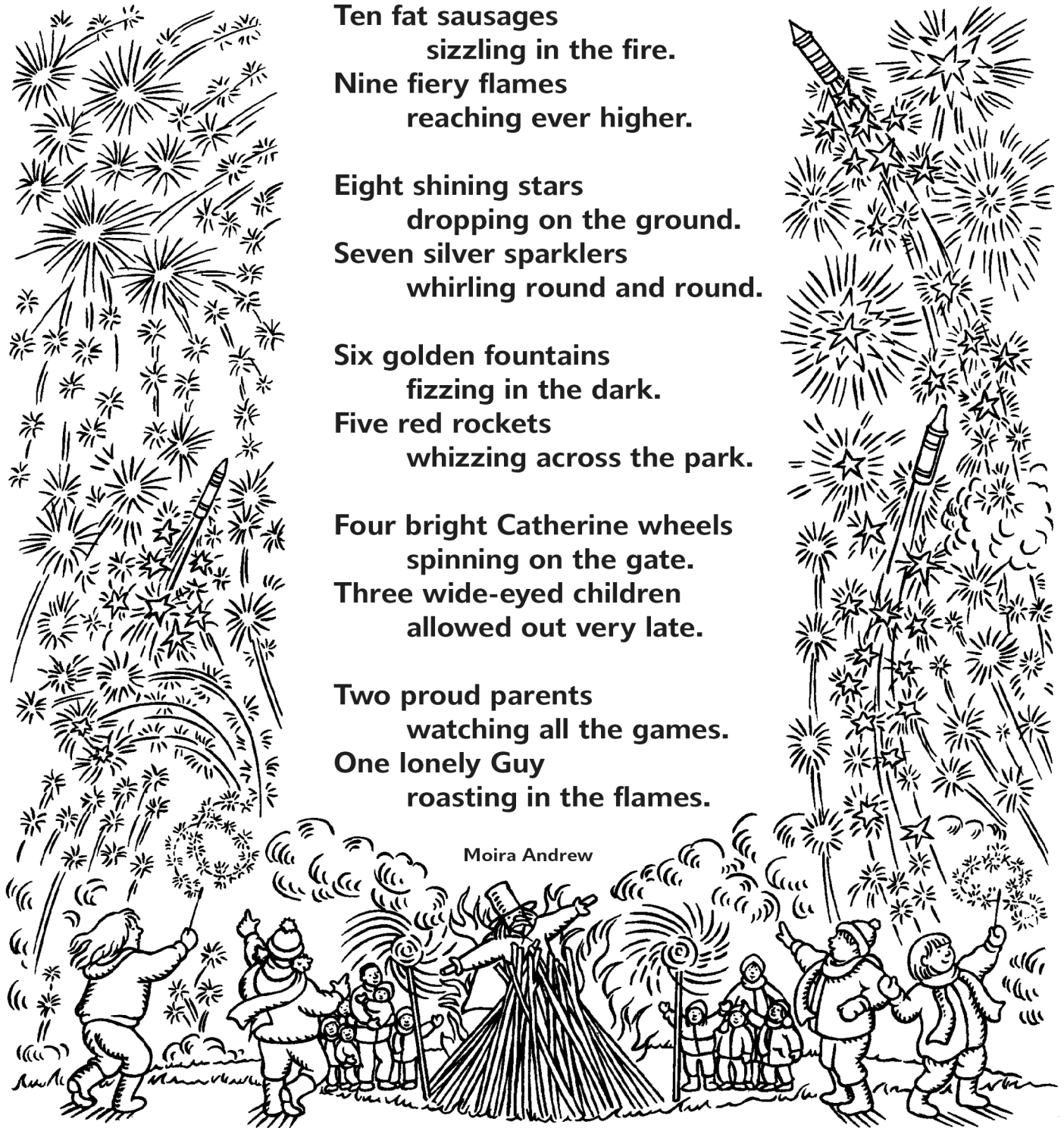


# November night countdown



Ten fat sausages  
sizzling in the fire.  
Nine fiery flames  
reaching ever higher.  
Eight shining stars  
dropping on the ground.  
Seven silver sparklers  
whirling round and round.  
Six golden fountains  
fizzing in the dark.  
Five red rockets  
whizzing across the park.  
Four bright Catherine wheels  
spinning on the gate.  
Three wide-eyed children  
allowed out very late.  
Two proud parents  
watching all the games.  
One lonely Guy  
roasting in the flames.

Moira Andrew

## Teachers' notes

Read aloud the poem 'November Night countdown'. Ask the children if they know who 'One lonely Guy' refers to. Do they know what event is being celebrated? Read the poem aloud for a second time, encouraging the children to join in the countdown.

On the whiteboard, make a list of the things that the children most look forward to on Bonfire Night – sparklers, fireworks, rockets, Catherine wheels and so on. Talk about the different ways

that fireworks and bonfire flames move and light up the skies – *spinning, whirling, dancing, wizzing*. Encourage the children to choose six appropriate nouns and match these with a movement word. For example, *sparklers dancing, rockets zooming* and so on. Make a six-line poem from the pairings or draw a flaming bonfire with the noun/verb combination printed along a 'flame' to make a shape poem.