



Weaving the Thread
of

Poetry

Through Literacy
Instruction

WSRA Convention 2017
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Why make poetry a part of your literacy instruction?

- Poetry is compact enough to fit into your jam-packed schedule
- Poems are valuable mentor texts for vivid and precise language
- You can find poems on every subject from aardvarks to zephyrs
- Poetry is a playground for sound (think rhyme, alliteration, repetition, word invention...)
- Writing and sharing poetry can be cathartic and community-building
- Poems are portable (you can carry one in your pocket – or your memory)
- Poetry is a creative outlet that synthesizes naturally with other forms of artistic expression
- Poetry helps meet standards for reading, writing, listening and speaking

“Five Reasons Why We Need Poetry in Schools”

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/five-reasons-poetry-needed-schools-elena-aguilar>

“Why Teaching Poetry is So Important”

<http://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2014/04/why-teaching-poetry-is-so-important/360346/>

Background Building for Teachers

- Visit your school or public library and camp out in the poetry section
- When you discover a poem you love, share it
- Research one poet or form that interests you
- Check out quality websites like: www.poetryfoundation.org
www.poets.org
www.favoritepoem.org

Introduction and Immersion

- Post a single poem or collection (author, theme, type)
- Choose a poem of the day/week
- Arrange your class in a circle and play “Pass the Poem”
- Include a poetry section in your classroom library
- Bless the (poetry) books
- Investigate the lives of poets (author study)
- Keep a Poetry Notebook (original and/or collected)

“Integrating Daily Poetry in the Classroom: 5 Tools to Support Your Efforts”

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/integrating-daily-poetry-5-tools-brett-vogelsinger>

“12 Best Poetry Websites for Kids - Interactives and Collection”

<https://turbofuture.com/internet/k12interactivepoetry>

Monthly Book Picks by the U.S. Children’s Poet Laureate

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/resources/children/book-picks>

Reading and Responding

- Read poems aloud (start the day, transitions, end the day)
- Encourage partner or shared reading
- Take time for close reading
- Reread for fluency
- Share a personal response (turn and talk, journal, art)
- Share thoughts with a larger group (Tabletop Twitter, Graffiti Wall)

Writing

- Investigate different poetic forms
 - Paste Pot
 - Magnetic Poetry <http://play.magneticpoetry.com/poem/Kids/kit/>
 - Blackout <http://austinkleon.com/>
 - Found <http://www.foundpoetryreview.com/about-found-poetry/>
- Innovate from a mentor poem
- When writing patterned poetry begin with content rather than form
- Mix genres (pair a poem with an expository paragraph)
- Be open to inspiration (from everyday objects to eavesdropping)

Sharing and Performing

- Publish a personal or class anthology
- Post poems for a Gallery Walk
- Have a recital (for classmates, another grade, families)
- Perform a longer poem or collection as Readers’ Theater
- Organize a Poetry Slam
- Poetry Live!

Book List... A Beginning

Novels in Verse

Alexander, Kwame	The Crossover (2014) Booked (2016) Rebound (prequel to The Crossover; spring 2018 release)
Applegate, Katherine	Home of the Brave (2008)
Bauer, Marion Dane	Little Dog, Lost (2013) Little Cat's Luck (2016)
Berg, Ann	All the Broken Pieces (2012) Serafina's Promise (2013) Unbound (2016)
Creech, Sharon	Love That Dog (2001) Heartbeat (2004) Hate That Cat (2010) Moo (2016)
Grimes, Nikki	Planet Middle School (2011) Words With Wings (2013) Garvey's Choice (2016)
Hesse, Karen	Witness (2003) Out of the Dust (2009)
Hilton, Marilyn	Full Cicada Moon (2015)
Lai, Thanhha	Inside Out and Back Again (2013)
Pinkney, Andrea Davis	The Red Pencil (2015)
Rose, Caroline Starr	May B. (2014)
Sonnichsen, A.L.	Red Butterfly (2015)
Wissinger, Tamera Will	Gone Fishing: A Novel in Verse (2013)
Woodson, Jacqueline	Brown Girl Dreaming (2016)

More titles at...

<http://www.sarahtregay.com/middlegrade.html>

Teacher Resources and Mentor Texts

Fletcher, Ralph	A Writing Kind of Day: Poems for Young Poets (2005) Poetry Matters: Writing a Poem from the Inside Out (2002)
Heard, Georgia	Poetry Lesson to Meet the Common Core State Standards (2013) Falling Down the Page: A Book of List Poems (2011) Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School (1998)
Janeczko, Paul	A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms (2009)
O'Neil, Mary	Hailstones and Halibut Bones: Adventures in Color and Poetry (1990)
Prelutsky, Jack	Pizza, Pigs, and Poetry: How to Write a Poem (2008)
Routman, Regie	Kids' Poems: Teaching Kindergartners to Love Writing Poetry (2000) " Teaching First Graders to Love Writing Poetry (2000) " Teaching Second Graders to Love Writing Poetry (2000) " Teaching Third and Fourth Graders to Love Writing Poetry (2000)
Whipple, Laura	If the Shoe Fits: Voices from Cinderella (2012)
Worth, Valerie	All the Small Poems and Fourteen More (1999)

