

<u>Poetry</u>

Each year group has been assigned three poetry types to teach as a writing unit in English through the academic year. Please see below for an outline. Further details to support teacher's when planning each poetry unit are provided in this document.

| | <u>Free Verse</u> | <u>Visual</u> | <u>Structured</u> |
|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>EYFS</u> | Short list poems | Simple shape poems | Reciting rhyming poems – nursery |
| | | | rhymes and |
| <u>1</u> | Alphabet List poem | Shape poem / concrete poems | Riddles |
| <u>2</u> | Poems using onomatopoeia and | Diamantes | Acrostic poems |
| | alliteration | | |
| <u>3</u> | Poems using similes | | Limericks |
| | | | |
| | | | Question & Answer poems |
| <u>4</u> | Poems using metaphors | | Kennings |
| | | | |
| | | | Haikus |
| <u>5</u> | Narrative poems | | Cinquains or Tanka |
| | | | |
| | | | Rhyming Couplets |
| <u>6</u> | Poems using personification | Blackout poetry | Rhyming couplets – themed |

Poems for children to perform off by heart

Please select one to explore with the children and get them to recite from memory during an academic year.

(Highlighted poems are the poems chosen for the academic year 2023-2024)

| EYFS | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Two Little Dickie | Now We Are Six | Buckingham | On The Nong | Life Doesn't | The Tyger by | In Flander's Fields |
| Birds | by AA Milne | Palace by AA | Ning Nang by | Frighten Me by | William Blake | by John McCrae |
| | | Milne | Spike Milligan | Maya Angelou | | |
| Humpty Dumpty | I Opened A Book | The Moon by | The Crocodile by | Please Mrs Butler | The Tale Of | Meeting |
| | by Julia | Robert Louis | Robert Louis | by Allan Ahlberg | Custard The | Midnight by Carol |
| | Donaldson | Stevenson | Stevenson | | Dragon by Ogden | Ann Duffy |
| | | | | | Nash | |
| Twinkle Twinkle | Tippy Tappy by | The Rhythm Of | The Adventures | The Quangle | The Highwayman | The Way Through |
| Little Star | Michael Rosen | Life by Michael | of Isobel by | Wangle's Hat by | by Alfred Noyes | The Woods by |
| | | Rosen | Ogden Nash | Edward Lear | | Rudyard Kipling |
| Hot Cross Buns | The Morning | Plum by Tony | Nature Trail by | From A Railway | The Charge Of | The Jabberwocky |
| | Rush by John | Mitton | Benjamin | Carriage by | The Lightbrigade | by Lewis Carroll |
| | Foster | | Zephaniah | Robert Louis | by Alfred Lord | |
| | | | | Stevenson | Tennyson | |
| Incy Wincy Spider | Caterpillar by | Fruit Picking by | The Book by | Sick by Shel | Still I Rise by | McCavity The |
| | Christina Rosetti | Jack Ousbey | Michael Rosen | Silverstein | Maya Angelou | Mystery Cat by |
| | | | | | | T.S Eliot |
| Sing a Song of | Here Is The Seed | See Me Walking | Leap Like A | Mr Moore by | Words Are Ours | Ozymandias by |
| Sixpence | by John Foster | by Clive Webster | Leopard by John | David Harmer | by Michael Rosen | Percy Bysshe |
| | | | Foster | | | Shelley |

| Y | ear g | roup | Reading NC Objectives | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|------|-------|-----------|--|---|--|
| | | 7 | To listen, and respond to, a range of poetry around a theme. | Enjoy making up funny sentences and playing with words. | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart at some point during the year: |
| EYFS | | RECEPTION | To look at rhyme within poems. To collect words that rhyme. | Look carefully at experiences and choose words to describe . Make word collections or use simple repeating patterns. | Two Little Dickie Birds Humpty Dumpty Twinkle Twinkle Little Star Hot Cross Buns Incy Wincy Spider Sing a Song of Sixpence |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| erse | A list poem does exactly as described and collects content in a list form. List poems don't have any fixed rhyme or rhythmic pattern. | From Term 5, children will experiment with writing lists in the form of a poem based on a familiar experience or setting. |
| Free Verse List poem | List poems don't have any fixed myme of mythinic pattern. | Templates can be given so that children finish the line in their poem. e.g. In winter I can see My favourite |
| l oem | The poem usually describes an object. The poem is presented in the shape of the object which it is describing. | From Term 5, children will experiment and explore creating simple shape poems using adjectives to describe them, given a template. e.g. leaves, weather, animals, food |
| Visual Shape poem | The layout may either be with the words inside a shape or around the outline of the shape. | |
| S | Concrete poems should not be confused with calligrams (where individual words take on a shape that reveals their meaning). | |
| Structured | Children will be immersed in structured rhyming poetry throughout the year, including well-known 'narrative poems' (story books) such as Julia Donaldson books. Discussion and oral work linked to rhyme and spotting words that rhyme. | |

