

## Primary School Poetry 2023 - 2024

Through sharing, reading, writing and performing rhymes and poems, we aim to build children's emotional connection to language and the world around us. Poems are used throughout our curriculum to develop vocabulary, fluency and prosody, imagination and empathy. We also encourage children to review poetry – to form opinions about their own likes and dislikes and to understand and explain their preferences and respect the thoughts and feelings of others.

We are committed as a school to developing a love of reading and to reading aloud each day. Alongside our class picture books, novels and non-fiction books, we have two class poetry books to be shared throughout the year. Of course, teachers can add to the core books to further develop children's exposure and enjoyment of poetry.

We have identified a core set of poems for each year group. Each year group will learn by heart two poems to be performed for assembly or to be shared with parents or visitors. Children will also be encouraged to revisit poems previously learnt.

Each year group will encounter a varied selection of poems when used in reading lessons, where vocabulary and meaning can be explored and explained, together with the development of children's wider reading skills.

Poetry also forms part of our writing curriculum and each year group has two forms of poetry to explore and create. This allows children the opportunity to learn more about particular structures of poetry and allows them to write their own poems using a wide range of poetic devices. Children are encouraged to perform their own poetry alongside the poems learnt by their year group.

We also seek opportunities throughout the year for children to watch or hear poets reciting and discussing their own work.

EYFS			
Poems to Share	Rhymes, Poems and Songs to Perform		
Poems Out Loud - L Stansfield	Incy Wincy Spider		
to read and perform	Dingle Dangle Scarecrow		
POEMS OUT	Grand Old Duke		
LOUDI	Humpty Dumpty		
	Oat and Beans and Barley Grow		
Zim Zam Zoom - J Carter & N Colton			
ZUM ZAMA ZOOMAD ZOOMAD ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL ZAMA SATEL			

EYFS Rhymes, Songs and Poems to Perform			
Incy Wincy Spider	Oats and Beans and Barley Grow	Dingle, Dangle Scarecrow	Humpty Dumpty
Incy wincy spider climbed up the	Oats and beans and barley grow	When all the cows were sleeping	Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
waterspout,	Oats and beans and barley grow	And the sun had gone to bed	Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
Down came the rain and washed the spider	Do you or I or anyone know how oats	Up jumped the scarecrow	All the king's horses and all the king's mer
out,	and beans and barley grow?	And this is what he said	Couldn't put Humpty together again.
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,			
So Incy wincy spider climbed up the spout	First the farmer plants the seeds	I'm a dingle, dangle scarecrow	He fell off the wall - from the highest high
again.	Stands up tall and takes his ease	With a flippy, floppy hat	- so high!
Incy wincy spider climbed up the	Stamps his feet and claps his hands	I can shake my hands like this	He had a great fall - from the highest high
waterspout,	And turns around to view his land	I can shake my feet like that	- high!
Down came the rain and washed the spider			All the king's horses and all the king's men
out,	Oats and beans and barley grow	When all the hens were roosting	Couldn't put Humpty together again.
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,	Oats and beans and barley grow	And the moon behind a cloud	
So Incy wincy spider climbed up the spout	Do you or I or anyone know how oats	Up jumped the scarecrow	Humpty Dumpty sat on the ground,
again	and beans and barley grow?	And shouted very loud	Humpty Dumpty looked all around,
			Gone were the chimneys and gone were
	Then the farmer watches the ground	I'm a dingle, dangle scarecrow	the roofs,
The Grand Old Duke of York	Watches the sun shine all around	With a flippy, floppy hat	All he could see was horses and hooves.
	Stamps his feet and claps his hands	I can shake my hands like this	
Oh, the grand old Duke of York,	And turns around to view his land	I can shake my feet like that	He fell off the wall - from the highest high
He had ten thousand men,			- so high!
He marched them up to the top of	Oats and beans and barley grow		He had a great fall - from the highest high
The hill and he marched them down again.	Oats and beans and barley grow		- high!
	Do you or I or anyone know how oats		All the king's horses and all the king's men
And when they were up they were up.	and beans and barley grow?		Couldn't put Humpty together again.
And when they were down they were			
down.			
And when they were only half way up,			
They were neither up nor down.			

