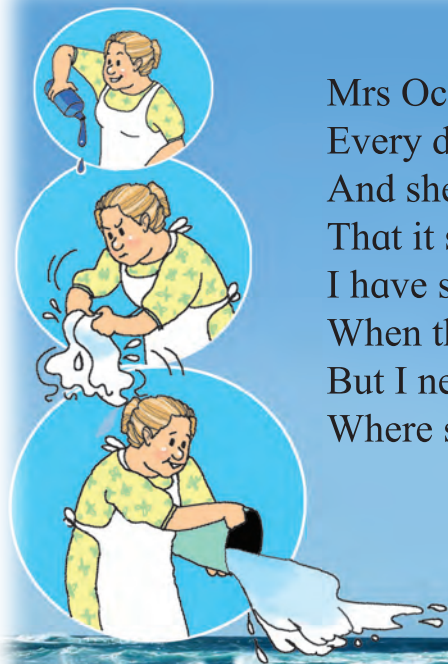


33. Washday



Mrs Ocean takes in washing
Every day the whole year through
And she uses so much bluing
That it stains the water blue.
I have seen the soap suds floating
When the waves were rough and high,
But I never have discovered
Where she hangs the clothes to dry.

— Elizabeth F. Upson



● **bluing** : blue substance that is used in washing to make yellowing fabrics look whiter. ● **stains** : colours. ● **soap suds** : foam or lather formed in soapy water.

Things to do :

1. Answer the following questions :
 - (a) What is the ocean called in this poem ?
 - (b) What does Mrs Ocean do every day ?
 - (c) Why does the sea water turn blue ?
 - (d) What do the waves breaking on the shore look like ?
2. The poet uses her imagination to talk about Mrs Ocean.
Can you use your imagination to talk about the following ?
 - (a) Mr Moon
 - (b) Mr Sun
 - (c) Ms Earth