



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

English Activity

LO: To explore and understand the features of a poem.

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Watch Mrs Atkinson explain the  
PowerPoint and activity here!

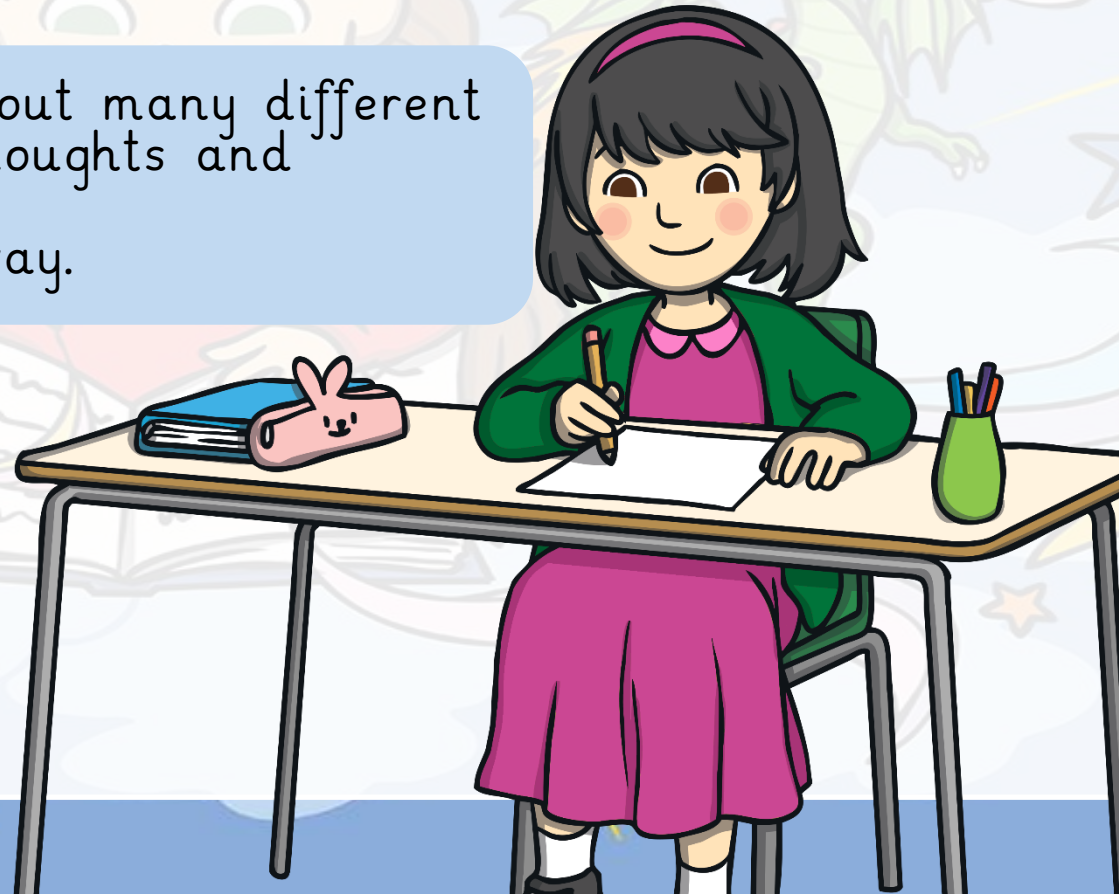
[Monday 1st March English - YouTube](#)

# What is Poetry?

Poetry is a style of reading and writing.

It is imaginative writing, written by anybody.

People choose to write poetry about many different things. It is a way to express thoughts and feelings about something in a creative way.



# What is Poetry?

Poetry tries to connect with the reader so they understand the writer's thoughts and feelings.

Poems can be written in many different ways - they can be short or long, sad or fun, real or imagined, structured and unstructured, rhyming or not.

The writer has the freedom to write in any way they feel will best express their thoughts and feelings.



# What is Performance Poetry?

Performance Poetry brings the poetry words to life through actions.

Poetry can be performed anywhere. Can you think of any places?



a bedroom



a  
playground



a stage



a garden

# How Can You Perform Poetry?

When performing poetry, the reader will play with the words. It's fun to experiment with the different words and make the poem come to life:

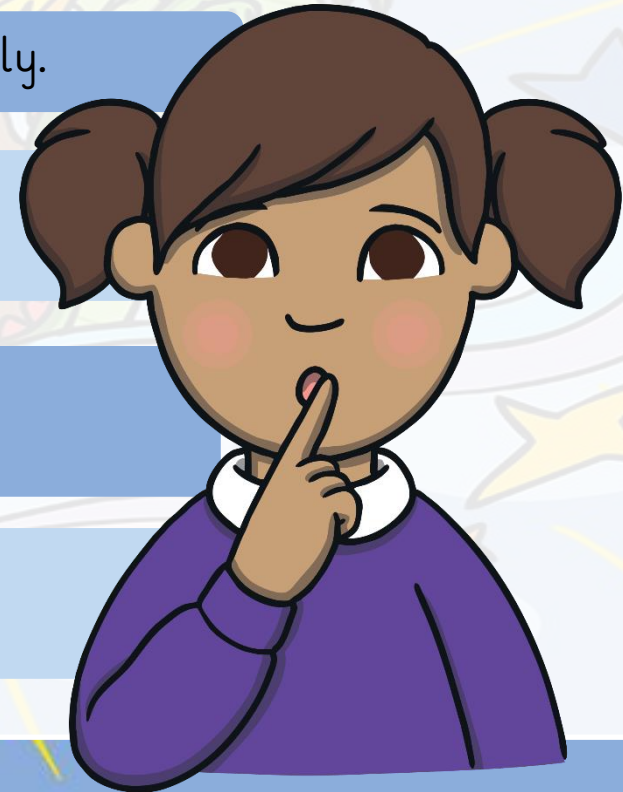
You may read some words loudly in a booming voice.

