

Poetry Prompts Curriculum Map

Students often have no appreciation or understanding of the art form called poetry. They will moan and groan at the mere mention of the word. Students must be exposed to all forms of poetry writings well before they try to write. Poetry must be enjoyed and appreciated as a skilfully written art form. According to Ruskin reading poetry is like the erecting of fairy palaces of magic thought, proof against all adversity. To learn in school to love poetry helps to build such palaces and desires.

Often teachers shy away from implementing poetry writing because they have no idea where to begin or how to stimulate interest in it. Listed below are some ways to help the classroom teacher to stimulate interest and to promote this art form.

Simply start with one section and move along throughout the year.

Introduction

- At A Glance – List of Skills
- Teacher Assessment Rubric
- Student Self-Assessment Rubric

Section 1:

- Introduction
- Kinds of Poetry
- Poetry Stimulators

Section 2:

- Choral Reading
- Classroom Choral Reading
- Poetry Selections for Choral Reading

Section 3:

- Poetry Appreciation

Section 4:

- Poetry Definitions

Section 5:

- Traditional Poetry
- Rhyming Couplets
- Triplets
- Quatrains

Section 6:

- Cinquain

Section 7:

- Acrostic Poetry

Section 8:

- Limericks

Section 9:

- Haiku

Section 10:

- Alphabet Poetry

Section 11:

- Stair Poetry

Section 12:

- Synonym Diamante
- Antonym Diamante

Section 13:

- Clerihew Poetry

Section 14:

- Alliteration
- Metaphors
- Similes
- Onomatopoeia



Traditional Poetry

Traditional poetry is recognized readily because it is the most frequently seen form. It follows certain patterns of rhyme and rhythm.

Read the following poem. Note the rhyme scheme used. The lines that rhyme are marked with the same letter.

Grasshopper Green

Grasshopper Green is a comical chap
He lives on the best of fare.
Bright little trousers, jacket, and cap,
These are his summer wear.
Out in the meadow he loves to go,
Playing away in the sun;
It's hopperty, skipperty, high and low,
Summer's the time for fun.

a
b
a
b
c
d
c
d

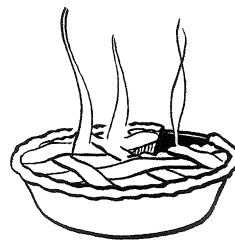


A traditional poem has meter or rhythm. This is what you hear when you read the poem. Clap your hands while you read the poem about "Grasshopper Green". Can you feel its rhythm?

Read the following poems. Clap the rhythm. Mark the rhyming scheme.

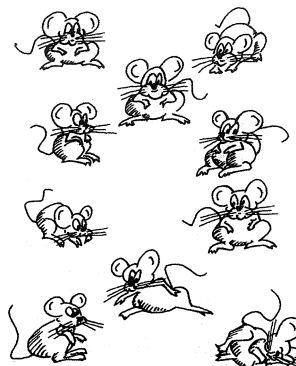
If

If all the world was apple-pie,
And all the sea was ink,
And all the trees were bread and cheese
What would we have to drink?



Ten Little Mice

Ten little mice sat down to spin,
Pussy passed by and she looked in:
"What are you doing, my fine little men?"
"We're making coats for gentlemen."
"Shall I come in and bite your threads?"
"Oh, no Mistress Pussy; you'd bite off our heads"





Traditional Poetry

Nursery rhymes are poems that are often read to young children because of their rhyme and rhythm.

How well do you remember the early poems of your childhood?

Complete each rhyme with its missing words.

Little Miss _____ Sat on a _____, Eating her curds and _____, Along came a _____, Who sat down _____, And frightened Miss Muffet _____.	"Pussy- _____, Pussy- _____, Where have you _____?" I've been to _____ To look at the _____. "Pussy- _____, Pussy- _____, What did you _____?" "I frightened a little _____ Under the _____.
Little Boy Blue, come, blow your _____! The Sheep's in the meadow, the cow's in the _____. Where's the little boy that looks after the _____? Under the haystack fast _____!	Rain, rain, go _____, Come again another _____; Little Johnny wants to _____.
Georgy Porgy, pudding and _____, Kissed the girls and made them _____. When the boys came out to _____, Georgy Porgy ran _____.	Little Jack _____ Sat in the _____, Eating his Christmas _____; He put in his _____, And pulled out a _____, And said, "What a good boy am _____!"

Choose one of the nursery rhymes from above. Use it as a pattern to write your own nursery rhyme.



