

### Rules for Writing a Limerick Poem

- Capitalize the first letter of each line.
- The first line usually names a person or a place and has eight syllables
- The second line must rhyme with the first line and also has eight syllables.
- The third line does not have to rhyme with the second line, but it only has five syllables.
- The fourth line must rhyme with the third line, and it also has five syllables.
- The fifth line must rhyme with the first and second lines. The fifth line has eight syllables.
- The poem must follow a rhythm
  - da DUM da da DUM da da DUM
  - da DUM da da DUM da da DUM
  - da DUM da da DUM
  - da DUM da da DUM
  - da DUM da da DUM da da DUM
- The last line is usually funny.
- It's OK if the syllables aren't exactly right, but the poem has to follow the rhythm.

#### An example of a Limerick Poem by famous poet Edward Lear

'There was an old man with a beard - 8 syllables  
Who said, 'It is just as I feared, - 8 syllables  
Two owls and a hen – 5 syllables  
A lark and a wren – 5 syllables  
Have all built their nests in my beard!' – 8 syllables

**Creative Intelligence:** You just wrote a poem!!!! That's creative!!

**Emotional Intelligence:** You just used poetry to be funny and make people laugh!!! That's emotional intelligence!!

**Intellectual Intelligence:** How else could you use poetry besides to be funny and make people laugh?

Here is a website to help you rhyme words. Just type in the word you want to rhyme and it will show you all kinds of words that rhyme with it.

<https://www.poetry4kids.com/rhymes/>

I'm excited to read all of your poems. Make sure to include your intellectual intelligence component about how you could use poetry in another way besides making people laugh.

You can turn in your poem by emailing a picture of it to me. Here is my email address:

[kurt.weaver@k12.nd.us](mailto:kurt.weaver@k12.nd.us)

You can also call me during the school day from 9:00-3:00. My phone number is 701-766-1465.

You can also email me. [kurt.weaver@k12.nd.us](mailto:kurt.weaver@k12.nd.us)