Year 1			
Poems to Share	Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write
Poems to Share         Perfectly Peculiar Pets -         E Woollard & A Boretzki         Image: Comparison of the Sea -         N Davies & E Sutton	Poems to PerformWater- Shirley HughesRickety Train Ride- Tony MittonPirate Pete – James CarterZim Zam Zoom - James Carter	Poems to Read         Spaghetti! Spaghetti!         - Jack Prelutsky         Feasts         - Shirley Hughes         Classic Poetry:         Cats Sleep Anywhere – Eleanor         Farjeon         There was an Old Man from Peru –         Anon         Bed in Summer – RL Stevenson	Poems to Write         Concrete         A concrete poem is written in the shape of its subject. As form is the highest consideration here sometimes the poems consist of single words describing their subject rather than complete lines.         Rhyming patterns can be in couplets where pairs of lines rhyme or can be alternate where every other line rhymes.
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Year 1: Poems to Perform		
Water – Shirley Hughes	Rickety Train Ride - Tony Mitton	
l like water.	I'm taking the train to Ricketywick	
The shallow, splashy, paddly kind, The hold-on-tight-it's-deep kind.	Clickety clickety clack	
	I'm sat in my seat	
Slosh it out of buckets,	With a sandwich to eat	
spray it all around.	As I travel the trickety track.	
I do like water.	It's an ever so rickety trickety train,	
	And I honestly thickety think	
	That before it arrives	
	At the end of the line	
	It will tip up my drippety drink.	

Year 2			
Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write	
Daddy Fell into The Pond – Alfred Noyes	Footprints in the Sand – B Williams	Diamante	
Cats Sleep Anywhere – Eleanor Farjeon	A Tiny Burning Flame - Unknown Owl and the Pussy Cat – E Lear	A diamante is an unrhymed seven-line poem. The first and seventh line of th poem have one word and this word is a noun. The second and sixth lines	
I Think Mice Are Rather Nice – Rose Fyleman	My Lonely Garden from Take off Your Brave – Nadim (aged 4)	have two words and these are adjectives connected to the first nour The third and fifth lines have three	
Jack Frost – James K Baxter Smile - Spike Milligan	Cobwebs – Unknown Classic Poetry:	words and these are verbs. The fourth line has four words and these are nouns.	
	This is the House that Jack Built – Anon	Acrostic	
	Daddy Fell into the Pond – Alfred Noyes	An acrostic is a poem in which the first letters of each line spell out a word o phrase. Usually, the first letter of eac line is capitalised. Acrostics do not	
	The Engine Driver – Clive Sansom Now We Are Six and Halfway Down –	have to rhyme and there is not set length or rhythm for each line.	
	Poems to PerformDaddy Fell into The Pond – Alfred NoyesCats Sleep Anywhere – Eleanor FarjeonI Think Mice Are Rather Nice – Rose FylemanJack Frost – James K Baxter	Poems to PerformPoems to ReadDaddy Fell into The Pond – Alfred NoyesFootprints in the Sand – B Williams A Tiny Burning Flame - UnknownCats Sleep Anywhere – Eleanor FarjeonOwl and the Pussy Cat – E LearI Think Mice Are Rather Nice – Rose FylemanMy Lonely Garden from Take off Your Brave – Nadim (aged 4)Jack Frost – James K BaxterCobwebs – UnknownSmile - Spike MilliganClassic Poetry:This is the House that Jack Built – AnonDaddy Fell into the Pond – Alfred NoyesThe Engine Driver – Clive Sansom	

