MINI-BOOK SAMPLE

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THE POETRY FRIDAY ANTHOLOGY

Poems for the School Year with Connections to the Common Core

compiled by

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WHAT IS POETRY FRIDAY?

In 2006 blogger Kelly Herold brought Poetry Friday to the "kidlitosphere." Much like "casual Friday" in the corporate world, there is a perception in the world of literature that on Fridays we should relax a bit and take a moment for something special. Why not bring the Poetry Friday concept into your classroom and take five minutes every Friday to share a poem and explore it a bit, connecting it with children's lives and capitalizing on a teachable moment? Pausing to share a poem—and reinforce a language skill—on Poetry Friday is an easy way to infuse poetry into your current teaching practice.

On Poetry Friday you can find blog posts that include original poems, book reviews, song lyrics, poetry curriculum tips, and more. Each Friday a different blogger volunteers to gather and host a list of poetry posts from participating blogs. Check the list (in the back of this book) of 25 Children's Poetry Websites and Blogs You Need to Know for participating bloggers.

Yes, of course you can share poetry on other days of the week too—and we hope that you will! But for those who are not already teaching poetry regularly, planning for Poetry Friday makes poetry sharing intentional and not incidental. **And once you have celebrated a month of Poetry Fridays, we promise that students will be clamoring for it.**

Poetry and the Common Core

The new Common Core Standards provide a framework that informs instruction and include a component focused on teaching children about poetry. That provides a central focus for this book. This book is first and foremost a quality anthology of original poetry for children written by 75 of today's most popular poets. Children in any state (or country) can enjoy, explore, and respond to these poems. However, we have also come to realize that educators, librarians, and parents are looking for guidance in how to share poetry with children and teach the skills within the curriculum as well. Thus, this book offers both. Quality poetry plus curriculum-based suggestions for helping children enjoy and understand poetry more deeply.

What are the expectations outlined in the Common Core?

In sharing poetry with **kindergartners**, we capitalize on their developing knowledge of language, their joy in learning and playing with words, and their emerging understanding of how words should be spoken, spelled, read, and written. First we focus on enjoyment and understanding, then we guide students in recognizing and responding to poems. We can explore the rhythm of poetry as well as the power of rhyme and the sounds of words.

With **first graders**, we shift slightly to guide students in understanding how poets express feelings in poetry and appeal to the senses through language. We can also help them understand and identify the words and phrases poets use to communicate emotions and convey sensory experiences through poetry.

In **second grade**, we guide students in responding to the rhythm of poetry and recognizing how rhyme is used in poems. We can also explore how repetition and alliteration can help shape a poem and how meaning emerges.

In **third grade** we support students in responding to poetry in various forms, exploring narrative poems that tell stories, lyrical poems that explore questions and emotions, and humorous poems that make us groan or laugh. We help students understand how poets use lines and stanzas to build poems in distinctive ways.

In **fourth grade**, we also guide students in responding to poetry in various forms, articulating themes from key ideas and details in the poems. In sharing poetry aloud and in print, we can assist students in understanding how structural elements such as verse, rhythm, and meter help shape a poem.

Finally, in **fifth grade**, the emphasis is to help students respond to poetry in various forms, articulate themes from key ideas and details in the poems, and explain how the poem's speaker reflects upon a topic and shapes it with a particular point of view. We can guide students in understanding word meanings and how figurative language such as metaphors and similes function in poetry. We can also discuss how structural elements such as stanzas and line breaks help shape a poem and how

visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a poem. In a variety of meaningful and participatory ways, we can celebrate poetry while gently introducing and reinforcing key skills.

The keys to remember are:

- A poem should first be enjoyed for its own sake;
- Presenting poems in participatory ways (in various choral strategies) gets your learner "into the poem;"
- The main idea is to help your learner see and hear the poetic elements after enjoying the poem through multiple readings—and to come through the "back door" to skills.

