

Little Boy Blue by Eugene Field

The little toy dog is covered with dust,
But sturdy and stanch he stands;
And the little toy soldier is red with rust,
And his musket moulds in his hands.
Time was when the little toy dog was new
And the soldier was passing fair,
And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue
Kissed them and put them there.
“Now, don’t you go till I come,” he said,
“And don’t you make any noise!”
So toddling off to his trundle-bed
He dreamed of the pretty toys.
And as he was dreaming, an angel song
Awakened our Little Boy Blue,—
Oh, the years are many, the years are long,
But the little toy friends are true.

Ay, faithful to Little Boy Blue they stand,
Each in the same old place,
Awaiting the touch of a little hand,
The smile of a little face.
And they wonder, as waiting these long years
through,
In the dust of that little chair,
What has become of our Little Boy Blue
Since he kissed them and put them there.



1. What do you think the toy soldier is made from?



2. Can you list **two** ways the poet has shown that the toys are very precious to Little Boy Blue?

1.

2.



3. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The little toy dog holds a musket.		
The toys are sitting on a little chair.		
Little Boy Blue slept in a trundle-bed.		



4. Looking through the content of the whole poem, why have the toys waited years in the same old place?

Little Boy Blue Answers

1. What do you think the toy soldier is made from?

The toy soldier is made from metal as it says that he is 'red with rust'.

2. Can you list **two** ways the poet has shown that the toys are very precious to Little Boy Blue?

Accept any two of the following:

- **he kissed them before he went to bed;**
- **he dreamed of the pretty toys;**
- **he talked to them as though they were real;**
- **he had a smile on his little face when he played with them.**

3. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The little toy dog holds a musket.		✓
The toys are sitting on a little chair.	✓	
Little Boy Blue slept in a trundle-bed.	✓	

4. Looking through the content of the whole poem, why have the toys waited years in the same old place?

Little Boy Blue never returned to the toys because 'an angel song' took him in the night and he has never played with them again. The toys waited on the chair and wondered what had become of him.