I have a new pet dragon.
He followed me from a dream.
But I can’t tell my mom,
It would only make her scream.

I tried to feed him fried rice,
But he didn’t like the spice.

So I tried to feed him applesauce,
But he said it made his eyes cross.

I tried to feed him gingerbread,
But he said it only hurt his head.

So I tried to feed him peanut butter,
But it got stuck and made him stutter.

I tried to feed him watermelon pie,
But that, he said, he wouldn’t try.

So I tried to feed him sprinkle cake,
But he said that would keep him awake.

I tried to feed him last night’s dessert,
But he said it made his stomach hurt.

So I tried to feed him some fish,
But he really didn’t like that dish.

Then I tried to feed him cheese,
That’s when he said “more please.”

Now my mom is wondering why,
We can’t keep cheese in the house.
I heard her last night telling Dad,
She thinks we have a mouse.
What to Feed a Dragon
by Kimber Krochmal

1. Why wouldn’t the dragon eat rice?

______________________________________________________________________________

2. Why wouldn’t the dragon eat sprinkle cake?

______________________________________________________________________________

3. What type of poem is this?
   a. non-fiction
   b. fantasy
   c. science fiction
   d. biography

4. Lines 23 and 24 of the poem say:
   
   My mom is wondering why,  
   We can’t keep cheese in the house.
   
   What does this mean?
   a. Mom wonders why the cheese smells rotten.
   b. Mom thinks the cheese needs to be kept outside.
   c. Mom wonders why the store is out of cheese.
   d. Mom wonders why the cheese keeps disappearing.

5. Which of these sentences describes something that could happen in real life?
   a. Last night’s dessert made my dragon’s stomach hurt.
   b. I told my mom that I have a pet dragon.
   c. I tried to feed my pet dragon applesauce.
   d. My pet dragon said, “More please."

Now try this: Read the poem aloud to a friend, parent, or teacher. Practice reading with expression.
What to Feed a Dragon

Vocabulary

The words below are scrambled words from the poem. Unscramble each word and write it on the line. Be sure you spell the words correctly when you unscramble them.

1. eser
   Clue: sweet snack served after dinner

2. aleps
   Clue: polite word to use when you ask for something

3. tttres
   Clue: to have trouble speaking

4. cothmisa
   Clue: organ in your body that holds food

5. demare
   Clue: something your brain does while you sleep

6. ppaaeusscle
   Clue: soft food made from a red fruit