

### Activities: Roller Coaster

1. **Explore Contrast:** Make a list of images the author uses to convey the conflicting feelings of the poem's narrator, then decide which of these images is the most effective. Be prepared to explain your choice to the class.
2. **Research Allusions:** Locate pictures and information to explain the allusions to "Edvard Munch," "the sun-god," and a "mobius." Explain how the visual images suggested by the allusions reinforce the mood the author creates.
3. **Analyze Style:** Identify and explain four examples of effective stylistic elements in the poem, such as line breaks, sentence length, imagery, and diction.
4. **Write a Poem:** Write a poem about an experience in which you felt conflicting emotions, such as dread and joy, or solemnity and humour. Create descriptions that are as vivid as Ruzesky's. Ask a partner for constructive feedback.

### Activities: A Kite Is a Victim

1. **Write a Response:** In your journal, write a personal response to the poem. Comment on each stanza in a brief paragraph, noting specific words and images you find particularly striking.
2. **Discuss Metaphor:** In a small group, discuss the metaphor in the first line of each stanza and note how Cohen develops each metaphor. Is this poem really about a kite or is it about something else? List and share your group's ideas.
3. **Research Poets:** Find and read poems by three other Governor General's Award-winning poets. Choose a favourite short poem and prepare an oral reading of it for the class. Experiment with vocal techniques to create an effective reading.
4. **Create a Mime:** In a group of four, take turns creating a pantomime for each stanza. Have one person read the stanza while another acts it out. Present your mime to the class.