Rhyming Couplets

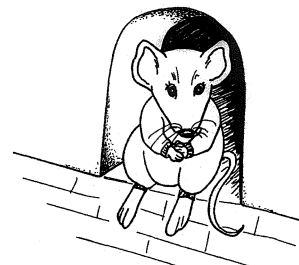
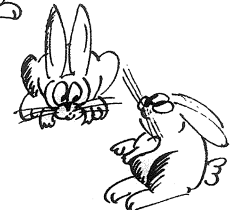
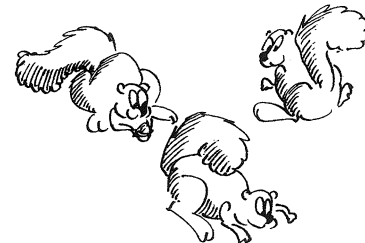
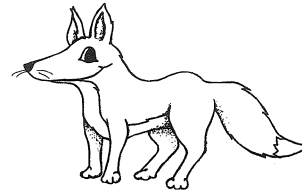
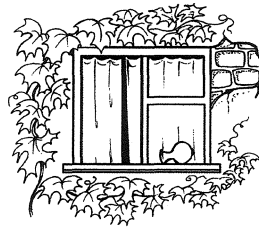
A couplet is a two-line poem that rhymes. Each line contains the same number of syllables.

Example:

Twenty froggies went to school
Down beside a rushy pool.

Complete the rhyming couplets with a word that rhymes with the last word of the first line.

1. Although Jack Frost could not be seen
Our garden is no longer _____.
2. As I look through the window pane
I like to watch the falling _____.
3. On the way to school today
Eric saw a red fox at _____.
4. All along the road to school
There was ice on every _____.
5. Did you have a chance to see
The baby squirrels playing in the _____?
6. The dog was crawling on the ground
The bone he lost could not be _____.
7. At evening when I go to bed
I see the stars shinning _____.
8. "Come little leaves," said the wind one day
"Come o'er the meadows with me and _____.
9. Melissa lived in a little white house
With a little black kitten and a little gray _____.
10. The little flowers came through the ground,
They raise their heads and looked _____.
11. I wonder where all the rabbits go
Who leave their tracks across the _____.
12. Ten white pigeons are standing in line,
On the roof of the barn in the warm _____.





Rhyming Couplets

A couplet is a two-line poem that rhymes. Each line contains the same number of syllables.

Example:

We have a secret, just we three, –
The robin and I and the cherry tree.



Compose rhymes of two lines by adding a line to each of these first lines.

1. The dog was crawling on the ground,

2. The one who's it will look around,

3. After the football game I went to bed,

4. Most living things go out of sight,

5. On wings of gold I'd like to fly,

6. When you go out to play a game,

7. When I saw the moon last night,

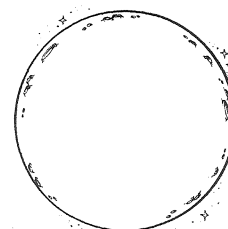
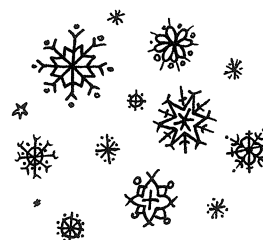
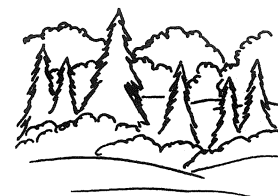
8. When the snow comes down on me,

9. The rain on my cheeks was fresh and cool,

10. The train rumbled loudly over the tracks,

11. One night as I walked through the wood,

12. When the earth has turned to spring,





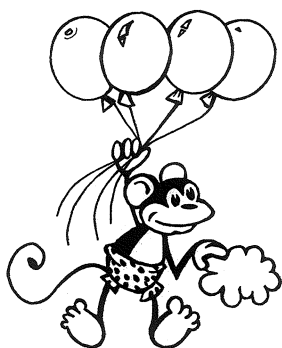
Writing Rhyming Couplets

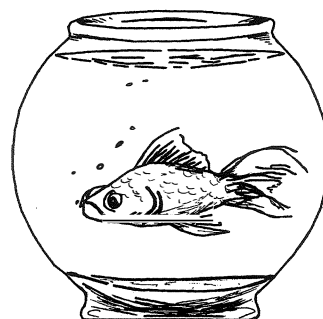
Remember – a rhyming couplet is a two line poem that rhymes at the end of the lines.

