

Name

Date

## A handsome beast

- Each verse of this poem describes an animal. Guess as many as you can.
- Add more verses to the poem or write some riddles on another subject.

A handsome beast and rather shy  
It sounds a very costly buy.

He's at a cricket match always  
But prefers the nights over the days.

He's not intentionally rude  
Although it sounds as if he's nude.

We're told we know what sailors are  
Well, here's a very backward tar.

He likes the hot and sunny weather  
For putting two plus two together.

It sounds as if this creature's plight is  
Suffering from laryngitis.

A creature judging by the sound  
With which the human head is crowned.

Some are small and some are whoppers  
A form of transport used by coppers.

You'll find him at the London Zoo  
He's black and white and walked on too.



Illustrations © Ray and Corinne Burrows.

### Dear helper

**Objective:** To extend vocabulary by guessing and writing riddles.

**Task:** Children can learn a great deal about language by playing with it. Riddles are a very ancient form of language play and these, written in rhyme, have a format that can be easily copied. Help your child to guess the answers and to write some more verses.