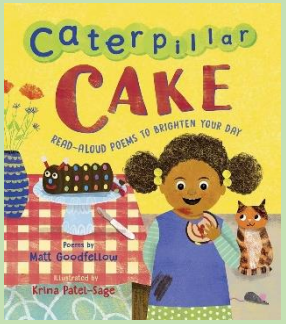
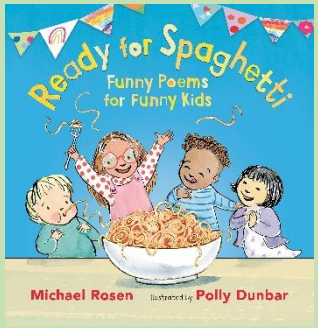
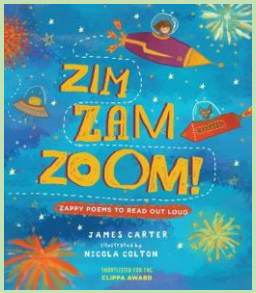
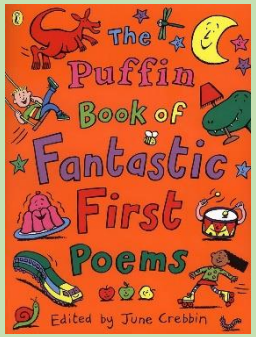
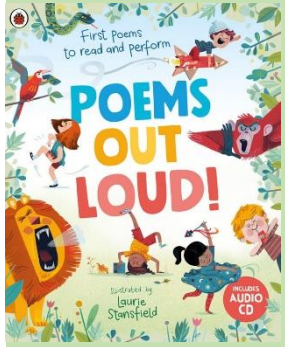
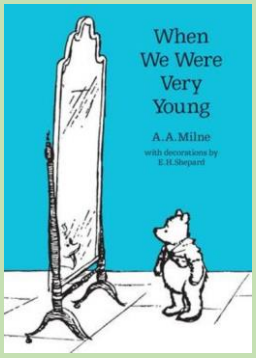
The Gates Primary School

Poetry Spine 2026-2027

EYFS

Poems to share		Rhymes, poems and songs to perform	Poems to write
Caterpillar Cake by Matt Goodfellow 	**Ready for Spaghetti!** by Michael Rosen 	Incy Wincy Spider Dingle Dangle Scarecrow Grand Old Duke Humpty Dumpty One, Two, Three, Four, Five, once I caught a fish Twinkle, Twinkle Remember, Remember the 5th of November Wheels On The Bus Row, Row, Row Your Boat 5 Little Ducks Peter Rabbit had a fly I'm a little tea pot Chop Chop Pancakes I have a little turtle	**Acrostic Poems** A poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word, phrase, or message when read vertically. The chosen word is often the theme or subject of the poem, and each line provides a description, feeling, or fact related to it. **Senses Poems** A poem that describes a subject using one or more of the five senses to create clear images and help the reader imagine the experience.

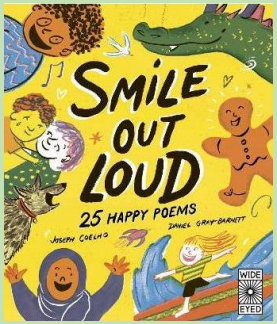
Year 1

Poems to share		Poems to perform	Poems to read	Poems to write
Zim Zam Zoom! Zappy Poems to Read Out Loud by James Carter  **The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems** by June Crebbin 	**Poems Out Loud!** Edited by Laurie Stansfield  **When We Were Very Young** by A.A.Milne and E.H.Shepherd 	**The Names I Give My Toes** by Kate Wakeling **Monster March** by Jane Newberry **Hide and Seek** by Matt Goodfellow **Now we are Six** by AA Milne **Queue for the Zoo** by Clare Bevan **We're Going on a Bear Hunt** by Michael Rosen	**Funny Faces (Bodies)** by Allan Ahlberg **Autumn Woods** by James Carter **When Daddy Fell Into The Pond** by Alfred Noyes **BEwARe! (Animal)** by James Carter **Wind on the Hill** by A.A. Milne **My Shadow** by Robert Louis Stevenson	**Acrostic and List Poems** A list poem collects content in a list form. It can be purely a list without any transitional phrases. List poems don't have any fixed rhyme or rhythmic pattern – this is the poet's choice. https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y1-acrostics-and-list-poems **Free Verse** Free verse poems have no rhyming structure and often don't have a particular rhythm or syllable patterns. Poets use line breaks, punctuation and the use of shorter and longer lines to convey meaning. https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y1-free-verse-en-gb **Riddles** A riddle is a type of word puzzle where ambiguous clues to an object or person's identity are offered requiring the reader to work out an answer. https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y1-riddles

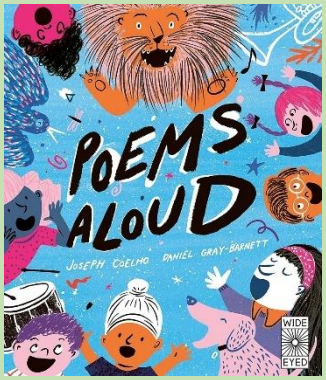
Year 2

Poems to share

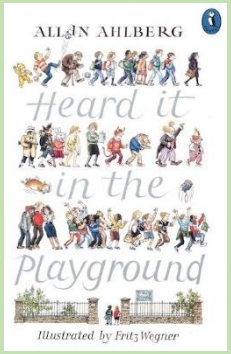
Smile out Loud by Joseph Coelho



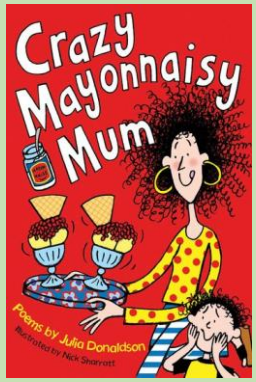
Poems Aloud by Joseph Coelho and Daniel Gray-Barnett



Heard It in the Playground by Allan Ahlberg and Fritz Wegner



Crazy Mayonnaisy Mum by Julia Donaldson and Nick Sharratt



Poems to perform

Skeleton Pete by Kate Wakeling

Ready Steady Steam Train by Kate Wakeling

The Little Pencil by Matt Goodfellow

The Washing Machine Jive by Kate Wakeling

King of the Dinosaurs by Aoife Mannix

Down Behind the Dustbin by Michael Rosen

Poems to read

Pirate Pete - James Carter

The Crocodile by Lewis Carroll

The Owl and the Pussy-Cat (extract) by Edward Lear

Walking with My Iguana – Brian Moses

Please Mrs Butler – Allan Ahlberg

Who Has Seen the Wind? – Christina Rossetti

Poems to write

Free Verse

Free verse poems have no rhyming structure and often don't have a particular rhythm or syllable patterns. Poets use line breaks, punctuation and the use of shorter and longer lines to convey meaning.
https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y1-free-verse-en-gb

Repeating Patterns

These poems repeat individual words, phrases, lines, or entire stanzas.
https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y2-repeating-patterns-en-gb

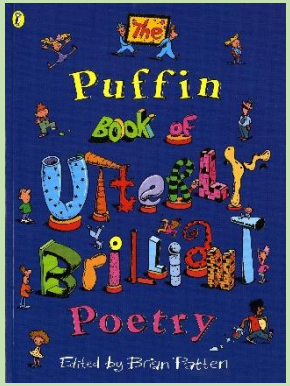
Diamante

A diamante is an unrhymed seven-line poem. The first and seventh line of the poem have one word and this word is a noun. The second and sixth lines have two words and these are adjectives connected to the first noun. The third and fifth lines have three words and these are verbs. The fourth line has four words and these are nouns.
https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y2-shape-and-diamante-poems-en-gb