	Year 2: Poems to Perform
When Daddy Fell into the Pond – Alfred Noyes Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey. We had nothing to do and nothing to say. We were nearing the end of a dismal day, And there seemed to be nothing beyond, THEN Daddy fell into the pond! And everyone's face grew merry and bright, And Timothy danced for sheer delight. "Give me the camera, quick, oh quick! He's crawling out of the duckweed!" <i>Click</i> !	Cats Sleep Anywhere – Eleanor Farjeon Cats sleep, anywhere, Any table, any chair Top of piano, window-ledge, In the middle, on the edge, Open drawer, empty shoe, Anybody's lap will do, Fitted in a cardboard box, In the cupboard, with your frocks- Anywhere! They don't care! Cats sleep anywhere.
Then the gardener suddenly slapped his knee, And doubled up, shaking silently, And the ducks all quacked as if they were daft, And it sounded as if the old drake laughed. Oh, there wasn't a thing that didn't respond WHEN Daddy fell into the pond!	

Year 3			
Poems to Share	Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write
<section-header>I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree - F Waters &amp; F Preston-GannonImage: Construction of the Seed That Grew the Seed That Grew the Seed That Grew the Tree - F Waters &amp; F Preston-GannonImage: Construction of the Seed That Grew the Seed That Gr</section-header>	The Sound Collector - Roger McGough The Adventures of Isabel - Ogden Nash Ning Nang Nong – Spike Milligan Plastic Bag Tree – Michael Rosen The Magic Box – Kit Wright	Mr Moore – David Harmer Ghost in the Garden - Berlie Doherty If Anger was an Animal - The Emotional Menagerie The Witch of Axon - Reading Explorers	List A list poem collects content in a list form. It can be purely a list without any transitional phrases. List poems don't have any fixed rhyme or rhythmic pattern – this is the poet's choice. Clerihew
Stars with Flaming Tails - Valerie Bloom	Amulet – Ted Hughes	My Brother Might be Bigfoot- Kenn Nesbitt Classic Poetry: The Adventures of Isobel – Ogden Wynken, Blynken and Nod – Eugene Field The Camel's Hump – Rudyard Kipling	A clerihew is usually a humorous poem written about a specific person. It is a four-line comic verse with two rhyming pairs of lines with the rhyme scheme AABB. The First line of the poem will include the name of the person about whom the verse is written.

Year3: Poems to Perform		
The Sound Collector – Roger McGough	The Adventures of Isabel – Ogden Nash	
A stranger called this morning		
Dressed all in black and grey	Isabel met an enormous bear,	
Put every sound into a bag	Isabel, Isabel, didn't care,	
And carried them away	The bear was hungry, the bear was ravenous,	
	The bear's big mouth was cruel and cavernous.	
The whistling of the kettle	The bear said, Isabel, glad to meet you,	
The turning of the lock	How do, Isabel, now I'll eat you!	
The purring of the kitten		
The ticking of the clock	Isabel, Isabel, didn't worry,	
The popping of the toaster	Isabel didn't scream or scurry.	
The crunching of the flakes	,	
When you spread the marmalade	She washed her hands and she straightened her hair up,	
The scraping noise it makes	Then Isabel quietly ate the bear up.	
The hissing of the frying pan	Once in a night as black as pitch	
The ticking of the grill	Isabel met a wicked old witch.	
The bubbling of the bathtub	The witch's face was cross and wrinkled,	
As it starts to fill	The witch's gums with teeth were sprinkled.	
The drumming of the raindrops	Ho, ho, Isabel! the old witch crowed,	
On the windowpane	I'll turn you into an ugly toad!	
When you do the washing-up		
The gurgle of the drain		
	Isabel, Isabel, didn't worry,	
The crying of the baby	Isabel didn't scream or scurry,	
The squeaking of the chair	She showed no rage and she showed no rancour,	
The swishing of the curtain	But she turned the witch into milk and drank her	
The creaking of the stair		
A stranger called this morning		
He didn't leave his name		
Left us only silence		
Life will never be the same		