READING POETRY ALOUD

A guiding principle of this book is that **poetry is meant to be read aloud**. As the award-winning poet Eve Merriam noted, "It's easier to savor the flavor of the words as they roll around in your mouth for your ears to enjoy." Like song lyrics that sit quietly on the page, the music of poetry comes alive when spoken and shared. It is also the ideal way to approach poetry instruction.

The more children hear, read, say, and experience the poem, the more they internalize the sounds, words, and meanings of the poem and begin to notice the mechanics and artistry of poetry.

Here are some tips to help you read aloud effectively:

- Be sure to *say the title and author* of the poem.
- If possible, *display the words of the poem* while you read it aloud.
- Be sure to enunciate each word distinctly (and check uncertain pronunciations beforehand).
- Glance at the audience occasionally.
- A portable *microphone can add to the effect* (with a microphone app).

How to Use the Take 5 Box

Tip #1: This tip pairs the poem with an easy suggestion for how to make the poem come alive as you read it aloud by pairing the poem with a prop, adding gestures or movement, trying out specific dramatic reading techniques, singing the poem to a certain tune, etc.

Tip #3: You'll find a fun discussion prompt here, tailored to fit the poem. It's usually an openended question with no single, correct answer. Encourage diversity in responses!

Tip #4: We designed this tip to connect the poem to a specific language arts or poetry skill or concept such as rhyme, repetition, rhythm, alliteration, and onomatopoeia. Also, this is where we point out poetry forms (cinquain, haiku, tanka, acrostic, diamante) as well as explain techniques such as personification and simile.

Take 5!

- 1.Pose the class together for an informal group photograph (with your camera, phone, or iPad) and read this poem aloud before you snap the photo. Say *fleas!*
- 2. Read the poem aloud again and invite students to join in on saying CHEESE! and FLEAS! Alert them to the poet's use of capital letters for greater emphasis.
- 3. For discussion: What makes a school or family photo funny?
- 4. Poets use all kinds of tools to add interest and variety to a poem. Here, the poet uses capital letters to indicate when words should receive greater emphasis.
- 5. Another occasion that often calls for photos is a choir performance such as the one depicted in "My Kindergarten Choir" by Avis Harley (Kindergarten, Wk 16).

Tip #2: This tip suggests how to engage children in reading the poem aloud together with you. One example is echo reading, asking them to repeat certain words or lines after you. Note: when leading an echo reading, keep the pace moving so the echo reading won't interrupt a poem to the point of distraction.

Tip #5: In this tip we share other related poem titles and poetry book titles that connect well with the featured poem. You can find additional poetry connections and also crossgenre connections at the Poetry Friday Anthology blog as well as at the Poetry for Children blog (see the list 25 Children's Poetry Web Sites and Blogs You Need to Know for these and other blog addresses).

KINDERGARTEN

| 1.4 | C 1 1 | |
|---------|-------------------|--|
| week 1 | School | Happy Song for the First Day of School by Patricia Hubbell |
| week 2 | More School | Kindergarten Kid by Stephanie Calmenson |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | Let's Hop Around Like Kangaroos by Allan Wolf |
| week 4 | Pets | Petting Zoo by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 5 | More Pets | Oh Man! by David L. Harrison |
| week 6 | On the Ground | The World's Most Ancient Ant by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 7 | In the Water | Tadpole Wishes by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 8 | In the Air | Bluejay Sings Two Different Songs by Mary Lee Hahn |
| week 9 | Weather | Teddy Wear by Graham Denton |
| week 10 | Food | Who Invented Cookies? by Joan Bransfield Graham |
| week 11 | More Food | Sack Lunch by Charles Waters |
| week 12 | House & Home | Cabbage House by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 13 | Families | Who's Who by Julie Larios |
| week 14 | Community | Mrs. Betty by Rebecca Kai Dotlich |
| week 15 | Stuff We Love | Bubble Bath by Sara Holbrook |
| week 16 | Holidays | My Kindergarten Choir by Avis Harley |
| week 17 | Time Together | Stormy Day by Rebecca Kai Dotlich |
| week 18 | Human Body | Tooth by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater |
| week 19 | More Human Body | I Sit On My Bottom by Michael Salinger |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | Waiting by Lorie Ann Grover |
| week 21 | Love & Friendship | Frog and Toad by J. Patrick Lewis |
| week 22 | A Kinder Place | Something I Did by Janet Wong |
| week 23 | Exploring | Trouble on the Trail by Robyn Hood Black |
| week 24 | | They Call It "Science" by Stephanie Calmenson |
| week 25 | Song & Dance | Keys <i>by Joy Acey</i> |
| week 26 | Nonsense | How Many Slams Are in an Old Screen Door? by Allan Wolf |
| week 27 | World of Words | Animal Talk <i>by Charles Ghigna</i> |
| week 28 | Books | The Book by Stephanie Calmenson |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | Poems Are Out of This World by Charles Ghigna |
| week 30 | | Loose Tooth, Whose Tooth? by Carole Boston Weatherford |
| week 31 | Different Forms | Crayons by Ann Whitford Paul |
| week 32 | Metaphor & Simile | My Bike by Julie Larios |
| week 33 | Personification | No Wonder <i>by Constance Levy</i> |
| week 34 | On the Move | Bouncing Along by Kristy Dempsey |
| week 35 | Summer Vacation | No Way! by David L. Harrison |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | Moving Up Day by Janet Wong |
| week 50 | Looking Forward | moving up day by Junet wong |

