

Poetry Curriculum Progression

Poetry Progression at St Stephen's CE Primary School

Teaching

Each year group is allocated three types of poetry to study, explore, comment on, create and perform throughout the year. These will be either **free verse, visual and/or structured poems**. When planning a unit of poetry, you should refer to the key objectives from the National Curriculum for each key stage (included in this document) as well as the specific components and features of each poetry type, which are outlined below. You should spend 2-3 weeks minimum on each poetry unit and follow the planning structure below:

1. Read - spend time reading aloud and exploring a range of poems that follow the same theme / format / structure as your year group's allocated poetry type.
2. Discuss – spend time discussing the subject matter & themes; the language use and patterns; the structure and organisation of the poem(s).
3. Review – write or verbalise poetry reviews, evaluations and allow children to comment on whether they liked/disliked a poem and why (Year 2 onwards).
4. Create – children then have the opportunity to draft, edit and publish their poems using the layout and language features of the poetry type you are exploring.
5. Perform – children should have the opportunity to perform, individually, in groups or as a whole class at least 3 times a year. This can be their own work, or a performance from one of the selected poems for your year group.

To avoid duplicate teaching of poetry, please ensure you plan a unit of poetry following the poetry progression and curriculum below. The list of suggested poems for reading in class and performing have been allocated based on the poetry type for your year group and to avoid repetition between year groups. If you wish to read or perform a particular poem not on the list, please check with the English lead first prior to using it with the class so that the poetry curriculum can be updated accordingly.

Famous and classic poems

Each year group has also been allocated a range of 'famous' or 'classic' poems that children should have the opportunity to read aloud, discuss and perform off by heart (to an audience where possible) throughout the year. Teachers need to select at least 2 of these poems and allow the class to spend time reciting them off by heart for the purpose of performing. A written outcome for these poems does not need to be produced, unless staff choose to use it as part of one of their three poetry units.

Useful dates

National Poetry Day

World Poetry Day

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Poetry Curriculum Overview : Writing Focus

Each year group has been assigned three poetry types to teach as a writing unit in English through the academic year. Please see below for an outline.

	Free Verse Poetry	Visual Poems	Structured Poems
Nursery	Onomatopoeia poems		Nursery Rhymes
Reception	Short list poems	Simple shape poems	Reciting rhyming poems – nursery rhymes and narrative poems (reading & reciting only)
Year 1	Alphabet List poem	Shape poem / concrete poems	Riddles
Year 2	Poems using onomatopoeia and alliteration	Diamantes	Acrostic poems
Year 3	Poems using similes		Kennings Question & Answer Poems
Year 4	Poems using metaphors		Limericks Haikus
Year 5	Poems using personification		Cinquains or Tankas Rhyming couplets – whimsical/nonsense poetry
Year 6	Narrative poems	Blackout poetry	Rhyming couplets – themed

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Famous / Classic Poems for children to perform off by heart

We learn to recite poems from memory. We discuss them as part of a reading unit and perform them to other classes, year groups or perform in assemblies.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Twinkle Twinkle Little Star	1,2,3 It's Good to Be Me	Now We Are Six by AA Milne	Buckingham Palace by AA Milne	On the Nong Ning Nang by Spike Milligan	Life Doesn't Frighten Me by Maya Angelou	The Tyger by William Blake	The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes
Humpty Dumpty	Away in a Manger	I Opened a Book by Julia Donaldson	The Moon by Robert Louis Stevenson	The Crocodile by Robert Louis Stevenson	Please Mrs Butler by Allan Ahlberg	The Tale of Custard The Dragon by Ogden Nash	In Flander's Fields by John McCrae
Incy Wincy Spider	Each Peach Pear Plum	Tippy Tappy by Michael Rosen	The Rhythm of Life by Michael Rosen	The Adventures of Isabel Ogden Nash	The Quangle Wangle's Hat by Edward Lear	The Charge of the Lightbrigade by Alfred Lord Tennyson	The Way Through the Woods by Rudyard Kipling
Hickory Dickory Dock	A Tiny Seed was Sleeping	The Morning Rush by John Foster	Plum by Tony Mitton	Nature Trail by Benjamin Zephaniah	From a Railway Carriage by Robert Louis Stevenson	Still I Rise by Maya Angelou	Meeting Midnight by Carol Ann Duffy
Miss Polly Had A Dolly	There's a Tiny Caterpillar on a Leaf	Caterpillar by Christina Rossetti	Fruit Picking by Jack Ousbey	The Book by Michael Rosen	Sick by Shel Silverstein	Words Are Ours by Michael Rosen	McCavity: The Mystery Cat by T.S Eliot
Tommy Thumb	Little Rescuers - Postcode Poem	Here is the Seed by John Foster	See Me Walking by Clive Webster	Leap like a Leopard by John Foster	Mr Moore by David Harmer	The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll	Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley