Jabberwocky activities

'Jabberwocky' by Lewis Carroll

'Twas **brillig**, and the **slithy toves**
Did **gyre** and **gimble** in the **wabe**;
All **mimsy** were the **borogoves**,
And the **mome raths outgrabe**.

This poem tells a story and this first verse sets the scene or location for the story. What kind of location do you think this is describing? You have to use your imagination.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The **frumious** Bandersnatch!"

What kind of character do you imagine might be speaking here and who are they speaking to?

He took his **vorpal** sword in hand;
Long time the **manxome** foe he sought—
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

The action begins. Is the person here the same as the one who was speaking in the last verse?

And, as in **uffish** thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came **whiffling** through the **tulgey** wood,
And **burbled** as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went **galumphing** back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my **beamish** boy!
O **frabjous** day! Callooh! Callay!"
He chortled in his joy.

Who do you think is speaking now?

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

Why do you think this last verse is the same as the first?

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Name: .... Date: ....
LO: ....

Task 1

Read the poem carefully and in pairs sort the words in bold into the boxes below.

nouns	
verbs	
adjectives	

Task 2

Still in pairs, each make a mini dictionary of Jabberwocky words, discussing and deciding what **you** think they mean. You may have some different ideas from your partner. We will compare everyone's meanings afterwards.

Task 3

Draw a picture of the Jubjub bird, the Bandersnatch or the Tumtum Tree and label it with some interesting invented nouns and adjectives.