| Year | group | Reading NC Objectives | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|------|--------|---|---|--|
| KS1 | Year 1 | To listen to and discuss a wide range of poems at a level beyond that at which they can read independently. Learn to appreciate rhymes and poems commenting on rhymes, word choice, humour and favourite poems. Usually joins in with reciting some by heart. To comment on things that interest them. To say what they like or dislike about a text. With support, to justify their views about a poem they have had read to them. To recognise patterns in texts, e.g. repeated patterns or phrases | Write sentences by: - saying out loud what they are going to write about - composing a sentence orally before writing it - sequencing sentences to form short narratives - re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense Discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils Read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher. | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart at some point during the year: Now We Are Six by AA Milne I Opened a Book by Julia Donaldson Tippy Tappy by Michael Rosen Caterpillar by Christina Rosetti Here is the Seed by John Foster |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | A list poem does exactly as described and collects content in a list form. | Collect/explore new words beginning with each letter. | A to Z by Michaela Morgan |
| iste | List poems don't have any fixed rhyme or rhythmic pattern. | Write an Alphabet list poem. | |
| ers et L | | | The You Can Be A B C – Roger Stevens |
| Free Verse Alphabet List Poem | List poems usually have a list in the middle, plus a few lines at the beginning and a few lines at the end. You can think of the beginning and end of a list poem like the top and bottom slices of bread in a | Practise letter formation for letters of the alphabet (including capital letters) | A Monster Alphabet by Gervase Phinn |
| | sandwich. | | An Alphabet of Horrible Habits by Colin West |
| | The poem usually describes an object. The poem is presented in the | Create a poem in the shape of a noun (linked to a FOS) using a | The Shape I'm In by James Carter |
| ~ ε | shape of the object which it is describing. | template if needed e.g. weather, oceans, seasons, animals | |
| _ m = 00 | | | Rhythm Machine by Trevor Harvey |
| Visual pe poe :rete po | The layout may either be with the words inside a shape or around the | The poem can just be words or phrases to describe the noun, then | |
| Vis ape cret | outline of the shape. | written as the outline shape or within a template of the shape. | Undersea Tea by Tony Mitton |
| Visual Shape poem / concrete poem | Concrete poems should not be confused with calligrams (where | | + more in <i>The Works</i> (every kind of poem you will ever need for the |
| | individual words take on a shape that reveals their meaning). | | literacy hour) by Paul Cookson |
| | The poem describes a noun (usually an object), but does not name it, | Write riddles and test them out on friends and family. | What Am I? by Jo Peters |
| - D | i.e. it may describe a tiger as striped and furry. | | |
| ure les | | Riddles about subjects they have experienced / matter to them / | Animal Riddle by Pie Corbett |
| uct. | The last line usually directly addresses the reader and uses a question, | familiar objects e.g: | |
| Structured Riddles | e.g. 'What is it?' or 'Can you guess what I could be?' | animals, seasons, food, household objects | Teaser by Tony Mitton |
| | The mood of the poem is light-hearted. | | Riddle by John Foster |