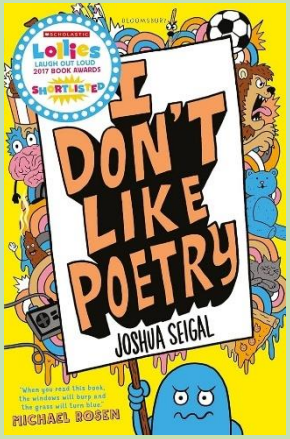
Year 3

Poems to share

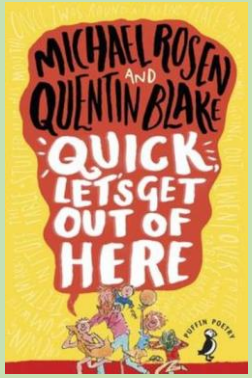
Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry edited by Brian Patten



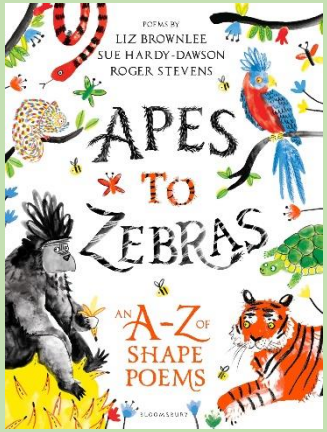
I don't like Poetry by Joshua Seigal



Quick, Let's Get Out of Here by Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake



Apes to Zebras by Liz Brownlee, Sue Hardy-Dawson and Roger Stevens



Poems to perform

If I Was An Ant – Kate Wakeling

The Dragon Who Ate Our School – Nick Toczek

Ride by Matt Goodfellow

Don't by Michael Rosen

The Unspeakable Feeling by Kate Wakeling

Lost for Words by Jay Hulme

Poems to read

Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen

Brothers by Joshua Siegal

Difficult by Matt Goodfellow

The Jumblies by Edward Lear

The Mouse's Tale by Lewis Carroll

The Sound Collector by Roger McGough

Sun and Moon by Jan Allison

Poems to write

Kennings and Quatrains

Kenning - A poem that uses compound words or phrases to describe a person, object, animal, or idea in an imaginative way

Quatrain - A poem or stanza consisting of four lines. It can follow a variety of rhyme schemes, such as ABAB, AABB, or ABCB.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y3-kennings-and-quatrains-en-gb

Limericks and Clerihews

Limerick – A humorous five-line poem with a clear rhythm and rhyme pattern (AABBA). The first, second, and fifth lines rhyme with each other, while the third and fourth lines share a different rhyme

Clerihews - A short, humorous four-line poem about a real person. The first line usually contains the person's name, and the poem follows an **AABB** rhyme scheme.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y3-limericks-and-clerihews-en-gb

Question and Answer Poems

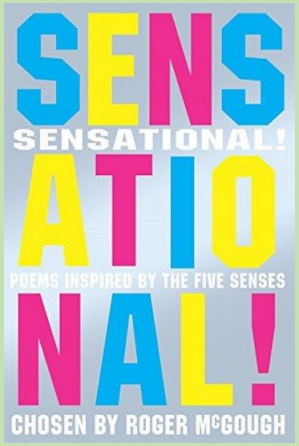
Whilst this is not a traditional poetic structure it is one which poets for children use, often for comic effect. The poem is structured as a dialogue between two people. This kind of poem is lends itself to performance as there are clear roles and voices within it.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y3-question-and-answer-poems-en-gb

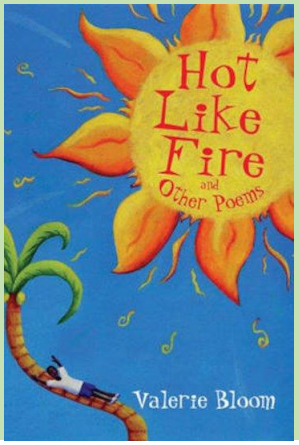
Year 4

Poems to share

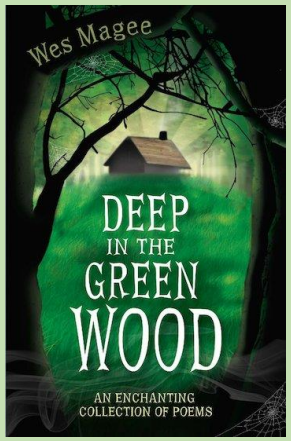
Sensational Edited by Roger McGough



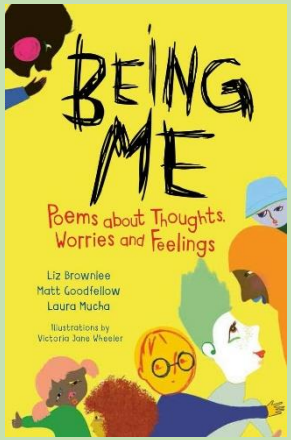
Hot Like Fire and Other Poems by Valerie Bloom and Debbie Lush



Deep in the Green Wood by Wes Magee



Being Me by Liz Brownless, Matt Goodfellow and Laura Mucha



Poems to perform

Rhythm of Life by Michael Rosen

Thought Machine – Laura Mucha

School Tomorrow, Excuses For Mum – Joseph Coelho

Keepy-Uppy Kid – Rachel Rooney

Press Start on Poetry – Sam Gayton

Free – Kate Wakeling

Poems to read

The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll

Mrs Skunk Writes A Letter To The Press by John Agard

The British by Benjamin Zephaniah

Night Mail by W.H. Auden

The River by Valerie Bloom

The Magic Box by Kit Wright

Poems to write

Free Verse

Free verse poems have no rhyming structure and often don't have a particular rhythm or syllable patterns. Poets use line breaks, punctuation and the use of shorter and longer lines to convey meaning. Literacy Shed Plus - LitShed Resource // PS Progression Y4 Free Verse

Haikus, Tankas & Cinquains

Haikus are seventeen syllable poems with the following structure: Line 1: 5 syllables Line 2: 7 syllables Line 3: 5 syllables The lines are separate and each contains a new thought. A haiku describes one moment of time. Haiku are visual poems usually about the natural world, and leave the reader with a picture https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y4-haikus--tankas-and-cinquains-en-gb

Similes & Metaphor

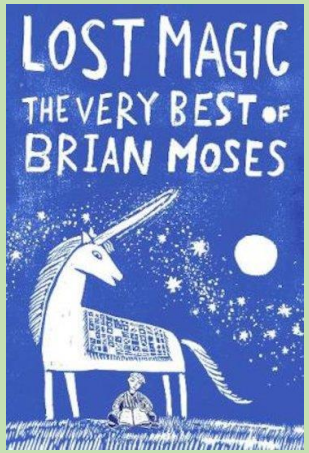
Poetry that uses comparisons to create strong images and convey meaning. Similes compare using *like* or *as*, while metaphors describe one thing as being another

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y4-simile-and-metaphor-en-gb

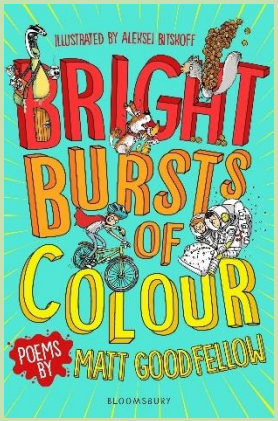
Year 5

Poems to share

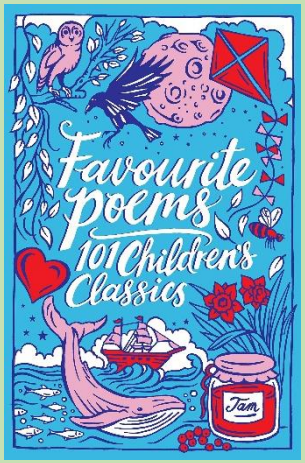
Lost Magic: The Very Best of Brian Moses by Brian Moses



Bright Bursts of Colour by Matt Goodfellow



Favourite Poems: 101 Classics by Various Authors



Be The Change: Poems to Help you Save the World by Liz Brownless, Matt Goodfellow and Roger Stevens



