



Poetry uses words in a creative way to talk about feelings and ideas. It is written in lines and often has special sound patterns called rhythm and rhyme. A rhythm is the beat of the poem, like a drumbeat in music. Rhymes are words that have the same sound. In this session, you will explore rhythm and rhyme, and make up your own poem.

The group may have already looked at poetry in Unit 2. If not, try those activities too.



1. Work in a team of three or in a pair. Your Reading Champion will choose a word. You have 30 seconds to make a list of words that rhyme with the word. The team with the most rhyming words wins!

Rhymes are words that have the same sound.



2. Choose a poem from the library. Sit in a circle and take it in turns to each read or say a line from the poem. Read or say your line and then pass the book to the next person.

If you don't have a poetry book, use a poem that everybody knows.



You could read the first line yourself to get the group started.



3. Sit in a circle. Take it in turns to each read or say a line from the poem again. After each line is read, clap the rhythm together. Discuss the patterns you can hear in the rhythm.

Make sure everyone in the group understands what a rhythm is. A rhythm is the beat of a poem, like the beat of a drum in music.



4. Make up your own short clapping pattern as a group. Agree on a subject (for example, your school, the weather, or your favourite animals) and then each make up a line that fits the pattern. Say your lines one by one to make up a poem! If possible, write down a copy of your poem to keep in the library.

For an extra challenge, you could ask the group to make the poem rhyme.