| Year g | roup | Reading NC Objectives | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|--------|--------|---|--|--|
| K51 | Year 2 | Listen to, discuss and express views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry Recognise simple recurring literary language in poetry Discuss and clarifying the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary Discuss their favourite words and phrases Continue to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some, with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear Participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say | Develop positive attitudes towards and stamina for writing by: writing poetry Consider what they are going to write before beginning by: o planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about o writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary Read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear. | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart (using actions if needed). Buckingham Palace by AA Milne The Moon by Robert Louis Stevenson The Rhythm of Life by Michael Rosen Plum by Tony Mitton |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|---|---|--|---|
| | | | |
| જ | Onomatopoeia, according to the Oxford Dictionary, is the 'formation of a word which describes its sound'. | Firework, bonfire night poetry | Firework Poem by Jim Carter |
| - m | Examples of onomatopoeic words include sizzle, clap, moo, roar, etc. | The noises around a house / outside | Look at the Train! by Kathy Henderson |
| Free Verse omatopoei Alliteration | It is a common feature in many poems written with children in mind. The | Poem about a science experiment | Rain-Dance by Hilda Offen |
| ē | onomatopoeia can sometimes form a refrain, that repeats through the poem, providing structure. | A poem about the senses | Onomatopoeia by Eve Merriam |
| Visual Diamantes | The poem is presented in the shape of a diamond - Line 1: Beginning subject; - Line 2: Two adjectives about line 1; - Line 3: Three verbs or words ending '-ing' about line 1; - Line 4: A short phrase about line 1, a short phrase about line 7; - Line 5: Three verbs or words ending '-ing' about line 7; - Line 6: Two adjectives about line 7; - Line 7: End subject. Precise verbs and adjectives are used in the relevant lines indicated above. Each line starts with a capital letter; commas are used between verbs and adjectives; no punctuation at the end of lines. | Ideas for teaching sequence at: https://www.poetry4kids.com/lessons/how-to-write-a-diamante-poem/ Online interactive programme with example poems and activity to make diamante poems: http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/diamante-poems-30053.html | Bike Shiny, quiet Pedalling, spinning, weaving Whizzing round corners, zooming along roads Racing, roaring, speeding Fast, loud Car |
| Structured Acrostic | An acrostic poem is a type of poetry where the first, last or other letters in a line spell out a particular word or phrase. The most common and simple form of an acrostic poem is where the first letters | Link to FOS | An Acrostic by Roger McGough Giant by Jack Ousbey |
| St. | of each line spell out the word or phrase. | | My Glasses by John Hegley |

| Year | group | Reading NC Objectives | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|------|--------|--|--|--|
| KS1 | Year 3 | Read books (poems) that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes Identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books (poems) Prepare poems to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination Recognise some different forms of poetry (for example, free verse, narrative poetry) Participate in discussion about both books (poems) that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say. | Discussing writing (forms of poems) similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar Discussing and recording ideas Read aloud their own writing (poem), to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear. | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart (using actions if needed). On the Nong Ning Nang by Spike Milligan The Crocodile by Robert Louis Stevenson The Adventures of Isabel Ogden Nash Nature Trail by Benjamin Zephaniah |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|------------------------|--|---|---|
| | Simile is common poetic device. | Animal simile poem | Leap Like a Leopard by John Foster |
| ee Verse Simile | The subject of the poem is described by comparing it to another object or subject, using 'as' or 'like'. For example, the subject may be 'creeping as quietly as a mouse' or be 'sly, like a fox.' | Colour simile poem On the ground simile poem | On the ground simile poem https://www.teachitprimary.co.uk/resources/y2/poetry-exploring- |
| Free | Keep the structure simple, non rhyming and explore similes first. It may take the form of a 'list poem'. | About an earthquake / tsunami | form/seasons/on-the-ground-simile-poem/16186 |
| | The poem is five lines in length and follows the rhyme scheme AABBA. o Line 1: 7-10 syllables; | Write limericks on famous book, tv or film characters. | Edward Lear limericks |
| 5 | o Line 2: 7-10 syllables; o Line 3: 5-7 syllables; o Line 4: 5-7 syllables; | Write limericks based on made up people/characters. | Spring Magic by Judith Nicholls Short Visit, Long Stay by Paul Cookson |
| Structured Limerick | o Line 5: 7-10 syllables. | | Limerick by John Irwin |
| Stru | The first line usually begins with 'There was a' and ends with the name of a person or place. The last line should be rather unusual or far-fetched. | | |
| | Each line starts with a capital letter. Lines often end with a comma. | | |
| | The mood of this type of poem is comic, and it can even be nonsense. | | |
| | The poem is structured as a dialogue between two people. | PUPPY IN THE HOUSE Who broke the window? | Why Must We Go To School? by Allen Ahlberg |
| Structured Q&A poem | This kind of poem is great for performance as there are clear roles and voices within it and the children can have fun adding character to the lines. | who broke the window; It wasn't me. Wag, wag! Who chewed the rug? | Conversation by Michael Rosen |
| uct. | - | It wasn't me. Lick, lick! Who made a puddle? | From Poems to Perform by Julia Donaldson |
| Str Q& | | It wasn't me. Woof, woof! | Conversation Piece by Gareth Owen |
| | | | The Treasures by Clare Bevan |