Year 4			
Poems to Share	Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write
Where Zebras Go – S Hardy-Dawson	Granny's Sugarcake – John Lyons From a Railway Carriage – R L Stevenson The British - Benjamin Zephaniah Chocolate Cake – Michael Rosen Hurt No Living Thing – Christina Georgina Rosetti	It Couldn't Be Done - Edgar A Guest Hey Diddle Diddle The Jaberwocky – Lewis Carroll <b>Classic Poetry:</b> From a Railway Carriage – Stephenson A Tiger's Tale – John Bennett	Kennings Kennings are a means of referring to people or objects without naming them directly. A Kenning names something by describing its qualities in a two-word compound expression (often consisting of a noun and a verb made into a noun using an - er ending). Kennings can be developed into a poem or a riddle.
<text></text>		Mr Nobody – Anon The Witches' Spell from Macbeth - Shakespeare	Free Verse Free verse poems have no rhyming structure and often don't have a particular rhythm or syllable patterns. Poets use line breaks, punctuation and the use of shorter and longer lines to convey meaning.

Year 4: Poems to Perform			
Granny's Sugarcake – John Lyons Sugarcake! Sugarcake! Ah chile sweetie ting a Trini granny could mek: She grate de coconut, put sugar in ah hot pot. When it bubble-up like crazy she stir in de coconut; den she drop in some clove, ah piece of cinnamon, an few drops ah vanilla. She screwin up she face, keepin she yeye pon it. She stirrin it, she stirrin it an she whole body shakin-up; ah tellin yuh, meh Granny got riddum. Wen de sugarcake ready, she spoon it out	From a Railway Carriage – R L Stevenson Faster than fairies, faster than witches, Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches; And charging along like troops in a battle, All through the meadows the horses and cattle: All of the sights of the hill and the plain Fly as thick as driving rain; And ever again, in the wink of an eye, Painted stations whistle by. Here is a child who clambers and scrambles, All by himself and gathering brambles; Here is a tramp who stands and gazes; And there is the green for stringing the daisies! Here is a cart run away in the road Lumping along with man and load; And here is a mill and there is a river: Each a glimpse and gone for ever!		
<ul> <li>ah tellin yuh, meh Granny got riddum.</li> <li>Wen de sugarcake ready, she spoon it out on greaseproof paper,</li> <li>an is den meh mout begin to water but de look meh Granny gimmeh tell meh ah got to wait fuh it to cool down good.</li> <li>Sugarcake!</li> </ul>			
Sugarcake! How ah love de sugarcake meh Granny does mek			

Year 5			
Poems to Share	Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write
Welcome to My Crazy Life – J Seigal	Leisure – W H Davies	Storm in a Rainforest – Sally Garland	Haiku Haiku are seventeen syllable poems
Welcome Welcome	Walking with My Iguana – Brian Moses	Autumn leaves – James Mcinerney	with the following structure: Line 1: 5 syllables Line 2: 7 syllables
	The Highway Man – Alfred Noyes The Jabberwocky – Lewis Carol	The Sky Artist – Grace Nichols	Line 3: 5 syllables The lines are separate and each contains a new thought. A haiku
	The Malfeasance – Alan Bold	The British – Ben Zephaniah	describes one moment of time. Haiku are visual poems usually about the natural world, and leave the reader
Bright Bursts of Colour – M Goodfellow	Lone Dog – Irene Mcleod	Twas the night before Christmas - Clement Clarke Moore	with a picture.
BRIGHT	Macavity: the Mystery Cat – T S Eliot Nothingmas Day –Adrian Mitchell	A Poem to be Spoken Silently – Pie Corbett	Blackout
COLOUR WAT SUDEDUN		Classic Poetry: The Night Mail – WH Auden	Blackout poetry is a form of 'found poetry' where the poet selects words from a printed text and redacts the unwanted words. The chosen words
		Daffodils – William Wordsworth	will form a new poem - giving the original text a whole new meaning.
		Leisure – WH Davies Dreams – Langston Hughes	
		I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings – Maya Angelou	

## Year 5: Poems to Perform and Write

I'm walking with my iguana. I'm walking with my iguana. When the temperature rises to above eighty-five, my iguana is looking like he's coming alive. So we make it to the beach, my iguana and me, then he sits on my shoulder as we stroll by the sea . . . and I'm walking with my iguana.

