring
104 at the vast, inky sky. As my eyes adjusted, I began to
113 see more sparkling stars. Suddenly, I spotted my first
123 meteor, closely followed by another. It was going to be
126 an amazing evening...

Quick Questions



1. Find three words that are linked to 'seeing something'?



2. Where does the child watch the meteor shower?



3. Will it be 'an amazing evening'? Why do you think this?



4. Why does the author put 'needed' in inverted commas?

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Answers



1. Find three words that are linked to 'seeing something'?
Accept any of: watch, viewing, sightings, staring, see, spotted



2. Where does the child watch the meteor shower?
From their trampoline



3. Will it be 'an amazing evening'? Why do you think this?
Accept any reasonable answer linking to the text, e.g. yes because they have already seen two meteors very quickly so will see lots more or no, because it was raining most of the week so the weather will change again.



4. Why does the author put 'needed' in inverted commas?
Accept an explanation that describes their need due to their interest in space and having been learning about it in school. The inverted commas suggest that the child is pleading with their mum.