| Year group | Reading NC Objectives | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|---------------|--|--|---|
| KS1 Year 4 | Read books (poems) that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes Identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books (poems) Prepare poems to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination Recognise some different forms of poetry (for example, free verse, narrative poetry) Participate in discussion about both books (poems) that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say. | Discussing writing (forms of poems) similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar Discussing and recording ideas Read aloud their own writing (poem), to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear. | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart (using actions if needed). Life Doesn't Frighten Me by Maya Angelou Please Mrs Butler by Allan Ahlberg The Quangle Wangle's Hat by Edward Lear From a Railway Carriage by Robert Louis Stevenson Sick by Shel Silverstein Mr Moore by David Harmer |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Free verse does not follow a set syllable pattern or rhyme scheme. | Putting items into a box/suitcase | The Magic Box by Kit Wright |
| Verse | It may be written on a range of themes. | Walking through a door into a different land/world | The Sound Collector by Roger McGough |
| e Ve t Po | Refer to the KS2 key objectives and writing curriculum content for Year 4. Alliteration and similes (non clichéd) should be expected and encouraged as | Link to project | Ten Things Found in a Wizard's Pocket by Ian McMillan |
| Free | children have come across this in Year 2 and 3. | | Things I'd Do If It Weren't For Mum by Tony Mitton |
| | | | The Teacher's Day in Bed by David Orme |
| | A 'kenning' is a two word phrase which describes an object, often using a metaphor to do so. | Teach metaphors explicitly first | Beowolf |
| Structured Kennings | Kenning poems are a type of riddle which use kennings to describe something or someone. | Encourage precise word choices and other features learned in previous years such as alliteration, similes. | BEWARe! Poem from Zim Zam Zoom! by James Carter Guess Who? By Coral Rumble |
| Struc | Each line consists of one kenning. There is no set number of lines in each verse. | | Squirrel by Celia Warren |
| | The kennings should be ordered within the poem with consideration of the impact on the reader. | | |
| | The haiku originates from Japan, and is similar in structure to a Tanka poem (year 5) | Write a Haiku linked to project/class text or for a specific theme-day. | Haikus by Basho |
| 9 | | | Four Seasons Haiku by Adrian Henri |
| ructure Haiku | The mood of a haiku is generally serious, and can relate to many themes, including nature or love. The line structure is as follows: | | Bumble-bee by Angela Topping |
| Structured Haiku | Line 1: 5 syllables; Line 2: 7 syllables; Line 3: 5 syllables. (14 in total). | | Policemand Haiku by Roger Stevens |
| | Each line starts with a capital letter. | | |