You could read some words quietly, whispering softly.

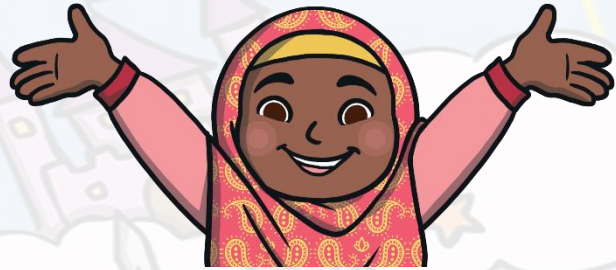
You may read a poem quickly, racing through the words.

You could read the poem slowly, taking your time with every word.

What about mixing it up? The poet might perform using all of these styles.



# The Tone of the Poem



Is it a happy poem?



Is it a sad poem?



Is it an angry poem?



Is it a confusing poem?



Is it a tense poem?



Is it an exciting poem?

When the emotion of the poem has been chosen, it will make the poem easier to be understood. It's important that the tone of the poem is clear.

# Characters in the Poem

Some poems are read as a character. How would that character sound using your voice?

The character might be a monster - how would the monster sound?





# Actions

You can even use your body to perform poems:

**standing** - you could be in a huge park, in space or in a tight space;

**sitting** - you could be sat on a very tall chair, on a dinosaur or on a rollercoaster;

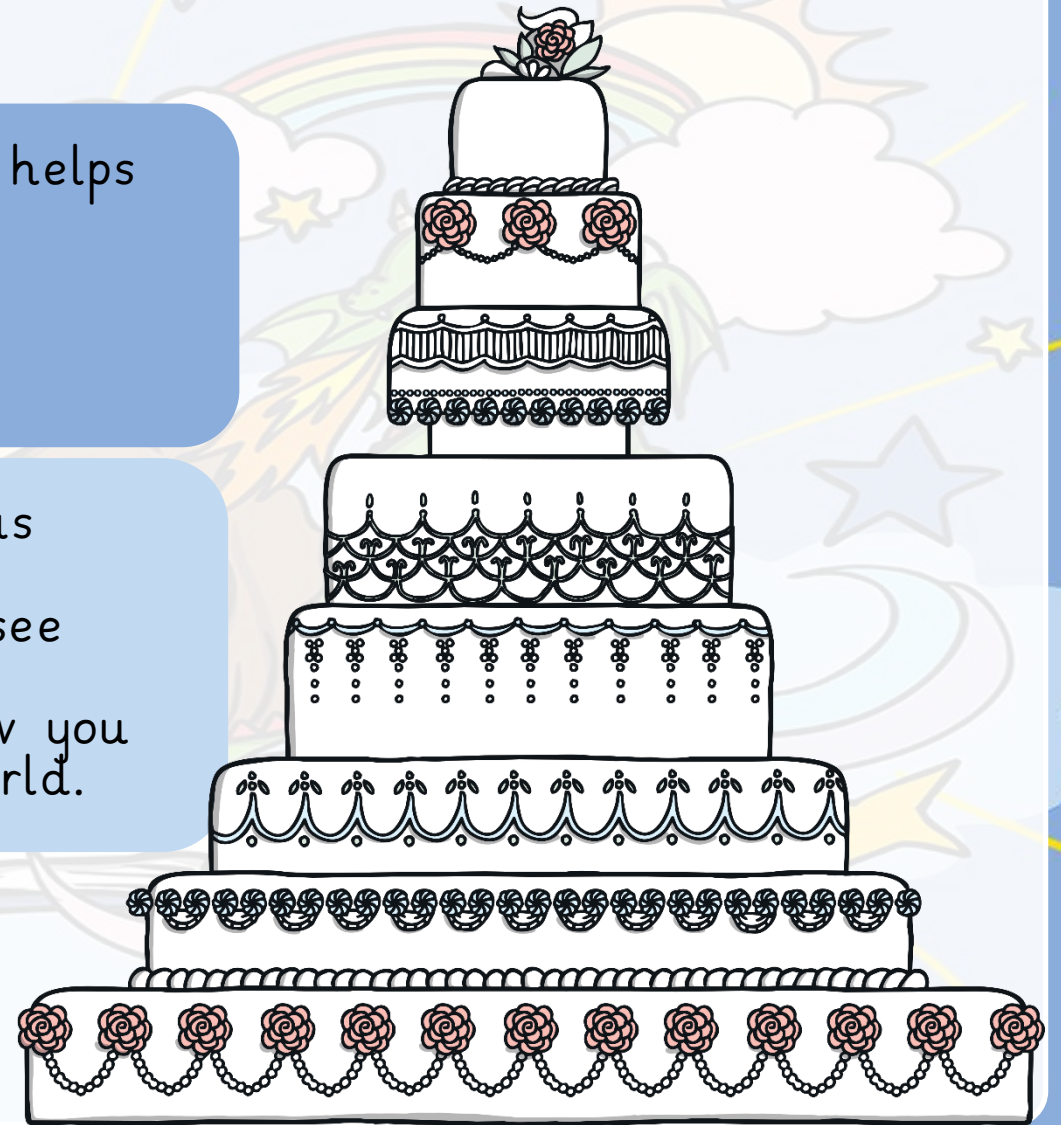
**laying down** - you could be looking up at the stars or clouds in the sky.



