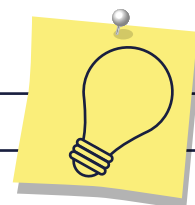


Poetry writing ideas for KS1

Using known structures

- Use a nursery rhyme as the basis for a new poem. 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star' could become 'Crackle, crackle, little flame'. Which other parts of the poem must also change?
- Read limericks. Ask pupils to change the last line. What do they need to think about? Does it match the rhythm and rhyme of the rest of the poem?
- Create a skipping or clapping rhyme to use in the playground.



List poems

- Write a list poem about a topic, such as water. Ask pupils to think of as many words as they can to describe how water moves. Then use these as the basis for a list poem.

For example:

Water flows.

Water gushes.

These phrases could then be expanded.

Water flows slowly.

Water gushes loudly.

- Make a list of nouns (e.g. animals) down the centre of a page. Make a poem by building up descriptions around them with verbs, adjectives and noun phrases.

For example:

An angry tiger prowls.

A timid mouse scurries.

Descriptive poems

- Put an image at the centre of page and ask pupils to brainstorm adjectives, nouns, verbs and similes. Use these as the basis for a poem.
- Ask pupils to describe an object (e.g. an orange) by using their senses. They can then use their ideas as the basis for a poem.

Riddles

- Ask pupils to write a 'What am I?' riddle, giving clues to describe something. This is great for assessing pupils' understanding of other curriculum areas. For example, they could describe a shape, a historical artefact, a book character, etc.