| Year | group | Reading NC Objectives | | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|------|--------|--|---|--|--|
| KS1 | Year 5 | Continue to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of poetry Read books (poems) that are structured in different ways and for a range of purposes Make comparisons within and across books (poems) Learn a wider range of poetry by heart Prepare poems to read aloud/perform, showing understanding through intonation/tone/volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience | Participate in discussions about books (poems) that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously Summarise the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader | Follow the National Curriculum guidelines for writing in Upper Key Stage 2. Children should be encouraged to include a range of the poetic language features learned in KS1 and Lower Key Stage 2, and choose which are appropriate to use in their writing (authorial intent). | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart (using actions if needed). The Tyger by William Blake The Tale of Custard The Dragon by Ogden Nash The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes The Charge of the Lightbrigade by Alfred Lord Tennyson Still I Rise by Maya Angelou Words Are Ours by Michael Rosen |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| Free Verse Narrative | A narrative poem in literature is a poem which tells a story. It has a full storyline with all the elements of a traditional story. These elements include characters, plot, conflict and resolution, setting and action Narrative poems include old epics, lays and ballads. | Link to FOS | The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes Maggie and the Dinosaur by Dave Ward Me and my Brother by Michael Rosen |
| Structured Cinquains or Tanka | A cinquain poem is a verse of five lines that do not rhyme Line 1: 2 syllables Line 2: 4 syllables Line 3: 6 syllables Line 4: 8 syllables Line 5: 2 syllables Tanka A Japanese form of five lines with 5, 7, 5, 7, and 7 syllables—31 in all. | Link to FOS | Cinquains Birds of a Feather by Bernard Young School Trip by Tracey Blance Yo You by Angela Topping Tankas Silver Aeroplane by John Foster Red by Coral Rumble |
| Structured Rhyming | Rhyming couplets: AA BB CC DD EE etc | | Kicking up Leaves by Matt Simpson My Brother Bert by Ted Hughes Where do all the teachers go? By Peter Dixon Alien's Stole my Underpants by Brian Moses The Bonfire by Eleanor Farjeon |

| Year group | | Reading NC Objectives | | Writing NC Objectives | Famous / Classic Poems to read and perform |
|------------|--------|--|---|--|--|
| - | Year 6 | Continue to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of poetry Read books (poems) that are structured in different ways and for a range of purposes Make comparisons within and across books (poems) Learn a wider range of poetry by heart Prepare poems to read aloud/perform, showing understanding through intonation/tone/volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience | Participate in discussions about books (poems) that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously Summarise the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader | Follow the National Curriculum guidelines for writing in Upper Key Stage 2. Children should be encouraged to include a range of the poetic language features learned in KS1 and Lower Key Stage 2, and choose which are appropriate to use in their writing (authorial intent). | Choose at least 2 from the list below to read and perform off by heart (using actions if needed). In Flander's Fields by John McCrae Meeting Midnight by Carol Ann Duffy The Way Through the Woods by Rudyard Kipling The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll McCavity: The Mystery Cat by T.S Eliot Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley |

| | Type of Poetry & Features | Writing Suggestions | Example Poems |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | |
| Free Verse Personification | In poetry, personification is used to allow non-human things to take on human | | The Sea (is a hungry dog) by James Reeves |
| | traits and emotions. | | Children in Wartime by Isobel Thrilling |
| | Poets can use personification to make inanimate objects, such as a mirror, | | , , |
| ee rson | express feelings and perform actions. | | For Forest by Grace Nichols |
| 구 s | In Year 6 children should have the opportunity to read a range of poems where | | |
| | personification is used and comment on why the author has chosen to do this. | | |
| ر يو | A blackout poem is when a poet takes a marker (usually black marker) to already established textlike in a newspaperand starts redacting words until a poem is | Exploring with children how poetry can be used to project their 'voice' on issues important to them. | |
| lal cou | formed. The key thing with a blackout poem is that the text AND redacted text | Themes may include controversial issues such as climate change, racism, bullying, | |
| Visual Blackout | form a sort of visual poem. | animal cruelty. | |
| 7 🖁 0 | • | | |
| | Western about a second and a second as | | Circ Down and Couldren Dobble by William Challenge |
| | Writing rhyming poetry is not easy, despite children's enthusiasm to want to create poems that rhyme further down the school. | | Fire, Burn: and Cauldron Bubble by William Shakespeare |
| ed sed | | | Matilda by Hilaire Belloc |
| ctur mir iple | The rhyming words and rhythmic beats of each line need to be appropriate to the mood and theme of the poem. Possible structures include: | | Upon Westminster Bridge by William Wordsworth |
| | Rhyming couplets: AA BB CC DD EE etc | | Opon Westimister Bridge by William Wordsworth |
| Strue Rhy cou | Alternate rhyming couplets: ABAB CDCD | | McCavity: The Mystery Cat by T.S Eliot |
| | Unbounded couplets: A B C B | | The Evacuee by Shirley Tomlinson |