Take 5!

- 1. Bring a paper bag or lunch kit and put a copy of this poem inside it. Then open the bag and remove this "Sack Lunch" poem before reading it aloud.
- 2. **Next, invite students to echo read** each line after you, one line at a time.
- 3. For discussion: What are your favorite foods for lunches and snacks?
- 4. Show how rhyming words help turn this "list" of foods into a poem. Ask students: What are the words that rhyme (*jelly/belly* and *snack/back*)? Read the poem aloud again, but pause before the second word in each rhyming pair and wait for the students to chime in with the correct response (*belly*, *back*).
- 4. For **another poem with peanut butter in it, share "Snack Rules"** by Robyn Hood Black (1st Grade, Week 10).

SACK LUNCH by Charles Waters

Whole wheat oatmeal bread, Homemade grape jelly, Crunchy peanut butter— A rumble in my belly.

Double chocolate cupcakes—What a perfect snack!
Ten tiny carrot sticks?
I'd rather give that back.

FIRST GRADE

| week 1 | School | Ready by Joan Bransfield Graham |
|---------|-------------------|---|
| week 2 | More School | Underwear Scare by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | Rodeo <i>by Kristy Dempsey</i> |
| week 4 | Pets | Fish <i>by Joy Acey</i> |
| week 5 | More Pets | Litter's Littlest by Avis Harley |
| week 6 | On the Ground | Tree I Leaned Against by George Ella Lyon |
| week 7 | In the Water | Crocodile by Ann Whitford Paul |
| week 8 | In the Air | Bat <i>by X.J. Kennedy</i> |
| week 9 | Weather | My Dog by Charles Waters |
| week 10 | Food | Snack Rules by Robyn Hood Black |
| week 11 | More Food | Grandfather's Chopsticks by Janet Wong |
| week 12 | House & Home | My Tree House by Charles Ghigna |
| week 13 | Families | Abuelita <i>by Margarita Engle</i> |
| week 14 | Community | Fire! by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 15 | Stuff We Love | Mud Supper by Mary Quattlebaum |
| week 16 | Holidays | Photo Op by Linda Sue Park |
| week 17 | Time Together | Watching Football by Janet Wong |
| week 18 | Human Body | Baby Tooth by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater |
| week 19 | More Human Body | Kerchoo! by Cynthia Cotten |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | Clay Time by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 21 | Love & Friendship | Ingredients for a Valentine by Bobbi Katz |
| week 22 | A Kinder Place | Embarrassed by Jacqueline Jules |
| week 23 | Exploring | Antarctica, AntarcticO! by Heidi Bee Roemer |
| week 24 | Science & Tech | Skype <i>by Janet Wong</i> |
| week 25 | Song & Dance | Your Chance to Dance by Brod Bagert |
| week 26 | Nonsense | Armadillo <i>by X.J. Kennedy</i> |
| week 27 | World of Words | Gnat and Flea by J. Patrick Lewis |
| week 28 | Books | First by Greg Pincus |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | A Poem a Day by Stephanie Calmenson |
| week 30 | RR&R | Once a Week at Noon by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 31 | Different Forms | Last Try by Avis Harley |
| week 32 | Metaphor & Simile | See-Saw by Graham Denton |
| week 33 | Personification | The Secret of the Clouds by Allan Wolf |
| week 34 | On the Move | A Centipede's Excuse by Kristy Dempsey |
| week 35 | Summer Vacation | By the Sea by Lesléa Newman |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | Vacation by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater |
| | | |