In Praise of Poets

Alexander, Kwame	Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets (March 14, 2017)
Bober, Natalie S.	Papa Is a Poet: A Story About Robert Frost (2013)
Brown, Monica	Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People (2011)
Bryant, Jen	A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams (2008)
Burgess, Matthew	Enormous Smallness: A Story of E.E. Cummings (2015)
Cheng, Andrea	Etched in Clay: The Life of Dave, Enslaved Potter and Poet (2013)
Engle, Margarita	The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano (2006)
Silverman, Erica	The Story of Emma Lazarus: Liberty's Voice: A Biography of One of the Great Poets in American History (2014)

Content Area Connections

Atkins, Jeannine	Finding Wonders: Three Girls Who Changed Science (2016)
Blackaby, Susan	Nest, Nook & Cranny (2010)
Bulion, Leslie	At the Sea Floor Cafe: Odd Ocean Critters (2011)
Franco, Betsy	Bees, Snails, & Peacock Tails: Patterns & Shapes...Naturally (2008) Mathematically! (2006)
Hopkins, Lee Bennett	Spectacular Science (2002) Marvelous Math (2001)
Katz, Susan	The President's Stuck in the Bathtub: Poems About the Presidents (2012)
Kooser, Ted	The Blizzard Voices (2006)
Latham, Irene	Dear Wandering Wildebeest: And Other Poems from the Water Hole (2014)
Lewis, J. Patrick	Edgar Allan Poe's Pie: Math Puzzlers in Classic Poems (2012) Arithme-Tickle: An Even Number of Odd Riddle-Rhymes (2007) Monumental Verses (2005)
Myers, Walter Dean	Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices (2008)
Nelson, Marilyn	Carver: A Life in Poems (2001)
Spinelli, Eileen	Feathers: Poems About Birds (2004)
Tang, Greg	Math For All Seasons (2005) Math Potatoes: Mind Stretching Brain Food (2005) Math Fables: Lessons That Count by Greg Tang (2004) The Grapes of Math: Mind Stretching Math Riddles (2004) The Best of Times: Math Strategies That Multiply (2003) Math-terpieces: The Art of Problem-Solving (2003)

Word Play

Cleary, Brian P.	Ode to a Commode: Concrete Poems (2015)
Heard, Georgia	The Arrow Finds Its Mark: A Book of Found Poems (2012)

Janeczko, Paul	A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems (2005) A Foot in the Mouth: Poems to Speak, Sing, and Shout (2012)
Lewis, J. Patrick	Doodle Dandies: Poems That Take Shape (2002)
Park, Linda Sue	Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo (Poems) (2007)
Raczka, Bob	Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems (2016) Lemonade: And Other Poems Squeezed From a Single Word (2013) Santa Clauses: Short Poems from the North Pole (2014) Guyku: A Year of Haiku for Boys (2010)
Singer, Marilyn	Mirror, Mirror: A Book of Reverso Poems (2010) Follow, Follow: A Book of Reverso Poems (2013) Echo, Echo: Reverso Poems About Greek Myths (2016)

Featured Poet: Joyce Sidman

Round (2017) March 7 release date
This is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness (2014)
What the Heart Knows: Chants, Charms & Blessings (2013)
The World According to Dog: Poems and Teen Voices (2013)
Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature (2011)
Ubiquitous: Celebrating Nature's Survivors (2010)
Dark Emperor & Other Poems of the Night (2010)
Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors (2009)
Meow Ruff: A Story in Concrete Poetry (2006)
Butterfly Eyes and Other Secrets of the Meadow (2006)
Song of the Water Boatman and Other Pond Poems (2005)
The World According to Dog (2003)
Eureka! Poems About Inventors (2002)
Just Us Two: Poems About Animal Dads (2000)

<http://www.joycesidman.com/>

Too Good to Leave Off the List

Coombs, Kate	Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems (2012)
Fogliano, Julie	When Green Becomes Tomatoes: Poems for All Seasons (2016)
Frost, Robert	Stopping by Woods (2001)
George, Kristine O'Connell	Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems (2001)
Hopkins, Lee Bennett	I Am the Book (2011) Wonderful Words (2004)
Janecko, Paul	Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems (2014)
Levine, Gail Carson	Forgive Me, I Meant to Do It: False Apology Poems (2012)
Pashkis, Julie	Flutter and Hum: Animal Poems/Aleteo y Zumbido: Poemas de Animales (2015)
Pinkney, Andrea Davis	A Poem for Peter: The Story of Ezra Jack Keats and the Creation of the Snowy Day (2016)
Salas, Laura Purdie	Bookspeak! Poems About Books (2011)
Wardlaw, Lee	Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku (2011) Won Ton and Chopsticks: A Cat and Dog Tale Told in Haiku (2015)

Newcomers

<http://blogs.slj.com/afuse8production/2016/12/21/31-days-31-lists-day-21-2016-poetry-books-for-kids/#>