

I don't like  
big bulgy fat black slugs.  
I don't know why.

When they creep along,  
soft and slimy and squashy,  
wobbly and wet,  
in the long grass;

and when they slide,  
their slippery trail  
squelchy blobs  
along the path;

and when they curl up,  
cold and slithery  
if I touch one by  
mistake;

and when they squidge  
between my toes  
if I'm running  
in bare feet ...

that's when I know,  
I know for sure,  
I wouldn't want one  
for a pet.

Berlie Doherty

### Do you remember?

Copy these sentences.

Choose a word from the box to fill each gap.

pet    slugs    toes    grass    path

1. The poet doesn't like \_\_\_\_\_.
2. She says they are wobbly and wet in the long \_\_\_\_\_.
3. They leave their slippery trails along the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. She doesn't want them to get between her \_\_\_\_\_.
5. She definitely wouldn't want a slug as a \_\_\_\_\_.

### More to think about

Look at the poem again.

One word in each sentence is not correct.  
Write each sentence correctly.

1. Slugs are usually yellow.
2. They jump through wet grass.
3. When they swim they leave a slippery trail.
4. Slugs explode between your toes.



### Now try these

1. The poet uses words beginning with 's' to describe the slug. Make a list of these 's' words. Why do you think the poet uses these words?
2. Make a list of your favourite creatures. Say why you like each one.
3. Make a list of four creatures you don't like. Say what it is you don't like about each one.
4. Imagine the slug could understand English, and heard people saying unkind and rude things about him. How would he feel, and what might he say back?

