

Identifying & Explaining Figurative Language

Directions: Read the following poems and explain how they are figurative.

The Monkey

By John Greenleaf Whittier

Black, restless, mischievous little
Bewilderer of wrensprings and corners,
The Monkey looks like the Brown Ape
Another grinding disk of those who make things happen
upon the ice floes,
As late as yesterday together in their struggles of
collaboration.

1. How is the poem "The Monkey" figurative?
2. What would the poet's saying of "we look at the sky?"

Shells

By W. Scott Meredith

What do we say to ourselves
When we go upon the
beach with shells for
souvenirs?
With their smooth
surfaces, polished
with the waves' strokes placed on from great
distance back their distant flight.

3. How is the poem "Shells" figurative?
4. What would the poet's saying of "we look at the sky?"