**Directions:** Read the poem below and *annotate* as you do. Think about what the poem is saying about friendship, how this relates to relationships in your life, and the relationship between George and Lennie in *Of Mice and Men*.

“Us Two” by A.A. Milne

Wherever I am, there's always Pooh,

There's always Pooh and Me.

Whatever I do, he wants to do,

"Where are you going today?" says Pooh:

"Well, that's very odd 'cos I was too.

Let's go together," says Pooh, says he.

"Let's go together," says Pooh.

"What's twice eleven?" I said to Pooh.

("Twice what?" said Pooh to Me.)

"I think it ought to be twenty-two."

"Just what I think myself," said Pooh.

"It wasn't an easy sum to do,

But that's what it is," said Pooh, said he.

"That's what it is," said Pooh.

"Let's look for dragons," I said to Pooh.

"Yes, let's," said Pooh to Me.

We crossed the river and found a few-

"Yes, those are dragons all right," said Pooh.

"As soon as I saw their beaks I knew.

That's what they are," said Pooh, said he.

"That's what they are," said Pooh.

"Let's frighten the dragons," I said to Pooh.

"That's right," said Pooh to Me.

"I'm not afraid," I said to Pooh,

And I held his paw and I shouted "Shoo!

Silly old dragons!"- and off they flew.

"I wasn't afraid," said Pooh, said he,

"I'm never afraid with you."

So wherever I am, there's always Pooh,

There's always Pooh and Me.

"What would I do?" I said to Pooh,

"If it wasn't for you," and Pooh said: "True,

It isn't much fun for One, but Two,

Can stick together, says Pooh, says he. "That's how it is," says Pooh.

**Directions:**  After reading the poem *Us Two*, answer the questions below. Analyze this poem with the lens of analysis toward *Of Mice and Men*.

1. Why is the line “Whatever I do, he wants to do” important? Is liking to do the same things important to being friends with someone?
2. In stanza two, what characteristic of a friend is Pooh demonstrating when he says, “That’s what it is”?
3. Are the dragons really dragons in this poem or something else? If they are not, what does it mean that Pooh is willing to “play along?”
4. The narrator says “I’m not afraid” but he also holds Pooh’s paw. How can we make sense of both of these things?
5. In stanza one, Milne writes that friends “go together” and in stanza six, he writes that friends “stick together.” What is the difference between these two things?
6. What is this poem saying about friendship? How does this connect with Steinbeck’s portrayal of friendship between Lennie and George?