

静夜思

Jìng Yè Sī • Quiet Night Thoughts • by Li Bai

chuáng qián míng yuè guāng

床前明月光

Bright moonlight in front of my bed,

yí shì dì shàng shuāng

疑是地上霜

I wonder if it is frost on the ground.

jǔ tóu wàng míng yuè

举头望明月

I lift my head and look at the bright moon,

dī tóu sī gù xiāng

低头思故乡

I lower my head and think of home.

What it means

Li Bai wrote this far from home. Moonlight on the floor looks so pale he mistakes it for frost, then he looks up at the moon and misses the place he grew up. It is probably the best-known poem in China: almost every child can recite it before starting school.

Key words

月 yuè moon 光 guāng light 头 tóu head 乡 xiāng home village

Follow the red stroke in each small box. Trace the grey characters, then write it on your own.

chuáng bed 7 strokes

丶 ㇇ 广 尸 ㇇ 床 床

床 床 床 床 床

qián in front 9 strokes

丶 丷 一 ㇇ 前 前 前 前 前

前 前 前 前 前

míng bright 8 strokes

丨 冂 月 日 明 明 明 明

明 明 明 明 明

yuè moon 4 strokes

丿 冂 月 月

月 月 月 月 月

guāng light 6 strokes

丨 丿 ㇇ 止 光 光

光 光 光 光 光

yí to doubt 14 strokes

丶 匕 尸 止 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔

疑 疑 疑 疑 疑

shì to be 9 strokes

丨 冂 𠂔 日 旦 早 早 𠂔 是

是 是 是 是 是

dì earth 6 strokes

一 十 土 土 地 地

地 地 地 地 地

shàng above 3 strokes

丨 乚 上

上 上 上 上 上

Follow the red stroke in each small box. Trace the grey characters, then write it on your own.

shuāng frost 17 strokes



霜 霜 霜 霜 霜

jǔ to raise 9 strokes



举 举 举 举 举

tóu head 5 strokes



头 头 头 头 头

wàng to expect 11 strokes



望 望 望 望 望

dī low 7 strokes



低 低 低 低 低

sī to think 9 strokes



思 思 思 思 思

gù reason 9 strokes



故 故 故 故 故

xiāng country 3 strokes



乡 乡 乡 乡 乡

静夜思

Trace each line, then copy it into the empty boxes below. Say it aloud as you write.

chuáng qián míng yuè guāng

床	前	明	月	光

yí shì dì shàng shuāng

疑	是	地	上	霜

jǔ tóu wàng míng yuè

举	头	望	明	月

dī tóu sī gù xiāng

低	头	思	故	乡

I can recite this poem: ☐ Date _____

Enjoyed Quiet Night Thoughts?

This free sample is one poem from our workbook **13 Classic Chinese Poems for Kids**. The full book has the same three steps for every poem: read it with pinyin and English, learn each character stroke by stroke, then copy the whole poem. 66 pages, A4 and US Letter.

Get the full workbook: littlemoonchinese.com/go/workbook/

The other 12 poems

1. 春晓 Spring Dawn Meng Haoran
2. 咏鹅 Ode to the Goose Luo Binwang
3. 登鹳雀楼 On the Stork Tower Wang Zhihuan
4. 悯农 Pity the Farmers Li Shen
5. 江雪 River Snow Liu Zongyuan
6. 咏柳 Ode to the Willow He Zhizhang
7. 画 A Painting Wang Wei
8. 草 Grass Bai Juyi
9. 鹿柴 Deer Park Wang Wei
10. 寻隐者不遇 Looking for the Hermit Jia Dao
11. 相思 Thinking of You Wang Wei
12. 游子吟 Song of the Traveller Meng Jiao

You are welcome to print this sample as often as you like and share it with other parents and teachers.