I'm walking with my iguana. Well if anyone sees us we're a big surprise, my iguana and me on our daily exercise, till somebody phones the local police and says I have an alligator tied to a leash.

When I'm walking with my iguana. I'm walking with my iguana. It's the spines on his back that make him look grim, but he just loves to be tickled under his chin. And I know that my iguana is ready for bed when he puts on his pyjamas and lays down his sleepy head.

And I'm walking with my iguana. Still walking with my iguana. With my iguana...with my iguana... and my piranha, and my Chihuahua, and my chinchilla, and my gorilla, my caterpillar...

and I'm walking...with my iguana...with my iguana...with my iguana.

## Leisure – William Henry Davies

What is this life if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare?-No time to stand beneath the boughs And stare as long as sheep or cows: No time to see, when woods we pass, Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass: No time to see, in broad daylight, Streams full of stars, like skies at night: No time to turn at Beauty's glance, And watch her feet, how they can dance: No time to wait till her mouth can Enrich that smile her eyes began? A poor life this if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare.

Year 6				
Poems to Share	Poems to Perform	Poems to Read	Poems to Write	
The Lost Words – R Macfarlane & J Morris	The River – Valerie Bloom In Flanders' Fields – John McCrea The Door - Miroslav Holub Desiderata – Max Ehrmann People's Faces - Kate Tempest	The Book – Michael Rosen My Grandma's Bonsai Tree – Ben Mayoh The Hill We Climb – Amanda Gorman Raven –	Spoken Word Characterized by rhyme, repetition, improvisation, and word play, spoken word poems frequently refer to issues of social justice, politics, race, and community. Spoken word may draw on music, sound, dance, or other kinds of performance to connect with audiences.	
Belonging Street – M Coe	Peer Pressure – Karl Nova Throwing a Tree – Thomas Hardy We Wear the Masks – Paul Laurence Dunbar	R Macfarlane Cloud Busting – Malorie Blackman Classic poetry: Matilda Who Told Lies, and Was Burned to Death – Hillaire Beloc The Listeners – Walter De La Mare The Tyger – William Blake If – Rudyard Kipling Smugglers' Song – Rudyard Kipling	Narrative Narrative poems tell a story, usually about a very specific moment in time. They can be written in rhyme and with strict rhythmic pattern but are most often in free verse.	

Year 6: Poems to Perform			
The River – Valerie Bloom	In Flanders' Fields – John McCrea		
The River's a wanderer.	In Flanders' fields the poppies blow		
A nomad, a tramp,	Between the crosses, row on row,		
He doesn't choose one place	That mark our place; and in the sky		
To set up his camp.	The larks, still bravely singing, fly		
The River's a winder,	Scarce heard amid the guns below.		
Through valley and hill			
He twists and he turns,			
He just cannot be still.	We are the Dead. Short days ago		
	We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,		
The River's a hoarder,	Loved and were loved, and now we lie		
And he buries down deep	In Flanders fields.		
Those little treasures			
That he wants to keep.	Take up our quarrel with the foe:		
The River's a baby,	To you from failing hands we throw		
He gurgles and hums,	The torch; be yours to hold it high.		
And sounds like he's happily	If ye break faith with us who die		
Sucking his thumbs.	We shall not sleep, though poppies grow		
	In Flanders fields.		
The River's a singer,			
As he dances along,			
The countryside echoes			
The notes of his song.			
The River's a monster			
Hungry and vexed,			

He's gobbled up trees	
And he'll swallow you next.	