The Land of Counterpane

When I was sick and lay a-bed,
I had two pillows at my head,
And all my toys beside me lay
To keep me happy all the day.

And sometimes for an hour or so
I watched my leaden soldiers go,
With different uniforms and drills,
Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

And sometimes sent my ships in fleets
All up and down among the sheets;
Or brought my trees and houses out,
And planted cities all about.

I was the giant great and still
That sits upon the pillow-hill,
And sees before him, dale and plain,
The pleasant land of counterpane.

Robert Louis Stevenson

1. What is the speaker in the poem doing?

2. How many stanzas are in the poem? _________

3. How many rhyming pairs are in the poem? _________

4. When reading the poem aloud, does it feel natural to read it quickly or more slowly? Why?

The word **counterpane** is an old word meaning bedspread.