Poems to perform

Strict by Michael Rosen

Your Climb – Oliver Sykes

Nothing to do by Valerie Bloom

Special Badger by Matt Goodfellow

The World Within My Bedroom by Sam Gayton

Tips for the New Boy by Rachel Rooney

Poems to read

In Flanders' Fields by John McCrae

Invictus by William Ernest Henley

The Highway Man by Alfred Noyes

Spellbound by Emily Brontë

Snow by Walter De La Mare

Dreams by Langston Hughes

Poems to write

Figurative Language

Imagery, in a literary or poetic sense, is the author's use of description and vivid language, deepening the reader's understanding of the work, by appealing to the senses. Imagery is often complemented by the use of other poetic devices, such as simile, metaphor, personification, onomatopoeia, etc.
https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y5-figurative-language-en-gb

Blackout Poetry

Blackout poetry is a form of 'found poetry' where the poet selects words from a printed text and redacts the unwanted words. The chosen words will form a new poem - giving the original text a whole new meaning. Example:
https://www.ianbland.com/blackoutpoetry/

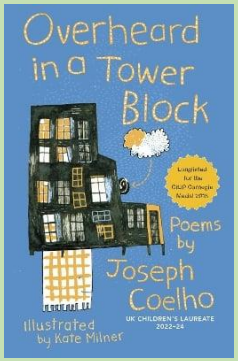
Narrative Poetry

Narrative poems tell a story, often using the voices of either a narrator or characters; the entire story may be written in metered verse or free verse. Narrative poems do not need to rhyme.
https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y5-narrative-poetry-en-gb

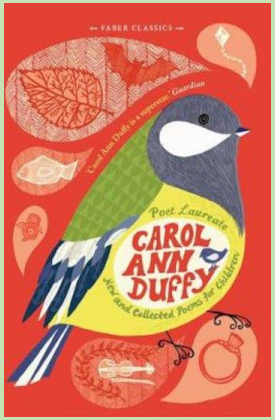
Year 6

Poems to share

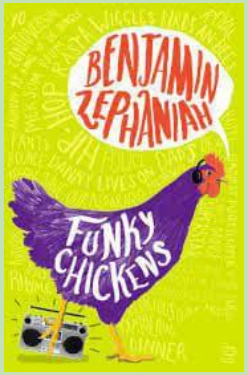
Overheard in a Tower Block by Joseph Coelho



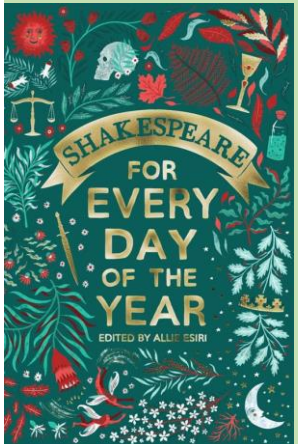
Carol Ann Duffy: New and Collected Poems by Children by Carol Ann Duffy



Funky Chickens by Benjamin Zephaniah



Shakespeare for Every Day of the Year edited by Allie Esiri



Poems to perform

First Day by Matt Goodfellow

Bodies by Kate Wakeling

Everyone Comes From Somewhere by Michael Rosen

New Beginnings by Tony Walsh

The Tyger by William Blake

If by Rudyard Kipling

Poems to read

For The Fallen by Robert Binyon

The Blackout by Mary Desiree Anderson

Ages of Man - As You Like It by Shakespeare

The Listeners by Walter De La Mare

Island Man by Grace Nichols

The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe

Poems to write

Narrative Poetry

Narrative poems tell a story, often using the voices of either a narrator or characters; the entire story may be written in metered verse or free verse. Narrative poems do not need to rhyme.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y5-narrative-poetry-en-gb

Sonnet

A structured 14-line poem with a set rhyme pattern and rhythm. Traditionally used to express deep feelings, ideas, or reflections, often ending with a change in thought or a concluding message.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y6-sonnets-en-gb

Classic Poetry

Well-known poems from the past that have remained popular over time. They often use powerful language, imagery, rhyme, and rhythm to explore important themes and emotions.

https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/resource/ps-progression-y6-classic-poetry-en-gb