

Poetry Curriculum

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/glossary-poetry-types>

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/glossary-poetry-terms>

You will notice on your genre plan that poetry is missing. The reason for this is because you are free to teach these poetry units wherever fits best with your topics. Each year group has 3 different types of poetry that they will cover throughout the year. The following document is designed to help you plan these units. The Young Writers website also contains a lot of information on poetry.

EYFS

Children listen, and respond to, a range of poetry around a theme.
Look at rhyme within poems
Collect words that rhyme

Key Stage 1 – Key Learning

- Learn, re read and recite favourite poems, taking account of punctuation.
- Comment on aspects such as word combinations, sound patterns (rhymes, rhythms, alliterative patterns) and forms of presentation.
- Identify and discuss favourite poems and poets, using appropriate terms (poet, poem, verse, rhyme etc) and referring to the language of the poem.
- Use structures from poems as a basis for writing, by extending or substituting elements, inventing new lines, verses etc
- Discuss choice of words and phrases that describe and create impact (adjectives, verbs etc)
- Use of similes, metaphors, personification.
- Discuss meanings of words and phrases that create humour, and sound effects in poetry (nonsense poems, tongue twisters, riddles)
- Use humorous verse as a structure for children to write their own by adaptation, mimicry or substitution; to invent own language puzzles, jokes, nonsense sentences.
- Collect suitable words and phrases in order to write poems and short descriptions; design simple patterns with words, use repetitive phrases; write imaginative comparisons
- Invent calligrams and a range of shape poems, selecting appropriate words and careful presentation.
- Write poetry that uses sound to create effects (eg. Onomatopoeia, alliteration, distinctive rhythms)
- Choose and prepare poems for performance choosing appropriate expression, tone, volume and use of voices and other sounds.
- Rehearse and improve performance
- Write new and extended verses for performances based on models of 'performance' and oral poetry eg. Rhythms, rhymes
- Write poems based on personal or imagined experience, linked to poems read
- Understand the use of figurative language in poetry and prose; compare poetic phrasing with narrative/descriptive examples

- Locate use of similes
- Identify different patterns of rhyme and verse in poetry eg. Choruses, rhyming couplets, alternate line rhymes
- Understand the following terms and identify them in poems (verse, chorus, couplet, stanza, rhythm, rhyme, alliteration)
- Describe how a poet does or does not use rhyme
- Produce polished poems through revisions

Key Stage 2

- Choose and prepare poems for performance choosing appropriate expression, tone, volume and use of voices and other sounds.
- Rehearse and improve performance
- Write new and extended verses for performances based on models of 'performance' and oral poetry eg. Rhythms, rhymes
- Write poems based on personal or imagined experience, linked to poems read
- Understand the use of figurative language in poetry and prose; compare poetic phrasing with narrative/descriptive examples
- Locate use of similes
- Identify different patterns of rhyme and verse in poetry eg. Choruses, rhyming couplets, alternate line rhymes
- Understand the following terms and identify them in poems (verse, chorus, couplet, stanza, rhythm, rhyme, alliteration)
- Describe how a poet does or does not use rhyme
- Produce polished poems through revisions
- Analyse and compare poetic style, use of forms and the themes of significant poets; to respond to shades of meaning; to explain and justify personal tastes; to consider the impacts of full rhymes, half rhymes, internal rhymes and other sound patterns.
- Investigate and collect different examples of word play.
- Convey feelings, reflections or moods in a poem through the careful choice of words and phrases.
- Write metaphors from original ideas or from similes.
- Understand terms which describe different types of poems eg ballad, sonnet, rap, elegy, narrative poem and identify typical features
- Discuss how linked poems relate to one another by themes, format and repetition, e.g. cycle of poems about the seasons;
- Describe and evaluate the style of an individual poet;
- Comment critically on the overall impact of a poem, showing how language and themes have been developed
- Write their own poems experimenting with active verbs and personification.
- Recognise how poets manipulate words: for their quality of sound (rhythm, rhyme, assonance); for their connotations; for multiple layers of meaning; nonsense words and how meaning can be made of them; where the appeal lies.
- Analyse how messages, moods, feelings and attitudes are conveyed in poetry
- Read and interpret poems in which meanings are implied or multi-layered
- Write a sequence of poems linked by theme or form, e.g. a haiku calendar;

