



PARENT GUIDE > On Turning Ten

by Billy Collins • 1995

Share this page with your students' parents or guardians to give them information on what students are doing in class.

This week in class, we're reading "[On Turning Ten](#)" by Billy Collins.

Billy Collins (b. 1941) is an award-winning American poet who writes about everyday occurrences to express the deeper meaning of life. In this poem, the speaker reflects on his youth with longing.

As we read, we will be discussing the theme of [Growing Up](#) as it relates to the text. We are trying to answer this big question :

"Why should we value our youth?"

Ways to support your child:

- Ask your child about this poem at home:
 - What was "[On Turning Ten](#)" About
 - What did you learn about?
- Watch [On Turning Ten - Billy Collins](#) at home with your child.