In the box below you will find pairs of rhyming words

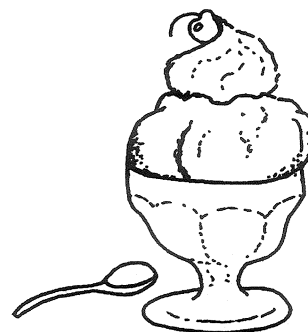
town	fish	dream	high
clown	dish	ice cream	sky

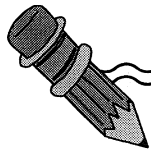
Use each pair to write a rhyming couplet to describe each picture.









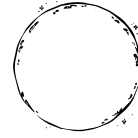


Writing a Triplet

A triplet is three lines that rhyme. Each line has the same number of syllables.

Example:

Look at the moon tonight,
A round, white, shining light,
It is a pretty sight!



Choose a group of rhyming words from the box.
Write a triplet on the lines provided.
Try to create as many as you can.

Rhyming Groups

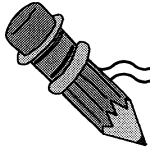
sand	money	pine	pole	tree
band	honey	mine	mole	see
grand	bunny	valentine	hole	bee
sky	kite	pears	sweet	pie
by	sight	bears	eat	spy
fly	white	chairs	treat	cry

My Rhyming Triplets

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Writing a Quatrain

A quatrain is a poem written in four lines --rhymed or unrhymed. Quatrains are frequently used in verse writing. They may be simple or complex with a variety of rhyming patterns. Quatrains may be written about life events, silly thoughts, serious feelings and nature.

Rhyming quatrains follow a variety of rhyming patterns.

Examples: **AABB** – lines 1 and 2 rhyme; lines 3 and 4 rhyme

There was once a rabbit with silver fur;
Her little neighbors look up to her,
Till she thought with pride in the moon-lit wood,
“The reason I’m white is because I’m good.

A
A
B
B



ABAB – lines 1 and 3 rhyme; lines 2 and 4 rhyme

He was a rat, and she was a rat,
And down in one hole they did dwell,
And both were as black as a witch’s cat,
And they loved one another well.

A
B
A
B



ABCB – lines 2 and 4 rhyme; lines 1 and 3 do not rhyme

If all the world were apple-pie
And all the sea were ink,
And all the trees were bread and cheese
What would we have to drink?

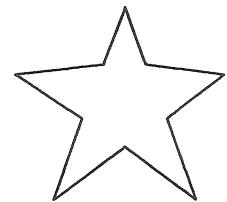
A
B
C
B



AAAA – All four lines rhyme

Starlight, star bright
First star I see tonight
I wish I may, I wish I might
Have the wish I wish tonight.

A
A
A
A





Writing a Quatrain

Have your students search through poetry books in the library for quatrains. Each student could choose his/her favorite one and share it with the class. Each poem could be neatly recorded and illustrated and stored in class poetry book.

After you have read and shared quatrains with your class, record three or four on the chalkboard, chart paper or on an overhead. Have the students examine the rhyming pattern of each one. Once they have done this, have the students search for quatrains that match the rhyming patterns. They can be read and enjoyed by the entire class.

Next, practice writing quatrains with the entire class. When you think your students have had enough large group practice organize them into small groups. Provide each group with the same starting line and allow the students plenty of time to create their quatrains. Once completed each group will chorally read their quatrain. Discuss the quatrains and after positive comments, compile the quatrains into a class book.

The Dandelion

I saw him peeping from my lawn,
A tiny spot of yellow;
His face was one great big smile –
The jolly little fellow



The Poppy

High on a bright and sunny bed
A scarlet poppy grew;
And up it held its staring head
And thrust it full in view.





Writing a Quatrain

A quatrain is a poem written in four lines. The lines may rhyme or be unrhymed. Quatrains that rhyme have a variety of rhyming patterns. Try writing your own quatrain, using the following directions.

1. Write your own first line of your quatrain or choose one from the list of first lines below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This morning as I walked to school• He tossed the pizza up so high• The fluffy snowflakes gently fell• The raindrops pattered on the window pane• On our street lived a funny, old man• On the day that our dog died• Jeans are pants that are great to wear | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I like sports of every kind• Sometimes when I feel sad and blue• If I was a bird with a snug little nest• A friend is someone who• Rock music is great to hear• Birthday parties are great affairs |
|--|---|

2. Write your first line below. Quatrains can rhyme in a variety of ways such as: aaaa, abab, aabb, abcd. Now write the last three lines.

(title)

3. Give your quatrain a title.