BABY TOOTH

by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater

One wiggly week.
One apple bite.
One twist.
One pull.
I won the fight.

My face is full of first grade style.

My tongue peeks out a window in the middle of my smile.

Take 5!

- 1. As you read this poem aloud, **pretend you have a loose tooth** and pantomime the actions suggested in the poem (bite apple, twist tooth, pull tooth, peek out tongue, smile).
- 2. The word *one* is repeated several times in this poem. That's the perfect way to invite students to participate in another oral reading. Raise one finger to cue students to joining in on saying *one* each time it occurs in the first stanza.
- 3. For discussion: What is the best way to lose a loose tooth?
- 4. Repetition is a key ingredient in creating poems. Sometimes a poet uses repetition not just to enhance the sound of the poem, but to emphasize meaning. Lead the students in discussing how the poet repeats the word *one* in every line of the first stanza, including the homonym won.
- 5. Combine this poem with another "Tooth" poem also by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater (Kindergarten, Week 18).

SECOND GRADE

| week 1 | School | The Library <i>by Sara Holbrook</i> |
|---------|-------------------|---|
| week 2 | More School | Recess by Avis Harley |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | The Winner by Georgia Heard |
| week 4 | Pets | My Pet by David L. Harrison |
| week 5 | More Pets | All Worn Out by Kristy Dempsey |
| week 6 | On the Ground | The Woodland Vole by Ken Slesarik |
| week 7 | In the Water | The Star-Nosed Mole by Leslie Bulion |
| week 8 | In the Air | How Big is the Atlas Moth? by Deborah Ruddell |
| week 9 | Weather | Why Does Weather? by Mary Quattlebaum |
| week 10 | Food | Crunch <i>by Debbie Levy</i> |
| week 11 | More Food | A Taste of Taco by Rebecca Kai Dotlich |
| week 12 | House & Home | Backyard Swing <i>by X.J. Kennedy</i> |
| week 13 | Families | Double the Trouble by Janet Wong |
| week 14 | Community | Fire Station by Sara Holbrook |
| | Stuff We Love | Bubble Gum by Greg Pincus |
| week 16 | Holidays | Christmas Is by George Ella Lyon |
| | Time Together | After Sledding by Betsy Franco |
| week 18 | Human Body | Momma's Trying by Janet Wong |
| week 19 | More Human Body | Dreamland by Carole Boston Weatherford |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | Lizard and Chameleon by J. Patrick Lewis |
| | Love & Friendship | My Dog Jack Thinks Up His Valentine by Patricia Hubbell |
| | A Kinder Place | Forgive and Forget by Janet Wong |
| | Exploring | Africa's Child by Carole Boston Weatherford |
| | Science & Tech | Appy Birthday by April Halprin Wayland |
| | Song & Dance | Music Lesson by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 26 | Nonsense | Half-Past Never by Lesléa Newman |
| | World of Words | Spanish Ears by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand |
| week 28 | Books | I Might Go to Mars by Juanita Havill |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | Recipe for a Poem by Kristy Dempsey |
| week 30 | RR&R | Rough and Tumble by Lesléa Newman |
| | Different Forms | Dog-Walking Tanka by Margarita Engle |
| | Metaphor & Simile | Outer Spaceman by Julie Larios |
| | Personification | My Carrots Are Angry by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 34 | On the Move | Pick-Up Truck by Janet Wong |
| | Summer Vacation | Summer Showers by Carole Gerber |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | The Secret Seed by Allan Wolf |
| | | |

Take 5!

- 1. Arrange a quick visit to the library or bring a pile, bin, or cart of library books on a variety of topics. Show students your public library card and have applications available. Then read this poem aloud; slow down to enunciate each item in lines 5-16.
- 2. Read the poem aloud again and invite students to read the last three lines in unison.
- 3. For discussion: What is your favorite book you've read (so far)?
- 4. Help students find the rhyming pairs of "words that sound alike." Ask students: What are the words that rhyme? (These include: door/more; quakes/snakes; beans/machines; bats/cats; book/look/cook; poem/home; about/out.) Read the poem aloud again, but pause before the second word in each rhyming pair and wait for the students to chime in with the correct response (more, snakes, machines, cats, look, home, out).
- 5. Look for "Poems are Out of this World!" by Charles Ghigna (Kindergarten, Week 29) or a poem from *Please Bury Me in the Library* by J. Patrick Lewis.

THE LIBRARY by Sara Holbrook

Take the walk to the open door. this is where you find out more about the stars. oceans, quakes, dragons, cars, cheetahs, snakes, unicorns, and jumping beans, horses, bugs, and time machines. From killer whales. and free tail bats. to hammer heads and kitty cats, the library has got a book. Come on in. take a look. Learn how to cook or write a poem. Read it here or take it home. What do you want to learn about? It's free! It's here! Check it out!

THIRD GRADE

| week 1 | School | Funday, Imaginary 1st by Heidi Mordhorst |
|---------|-------------------|--|
| week 2 | More School | Recess by Michele Krueger |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | Fishing by Janet Wong |
| week 4 | Pets | A Plague of Penguins by Julie Larios |
| week 5 | More Pets | Spotty's Tongue by Betsy Franco |
| week 6 | On the Ground | Flat Gray Rock by Arnold Adoff |
| week 7 | In the Water | A Clam by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 8 | In the Air | Bluebirds by Jen Bryant |
| week 9 | Weather | Wondering by Cynthia Cotten |
| week 10 | Food | Two Scoops by Linda Sue Park |
| week 11 | More Food | Pumpkin <i>by Jane Yolen</i> |
| week 12 | House & Home | My Kitchen Was Invaded by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 13 | Families | The Breakfast Boss by Janet Wong |
| week 14 | Community | Out My Window by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater |
| week 15 | Stuff We Love | Lucky Penny by Constance Levy |
| week 16 | Holidays | Little Village by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 17 | Time Together | My Noisy Family by Michael Salinger |
| week 18 | Human Body | Catching a Yawn by Avis Harley |
| week 19 | More Human Body | It's a Wrap by Carol-Ann Hoyte |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | How the Birds Got Their Colors by Joseph Bruchac |
| week 21 | Love & Friendship | The Do Kind by Janet Wong |
| week 22 | A Kinder Place | Small Talk by Ken Slesarik |
| week 23 | Exploring | Explorer by Joan Bransfield Graham |
| week 24 | Science & Tech | Vacation Communication by Carol-Ann Hoyte |
| week 25 | Song & Dance | Barnyard Ballet by Jeannine Atkins |
| week 26 | Nonsense | Eight-year-old Uncle by X.J. Kennedy |
| week 27 | World of Words | Look It Up! by Heidi Bee Roemer |
| week 28 | Books | A Quiet Day by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | Poem Like the Sea by Patricia Hubbell |
| week 30 | RR&R | The Writer's Drill by Esther Hershenhorn |
| week 31 | Different Forms | Catku <i>by Lee Wardlaw</i> |
| week 32 | Metaphor & Simile | Honey by J. Patrick Lewis |
| week 33 | Personification | Stapler by Georgia Heard |
| week 34 | On the Move | Car Trip by Juanita Havill |
| week 35 | Summer Vacation | My Best Friend Is Leaving by Debbie Levy |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | Moon Buggy by Juanita Havill |
| | | |

Take 5!

