

21. Flint



An emerald is as green as grass,
A ruby red as blood;
A sapphire shines as blue as heaven;
A flint lies in the mud.



A diamond is a brilliant stone,
To catch the world's desire;
An opal holds a fiery spark;
But a flint holds fire.

– Christina Rossetti



- **heaven** : the sky.
- **brilliant** : very bright.
- **world's desire** : everyone in the world has a strong wish to own it.
- **fiery** : like fire, very bright.
- **flint** : very hard gray stone that is used to produce sparks and light a fire.

Things to do :

1. Answer the following questions :
 - (a) What precious stones are mentioned here ?
 - (b) Where does a flint lie ?
 - (c) Is a flint attractive or colourful ?
 - (d) What can a flint produce ?
2. 'An emerald is as green as grass' is an example of a simile. Give two other examples of similes from the poem.