Year 1

Acrostic

Shape Poems/Calligrams/Concrete poems

Riddles		
Acrostic A type of poetry where the first, last or other letter in a line spell out a particular word or phrase. The most common and simple form is where the first letters of each line spell out the word or phrase.		
<u>Text and Layout</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Sentence</u>
First letter in each line spells out a particular word or phrase. Relates to a theme (any subject)		Punctuation as you would normal sentences. Sentence structure can be anything.
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
The acrostic word can be positioned in the middle or at the end of your poem Could extend – increase the level of description or try to make it rhyme.		
Shape Poems/Calligrams/Concrete poems A Shape Poem is a type of poetry that describes an object and is shaped the same as the object the poem is describing.		
<u>Text and Layout</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Sentence</u>
Set out in the shape of what it is describing. No fixed rules. The poem needs to have impact and be relevant to the shape. Can be around the shape, or inside the shape.	No rules	
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Could differentiate by syllables/rhyming Could include metaphors, similes, alliteration etc		
Riddle A Riddle is a type of poem that describes something without actually naming what it is, leaving the reader to guess. A Riddle is a light hearted type of poetry which involves the reader. Riddles can be about anything, from Riddles about animals to Riddles about objects. There are no rules on how to structure a Riddle poem, a Riddle can be funny or it can rhyme , it depends on the person writing the Riddle. Example of a Riddle		

It is an animal
 It is orange and black
 It has stripes
 It has four paws
 It lives in the jungle
 What is it?
A tiger.

Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
No set structure	No rules	No rules

Challenge for all within this poetry type

The riddle could rhyme:

I come in different styles
 I can help you walk for miles
 I come in a pair
 I'm something you wear
 With heels I am glam
 Can you guess what I am...?
Shoes

Year 2

Diamante
 Haiku
 Free verse

Diamante

When a diamante poem is written it takes on the shape of a diamond.

The Structure of a Diamante Poem

A diamante poem is made up of 7 lines using a set structure:

Line 1: Beginning subject
 Line 2: Two describing words about line 1
 Line 3: Three doing words about line 1
 Line 4: A short phrase about line 1, a short phrase about line 7
 Line 5: Three doing words about line 7
 Line 6: Two describing words about line 7
 Line 7: End subject

An example of a diamante poem

Bike
 Shiny, quiet,
 Pedaling, spinning, weaving
 Whizzing round corners, zooming along roads
 Racing, roaring, speeding
 Fast, loud,
 Car

Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
Structure of a diamond	First and last words to have impact. Adjectives and verbs	Each line starts with a capital Commas between adjectives/verbs. No full stops
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Quality and expectations – language use.		
Haiku A Haiku is a Japanese poem which can also be known as a Hokku. A Haiku poem is similar to a Tanka but has fewer lines. A Haiku is a type of poetry that can be written on many themes, from love to nature. An Example of a Haiku Poem (5) The sky is so blue. (7) The sun is so warm up high. (5) I love the summer. Haikus tend to be serious poems about nature.		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
A Haiku consists of 3 lines and 17 syllables . Each line has a set number of syllables see below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Line 1 – 5 syllables ● Line 2 – 7 syllables ● Line 3 – 5 syllables Any theme – but traditionally love and nature.	Adjectives	Capital letters at the beginning of each line. No punctuation
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Haiku poems don't need to rhyme , but for more of a challenge some poets try to rhyme lines 1 and 3. Example of Rhyming Haiku Poems Beans (5) Beans are kind to hearts. (7) I like to eat them daily. (5) And then do big farts!		
Year 3 Clerihew Limericks		

Free verse		
Clerihew A comic four-line verse, typically about a person named in one of the lines. Mr Smith wears a wig, But for his head it's rather big. In windy weather he was careless. Now Mr Smith's head is hairless.		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
Four lines. Rhyming couplets. A person's name as its first line. Something to say about that person. It should make you smile!		Usual punctuation
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Change the rhyme structure (a), (a), (a), (a) or (a), (b), (c), (b) or (a), (a), (b), (b) or (a), (b), (a), (b)		
Limerick A limerick is often a funny poem with a strong beat. Limericks are very light hearted poems and can sometimes be utter nonsense. The Structure of a Limerick Poem An example of a Limerick Poem by famous poet Edward Lear 'There was an old man with a beard Who said, 'It is just as I feared, Two owls and a hen A lark and a wren Have all built their nests in my beard!'		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
A Limerick consists of five lines. The first line of a limerick poem usually begins with 'There was a....' and ends with a name, person or place. The last line of a limerick is normally a little farfetched or unusual A limerick should have a	Rhyming words	Capital letter at the start of each line.