- 1. Before sharing this poem (in a soft voice), point out to students that many poems are humorous, but some are serious—like this one.
- 2. Read the poem aloud again and this time **invite students to chime in on the words** *me me me* **in Line 6 and** *me and you* **in Line 8**. Cue students by pointing to your ear.
- 3. For discussion: What makes a friend special to you?
- 4. Poems usually rhyme at the end of lines, but sometimes they rhyme in the middle too—called internal rhyme. Challenge the students to find the internal rhyming words in the lines of this poem (see/me; do/you).
- 5. Link this poem with another poem about friendship by **Janet Wong, "Forgive and Forget"** (2nd Grade, Week 22), and with selections from *The Friendly Four* by Eloise Greenfield.

THE DO KIND by Janet Wong

When my ball flies over the wall, you run and get it back.

When my books fall down the stairs, you help me pick them up.

Some friends are *see* friends, *me me me* friends.

You are the *do* kind, the *me and you* kind.

FOURTH GRADE

| week 1 | School | Feeling Jumpy by Patricia Hubbell |
|---------|-------------------|--|
| week 2 | More School | Fifty Yard Dash by Lorie Ann Grover |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | Running Back by Jacqueline Jules |
| week 4 | Pets | My Porcupine Is Feeling Fine by Kenn Nesbitt |
| week 5 | More Pets | Pirate Parrot by Julie Larios |
| week 6 | On the Ground | The Ostrich by Linda Ashman |
| week 7 | In the Water | Humpback Whale by Jane Yolen |
| week 8 | In the Air | Bird Alert: Storm Warning! by Constance Levy |
| week 9 | Weather | When the Rain Falls by Susan Taylor Brown |
| week 10 | Food | Global Gorging by Terry Webb Harshman |
| week 11 | More Food | Avocado by Constance Levy |
| week 12 | House & Home | The Front Yard Where the Maple Tree Stands by Allan Wolf |
| week 13 | Families | The Way You Sound by John Grandits |
| week 14 | Community | Saturdays by Monica Gunning |
| week 15 | Stuff We Love | Riddle by Nikki Grimes |
| week 16 | Holidays | Gift Ungiven by JonArno Lawson |
| week 17 | Time Together | Bailes by Guadalupe Garcia McCall |
| week 18 | Human Body | I Had to Get a Shot at the Doctor's by April Halprin Wayland |
| week 19 | More Human Body | The Guy in the Closet by Heidi Bee Roemer |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | I've Never Seen a Purple Cow by Lesléa Newman |
| week 21 | Love & Friendship | A Branch of Friendship by Avis Harley |
| week 22 | A Kinder Place | Poem for a Bully by Eileen Spinelli |
| week 23 | Exploring | Give Me Wings by Graham Denton |
| week 24 | Science & Tech | Super Key Man by Esther Hershenhorn |
| week 25 | Song & Dance | You Think This Is A Dance by Arnold Adoff |
| week 26 | Nonsense | Why Hippos Look Baked by J. Patrick Lewis |
| week 27 | World of Words | The Elders Told Me by Joseph Bruchac |
| week 28 | Books | Archeology of a Book by Betsy Franco |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | Today <i>by Eileen Spinelli</i> |
| week 30 | RR&R | The Kangarooster by Jack Prelutsky |
| week 31 | Different Forms | Corn, Before the Butter by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 32 | Metaphor & Simile | Crocodile by Deborah Chandra |
| week 33 | Personification | Summer Storm by Irene Latham |
| week 34 | On the Move | Crossing the International Date Line by Joan Bransfield Graham |
| week 35 | Summer Vacation | Family Vacation by Kathi Appelt |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | Centipede by Michael J. Rosen |
| | | |

CROSSING THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE by Joan Bransfield Graham

On Tuesday at 4 PM, our trip ended we departed. We got back home Tuesday 7 AM, to arrive before we started!

Note: This happened when we went to New Zealand.

Take 5!

