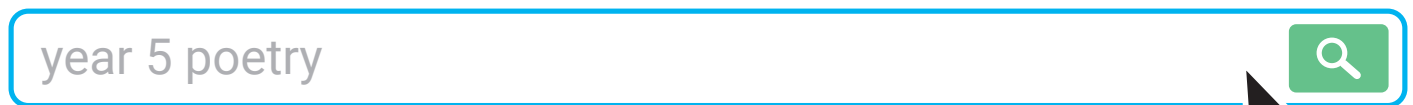


Year 5 Poetry:

A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to poetry can help you support your child's learning at home. Each subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring, whether your child is learning new types of poem, reading poetry or working on poetic devices.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

What Is Poetry?

Why Is Poetry Important for Children?

Poetry is a great opportunity to be imaginative and expressive with language - something that many children really enjoy. Poetry isn't just great for private reading; it's often written specifically to be performed. Even children who are reluctant to read aloud in class can build confidence in public poetry reading, as the poem can be prepared and practised, or even learnt by heart.

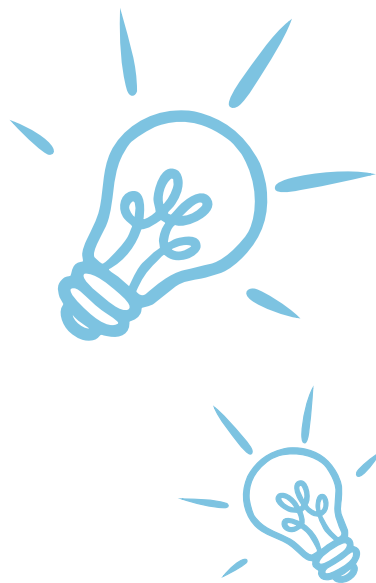
What Is Figurative Language?

Figurative language is a way of using words to compare something to something else, beyond the literal meaning. It is used for emphasis and impact. Using figurative language makes your child's writing more interesting and also helps the reader create a mental image of the intended meaning.

By year 5, children already understand that a poet uses special language to bring out emotions in the reader. Your child should be encouraged to explain the use of figurative language and pick out devices like onomatopoeia and metaphor. Encourage your child to tell you not only where they spot these techniques, but also what difference this makes to them as a reader.

How Can I Improve My Child's Reading of Poems?

When listening to your child read poetry, look for opportunities for dramatic pauses, changes of volume and expression. Children can also start to use voices, especially when reciting humorous poetry, but be prepared to talk about where this may and may not be appropriate. This helpful **BBC video** can be shared with children to explore how to perform poetry successfully.



Roll a Dice Poetry

Encourage your child to think outside the box by leaving a set poetic form behind and creating their own! Using dice, roll to decide how many syllables each line will contain and try to write a line to fit. This activity builds on your child's understanding of rhythm and format in poetry.

Paper Chain Poems

As your child reads and creates more poetry, you may wish to add some practical, hands-on activities as well to keep them engaged. Why not create some simple paper chains using lines of poetry written on strips of coloured paper? Staple, glue or tape the strips into loops chained together. You could write out a well-known or favourite poem into a paper chain, or write your own.

Write Your Own Limerick

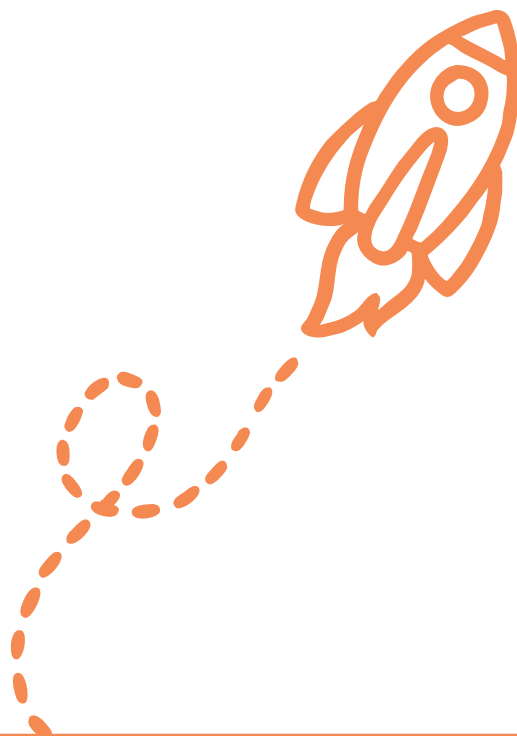
Why not involve the whole family in exploring this? A limerick is a cheeky, humorous form of poem that follows a specific pattern, like this example:

There once was a lad called John
Who never put trousers on
All the people he'd meet
Would laugh in the street
And his friends were no more - they'd all gone!

Writing silly limericks is great fun and helps children to focus on rhythm and rhyming patterns. For a limerick, the rhythm and rhyme are the same in the first, second and fifth line. The third and fourth lines also go together with rhythm and rhyme, but are shorter than the others. Can your child come up with a silly limerick about themselves or a friend?

Rap Poetry

Search online for a rap poem being performed. A good place to start is Michael Rosen's 'The Michael Rosen Rap'. Can your child identify the repeated chorus or the way the poet structures his rap poem? Encourage your child to have a go at mimicking a similar style (e.g. 'when I was 1, I... when I was 2, I ...').



Step 1

Understanding Year 5 Poetry Together

A large element of reading and understanding poetry (at all ages) is being able to pick out similarities and differences between poems. This range of Michael Rosen poems will walk you and your child through comparing his poems together. The slides contain all the information you need to analyse the poems and then be inspired to write in the Rosen style. Your child will need you to read and discuss the presentation; if you have a crack at writing your own poetry, this tends to be a big motivator too!

Step 2

Nonsense Poetry Research

Sometimes, the best inspiration for poetry is reading excellent poetry. Share the poem Jabberwocky with your child. Talk about what some of the nonsense words mean. Do we have an idea about what 'frabjous' and other words mean, even though they aren't real? Since poems conjure up images in our heads, nonsense poems are very special because we gain a very special personal understanding of the poem for ourselves. Use some materials from the Step 2 pack to explore the poetry of Edward Lear by following the internet search guide, 'A Bit of Nonsense'. Encourage your child to use these poetry examples as a model to write their own nonsense poem. They can use the structure of one of the poems, but change the nonsense words to alter the poem's feel.

Step 3

Villainous Verse

This fantastically fun poetry pack helps your child to learn about many parts of poetry through a villainous verse! Did you know Humpty Dumpty wasn't an egg at all, but a cannonball that wouldn't fire? Start by reading the poem to each other using different voices and expressions to get across the meaning of this entertaining poem. Next, explore the meaning of the poetry using the analysis questions and answers. Finally, use the support sheet to help you and your child to compose their own villainous verses - what will Humpty Dumpty do next? Or can your child think of another good nursery rhyme character who might really be bad? Is Little Red Riding Hood the real villain after all?

Step 4

Understanding Figurative Language

As your child moves into the upper junior years, they are expected to use more figurative language. When they read poetry, they will be expected to spot different types of figurative language and use these when they write their own poems. Share this PowerPoint with your child to revisit similes, metaphors, personification and hyperbole. You'll find clear explanations and examples and added activities too, hopefully refreshing your memory and helping you to support your child's learning at home.

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Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!



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Boost

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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ORIGINALS



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!