rhyme scheme of aabba: This means lines 1,2 and 5 rhyme and lines 3 and 4 rhyme . Also, lines 1,2 and 5 should have 7 – 10 syllables and lines 3 and 4 should have 5 – 7 syllables .		
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Give children a structure and they change some words Create their own from scratch (around a theme)		
Year 4 Kennings Tetractys Free Verse		
Tetractys The poetic form of the tetractys is a poem with only five lines. Each line adds another <u>syllable</u> until the last line which has ten. An Example of a Tetractys Poem (1 syllable) I (2 syllables) Am four (3 syllables) And I go (4 syllables) To big school where (10 syllables) I learn to read and write and spell my name.		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
A tetractys consists of 5 lines, each line has a set number of syllables see below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Line 1 – 1 syllable ● Line 2 – 2 syllables ● Line 3 – 3 syllables ● Line 4 – 4 syllables ● Line 5 – 10 syllables 		Capital letters at the beginning of each line. Full stop at the end of the last line.
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Double Tetractys Poem		
For a more complex form there is the double tetractys, which is similar but has ten lines and		

is structured as shown below:

- Line 1 – 1 syllable
- Line 2 – 2 syllables
- Line 3 – 3 syllables
- Line 4 – 4 syllables
- Line 5 – 10 syllables
- Line 6 – 10 syllables
- Line 7 – 4 syllables
- Line 8 – 3 syllables
- Line 9 – 2 syllables
- Line 10 – 1 syllable

An Example of a Double Tetractys Poem

(1 syllable) I
(2 syllables) Am four
(3 syllables) And I go
(4 syllables) To big school where
(10 syllables) I learn to read and write and spell my name. (10 syllables) It is fun and I play
games with my friends (4 syllables) My best friend is (3 syllables) Called Rosie (2
syllables) She is (1 syllable) Nice

You could also reverse the structure.

kennings

A Kenning is a two word phrase describing an object often using a metaphor. A Kennings poem is a riddle made up of several lines of kennings to describe something or someone.

My Sister

Dummy-sucker
Teddy-thrower
Anything-chewer

Kiss-giver
Slave-employer
Dolly-hugger
Calm-destroyer

Milk-drinker
Nappy-leaker
Peace-breaker
Scream-shrieker

Unlike any other
My sister

Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
A Kennings poem consists of	Precise choice of adjectives	Use of hyphen

several stanzas of two describing words. It can be made up of any number of Kennings.	and verbs. Alliteration	
Order of phrases in poem to create effect.		
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
Vary number of stanzas		
Year 5		
Haiku/Senryu Renga Free verse		
<p>Haiku</p> <p>A Haiku is a Japanese poem which can also be known as a Hokku. A Haiku poem is similar to a Tanka but has fewer lines. A Haiku is a type of poetry that can be written on many themes, from love to nature.</p> <p>An Example of a Haiku Poem</p> <p>(5) The sky is so blue. (7) The sun is so warm up high. (5) I love the summer.</p> <p>Haikus tend to be serious poems about nature.</p> <p>Senryu</p> <p>A senryu is a 17 syllable poem. It is an unrhymed Japanese verse. A senryu consists of 3 lines and 17 syllables. These are</p> <p>The Structure of a Senryu Poem</p> <p>The 17 syllables should be arranged as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Line 1 – 5 syllables ● Line 2 – 7 syllables ● Line 3 – 5 syllables <p>Senryus tend to be serious and about humans rather than nature.</p>		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
A Haiku/Senryu consists of 3 lines and 17 syllables . Each line has a set number of syllables see below: ● Line 1 – 5 syllables	Adjectives	Capital letters at the beginning of each line. No punctuation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Line 2 – 7 syllables ● Line 3 – 5 syllables <p>Any theme – but traditionally love and nature.</p>		
Challenge for all within this poetry type		
<p>Haiku poems don't need to rhyme, but for more of a challenge some poets try to rhyme lines 1 and 3.</p> <p>Examples of Rhyming Haiku Poems</p> <p>Toast (5) I really like toast. (7) It is yummy when it's hot. (5) I like it best cold.</p> <p>Beans (5) Beans are kind to hearts. (7) I like to eat them daily. (5) And then do big farts!</p>		
<p>Renga</p> <p>Renga, means 'linked poem'. Poets worked in pairs or small groups, taking turns composing the alternating three-line and two-line stanzas.</p> <p>What is the structure of a Renga Poem?</p> <p>To create a Renga, one poet writes the first stanza, which is three lines long with a total of seventeen syllables – the same structure as a haiku. The next poet adds the second stanza, a couplet with seven syllables per line. The third stanza repeats the structure of the first (another haiku) and the fourth repeats the second, alternating in this pattern until the poem is completed.</p> <p>Example of a Renga Poem</p> <p>The final leaf falls (5) The tree branches are so bare (7) Autumn has arrived (5) Remember Summer's warm kiss (7) So gentle, it will be missed. (7)</p>		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
Each stanza is linked by a theme (the theme can be anything)		Capital letter at the start of each line. Full stop at the end of the stanza.
Challenge for all in this poetry type		
Change the length of the poem		