- 1. **Highlight the time on a nearby clock** before reading this poem aloud.
- 2. Share the poem again, but this time **invite students to say the 1**st **and 5**th **lines** (*On Tuesday at 4 PM; Tuesday 7 AM*) while you read the rest aloud.
- 3. Challenge students to "do the math" calculating how long the trip in the poem actually took.
- 4. Talk with students about the arrangement of words and line breaks in this poem and where the crucial rhyming words occur (departed/started). Then read the poem aloud again emphasizing the rhyming words in particular.
- 5. Follow up with another poem about travel, "Directions" by Janet Wong (5th Grade, Week 34).

FIFTH GRADE

| week 1 | School | The World's Most Intelligent Chicken by Jack Prelutsky |
|---------|-------------------|--|
| week 2 | More School | Backpack by Irene Latham |
| week 3 | Fun & Games | Equipment Haiku by Jen Bryant |
| week 4 | Pets | What's the Opposite? by Ann Whitford Paul |
| week 5 | More Pets | Good Dog! Bad Dog! by Jeannine Atkins |
| week 6 | On the Ground | Earthworms by Michael J. Rosen |
| week 7 | In the Water | Green Sea Turtle by Steven Withrow |
| week 8 | In the Air | How the Geese Became Chiefs of the Birds by Joseph Bruchac |
| week 9 | Weather | Apprehended by Autumn by Kristy Dempsey |
| week 10 | Food | Tomato Sandwiches by Kathi Appelt |
| week 11 | More Food | Flapjack Flip by Heidi Bee Roemer |
| week 12 | House & Home | A Real Bed by Monica Gunning |
| week 13 | Families | Waiting by Nikki Grimes |
| week 14 | Community | Doña Pepita by Guadalupe Garcia McCall |
| week 15 | Stuff We Love | Charm Bracelet by Charles Waters |
| week 16 | Holidays | Get a Life by Eileen Spinelli |
| week 17 | Time Together | Greetings by Lesléa Newman |
| week 18 | Human Body | Funny Bone (Humerus) by Michael J. Rosen |
| week 19 | More Human Body | From Root to Tip by Carol-Ann Hoyte |
| week 20 | Art & Colors | Paint Mind by Susan Marie Swanson |
| week 21 | Love & Friendship | You Misbehave by Gail Carson Levine |
| week 22 | A Kinder Place | The Bully by Guadalupe Garcia McCall |
| week 23 | Exploring | Cold War by Margarita Engle |
| week 24 | Science & Tech | Wheel of Progress by Juanita Havill |
| week 25 | Song & Dance | Beats on Top of Your Head by Jaime Adoff |
| week 26 | Nonsense | How to Open the Attic Door by April Halprin Wayland |
| week 27 | World of Words | First Take by Jane Yolen |
| week 28 | Books | My Sister Lisette by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand |
| week 29 | Poetry Poems | How Is a Meadow an Ocean? by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 30 | RR&R | Cerberus by Linda Ashman |
| week 31 | Different Forms | House Mouse by Laura Purdie Salas |
| week 32 | Metaphor & Simile | Night Comes by Deborah Chandra |
| week 33 | Personification | "Things are looking up" by Heidi Mordhorst |
| week 34 | On the Move | Directions by Janet Wong |
| week 35 | Summer Vacation | Family Vacation by Allan Wolf |
| week 36 | Looking Forward | When the Future Arrives by Bobbi Katz |
| | | |

HOW TO OPEN THE ATTIC DOOR by April Halprin Wayland

To open up the attic door, (to find that old cartoon you drew), you have to sing a silly tune, you have to sing it backwards, too and play it on the noodle flute while putting on your bathing suit. And *always* wear blue cowboy boots!

Take 5!