# Actions

Using your body to tell the poem helps the listener to see the world you are creating in your poem.

Just using simple actions, such as whisking a huge cake mix, is exciting to see when you're reading a poem about how you made the biggest cake in the world.



# Actions

Actions can be as simple as small gestures. This could be pointing to objects, gentle flicks of the wrist or miming with your hands.

Imagine acting out some of these actions as part of your Poetry Performance.

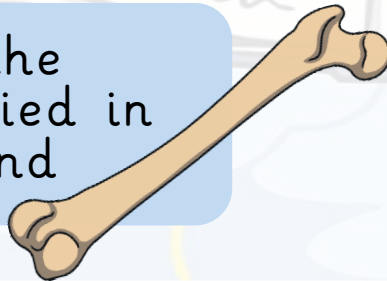


Leapt over  
the huge  
rock



Licked the thick  
chocolate off the  
spoon

Sniffed the  
bone buried in  
the ground



Crept past the  
hungry wolf

## In My Garden

by Moira Andrew

What can you see in my garden?

What can you see on the wall?

Slugs and snails and caterpillars

And a spider learning to crawl.

What can you hear in my garden?

What can you hear from the tree?

Robins and thrushes and blackbirds -

You can hear them singing to me.

What can you find in my garden?

What can you find under a stone?

Ants and worms and woodlice

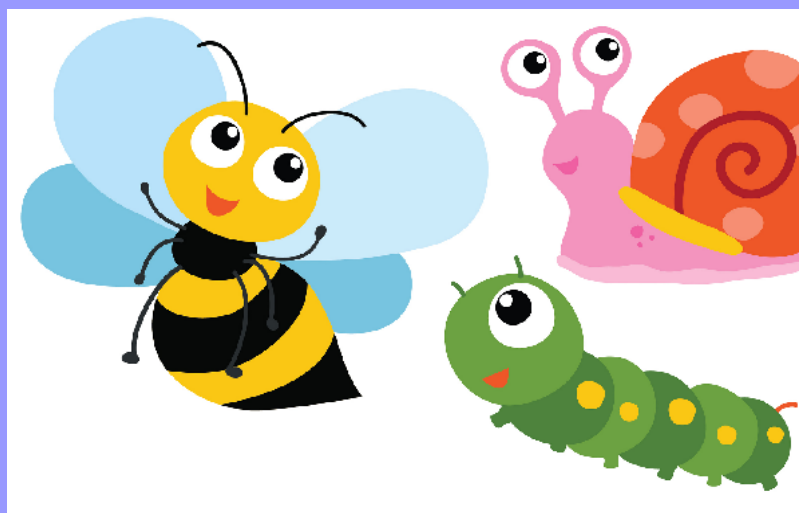
And a stag beetle living alone.

What can you smell in my garden?

What can you smell in the grass?

Lavender, lilies and roses -

You can smell them as you pass.



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To complete comprehension questions about the poem 'In My Garden' by Moira Andrew.



**In My Garden**  
by Moira Andrew

What can you see in my garden?  
What can you see on the wall?  
Slugs and snails and caterpillars  
And a spider learning to crawl.

What can you hear in my garden?  
What can you hear from the tree?  
Robins and thrushes and blackbirds -  
You can hear them singing to me.

What can you find in my garden?  
What can you find under a stone?  
Ants and worms and woodlice  
And a stag beetle living alone.

What can you smell in my garden?  
What can you smell in the grass?  
Lavender, lilies and roses -  
You can smell them as you pass.

**Match groups of rhyming words.**

wall	crawl
fall	ball
tree	me
bee	knee
stone	alone
bone	grown
grass	pass
glass	class

1. What is the title of the poem? Who is it by?
2. What is the poem about?
3. How many verses are in this poem?
4. What was seen in the garden?



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1. What is the title of the poem? Who is it by?
2. What is the poem about?
3. How many verses are in this poem?
4. What was seen in the garden?
5. What was found under the stone?

6. How do we know this is a poem and not a story?
7. Use a coloured crayon to identify the rhyming words.



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7. Use a coloured crayon to identify the rhyming words.
8. Can you add your own verse?

