

Investigating *The Lowest Place*

- ❖ Why do you think that Rossetti chose to derive her title directly from a passage in the Bible?
- ❖ How effective do you think that this poem is as a reminder of the Christian belief that there is life beyond the grave?
- ❖ Why do you think that the poem is not more explicit about this?
- ❖ What similarities are immediately apparent in a consideration of both *The Lowest Place* and '*Summer is Ended*'?
- ❖ What differences are immediately apparent?

Investigating language and tone

- ❖ What associations do you have with the idea of humility?
 - How do you see these associations met in the language and voice of the speaker of *The Lowest Place*?

Investigating structure and versification

- ❖ Consider the first lines of both verses in *The Lowest Place*

- How does the insertion of the colon contribute to the way in which the poem is read?
- ❖ Consider the appearance of the poem on the page
 - What do you notice?

Investigating imagery and symbolism

- ❖ Is there anything that surprises you about the imagery and symbolism used in the poem?

Investigating themes

- ❖ Can you identify any significant lessons that are conveyed in the poem?