

## Grade 4 - Narrative

### What Carbon Makes

Carbon is an element  
known since ancient days.  
It changes into different forms.  
We use it in different ways.

5 Carbon is mixed with other things  
and then pressed into pieces.  
Charcoal helps us barbecue;  
meat cooks as fire increases.

10 A willow branch burns darkly.  
When it cools, the fun can start.  
Grab some paper; start to draw.  
A charcoal stick makes art.

15 Another form is graphite.  
It writes things to be read.  
It is what's inside your pencil,  
even though we call it lead.

20 Underground, some jewels form  
one hundred miles deep.  
The weight of Earth compresses carbon  
into diamond treasures that are not cheap!

We mine the diamonds and polish them;  
they're beautiful, hard, and bright.  
A diamond spins through brick and stone.  
It gives a drill bit bite.

25 We work with carbon quite a lot,  
in fires, pictures, and rings.  
But carbon's biggest talent  
is for making living things.

30 Each squirmy worm, each elephant,  
each rose bush, every tree;  
each person on the planet—  
that means you, and that means me.

35 We're all built of carbon blocks.  
Where would we be without it?  
Carbon is a part of us—  
There is no doubt about it!