

### The Goody Boy

1. What was the challenge faced by the boy?
2. What is the meaning of “to curb his sadness” as used in the 4<sup>th</sup> stanza?
3. Which line from the poem let’s the reader know that the main character is relieved to be considered a good boy?
4. What is at least one possible theme of this poem? Provide evidence from the text to support the theme you choose.

## The GOOD BOY

The little boy,  
He thought he could.  
And thus he set out  
To do good.  
It was a habit  
That he had  
To only succumb  
To actions that were bad.

His challenge he knew  
Would be an abundant one  
But he would succeed  
When the day was done.  
So he began,  
And found it easy  
To assist others  
That were needy.

He'd open doors  
And lug bags.  
He was even agreeable enough  
To help raise flags.  
The boy found out  
That it was fun  
To help other people,  
Each and every one.

And from that day on  
He was no longer bad.  
On days there was no one to help  
He was actually sad.  
To curb his sadness  
He became a volunteer.  
Giving his time to others  
And his new mission was clear.

He was now a good boy  
And enjoyed this label.  
He offered his time  
Whenever he was able.  
He'd spend time at the shelter,  
And with homeless pets.  
He also visited old people  
And injured vets.