Theme Introduce rhyme or rules to make it more challenging Experiment with syllables etc		
Year 6 Ottava Rima Irregular Ode Free Verse		
Ottava Rima An Ottava Rima is an Italian poem made up of eight lines that rhyme . Each line consists of eleven syllables . The structure of an Ottava Rima Poem An Ottava Rima poem is made up of an octave with the rhyme pattern ab ab ab cc An example of an Ottava Rima Poem Quickly did the tiger begin his fast run Over hilly ground you see him fly and leap The passive prey laying grazing in the sun Suddenly its life that it wanted to keep Tiger pounces, quickly getting the job done The prey collapsing in a really big heap Tiger sleeps as night takes over from the day Will we ever see the hunter become prey?		
Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
ab ab ab cc	Precise word choice	Use of a question to close the poem (optional) Commas and full stops
Challenge for all in this poetry type		
one octave poem: abababcc two octave poem: abababcc, dededeff three octave poem: abababcc, dededeff, ghghghii		
Irregular Ode An Irregular Ode is a poem with meter and <u>rhyme</u> just like all other odes but has no set pattern. Each line rhymes somewhere throughout.		

An example of an Irregular Ode poem

Ode To Spring

- (a) Oh ! Glorious Spring, how amazing you are
 - (b) You are both Truth's beauty and light
 - (a) You travel far
 - (b) Yet always remain bright
 - (c) Baby lambs greet you with a bleat
 - (d) Birds fly stretching their wings
 - (c) Lovers on a seat
 - (d) We are truly thankful for what you bring
 - (e) Spring never leave
 - (f) Oh but can I compare
 - (g) How I feel when you're near?
 - (g) Spreading your joy to those so dear
 - (h) Spring we celebrate your birth
 - (h) And we mourn each year you leave this Earth
- Oh Spring!

Sandy Brown John writes odes with children eg. Ode to Jelly Tot! it might be worth Googling her...

Text and Layout	Word	Sentence
Each line follows on from the last – following a theme. They are about a person or a thing. They have a positive tone.		Capital letter at the start
Challenge for all in this poetry type		
Explore other odes with set structures/rules Make your own rules for irregular odes		

Free Verse:

A Free Verse is poetry written with rhymed or unrhymed verse that has no set **meter** to it.

An example of a Free Verse poem

In Flight

Wake up to a bright sapphire morning
Cloudless skies
This can only mean one thing
It's a go!

At the launch site
Teeth chit-chattering

And not just from the c-cold

What if a bird confuses my head for a perch?
Will my glasses be fogged up by the clouds?
If I fall out of the basket
And land in a field of cows

Up we go!
Far below
Idyllic fields of patchwork green
Glittering lakes - a treasure trove beneath the surface
Click!

I can't believe I'm so high
Feeling like a queen
I stretch my arms out to the sides
Now I'm a bird
So high
I close my eyes and take flight
I feel the wind in my wings
Up with the clouds
My hair, now feathers, sweeps behind me
I am as elegant as a swan
Soaring higher than the Earth

Oh
I'm not a bird
I'm not as elegant as a swan
I'm about as elegant as a rhino on roller skates
I'm just a schoolgirl
On a balloon flight

And we just crash-landed
In a field
With cows.

**You can differentiate this by providing some type of structure eg. An open phrase on a particular theme.
Eg Dark is.....**