- 1. If possible, stand by a door while reading this poem aloud.
- 2. Share this humorous poem again and invite students to choose their favorite line from lines 3-7 and chime in when that line appears while you read the whole poem aloud.
- 3. For discussion: What is the secret in giving clear directions?
- 4. This poem is another good example of using both end rhyme and rhyme in the middle too—called internal rhyme. Challenge the students to find the words that rhyme, including slant or "almost" rhymes (cartoon, drew, you, tune, too, noodle, flute, suit, blue, boots). Read the poem aloud again emphasizing those words in particular.
- 5. Link this poem with the nonsensical **"Eight-year-old Uncle" by X. J. Kennedy** (3rd Grade, Week 26) or share selections from *If You Were a Chocolate Mustache* by J. Patrick Lewis.

Building Your Own Poetry Library

How do we identify which poetry books are the best for children or most useful in the K-5 classroom? One of the best places to begin is by looking at poetry award winners.

The **Children's Poet Laureate** (CPL) was established by the Poetry Foundation in 2006 to raise awareness of the fact that children have a natural receptivity to poetry and are its most appreciative audience, especially when poems are written specifically for them. The Children's Poet Laureate serves as a consultant to the Foundation and gives public readings. The first CPL was Jack Prelutsky, followed by Mary Ann Hoberman and J. Patrick Lewis.

Another major award for poetry for children is **the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children**, given to a poet for her or his entire body of work in writing or anthologizing poetry for children. Several of the winners are included in this anthology: Arnold Adoff, X.J. Kennedy, Nikki Grimes, and J. Patrick Lewis. Any book of poetry by one of these award winners will be worthwhile.

Your Poetry Checklist

- Highlight poetry books on the chalk rail, a red wagon, or a table
- Seek out poetry books from diverse perspectives
- Link poems with picture books, novels, and nonfiction
- Connect children's poetry with social studies, science, and mathematics
- Tell your colleagues about Poetry Friday!

Other prominent awards include The **Lee Bennett Hopkins Award** for Children's Poetry, which is presented annually to an American poet or anthologist for the most outstanding new book of children's poetry published in the previous year; the **Claudia Lewis Award**, given by Bank Street College for the best poetry book of the year; and **The Lion and the Unicorn Award** for Excellence in North American Poetry for the best poetry book published in either the U.S. or Canada. A detailed listing of major poetry awards, past winners, and useful award-related web site links can be found in *The Poetry Teacher's Book of Lists* by Sylvia Vardell.

The Poetry Teacher's Book of Lists also offers input on selecting poetry for young people ages 0-18. It contains 155 different lists and cites nearly 1500 poetry books in a variety of categories including:

- · Poetry Awards and "Best" Lists
- Seasonal and Holiday Poetry Booklists (Valentine's, Earth Day, Halloween, etc.)
- Multicultural and International Poetry Booklists (such as African American or bilingual poetry books)

- Thematic or Topical Poetry Booklists (such as humor, family, friendship, coping, etc.)
- Poetry Booklists Across the Curriculum (animals, food, math, science, history, etc.)
- Poetry Booklists Highlighting the Form of Poetry (limericks, acrostics, haiku, etc.)
- Strategies for Creating a Poetry-Friendly Environment (poetry displays and quotes, lesson plan tips, a poetry scavenger hunt, poet birthdays)
- Strategies for Sharing and Responding to Poetry Out Loud (poetry performance tips, assessment rubrics, discussion prompts)
- Strategies for Teaching Poetry Writing (books with poet commentary, poetry written by children, lists of poem forms, writers' checklists)
- General Poetry Teaching Resources (poetry web sites and blogs, poetry text sets, reference tools)

If you are looking for poetry books for Mother's Day or for poems for a unit on insects and bugs, for example, you'll find lists for each of those and more.

Children's Poetry Web Sites and Blogs

As we look for new places for poetry to pop up, you can be sure that this includes the Internet. There are several hundred web sites and blogs that make poems available; these often include audio and video recordings of poets reading their poems and/or biographical information about poets, too. A comprehensive list of poetry websites and blogs can be found in *The Poetry Teacher's Book of Lists* as well as on Sylvia Vardell's Poetry For Children blog.

Most of the established poetry blogs participate in the "Poetry Friday" celebration, posting a poem or poetry-related items on Fridays. Some include teaching activities and even welcome child participation. Sites and blogs also offer links to additional poetry resources on the web. Here is a select list of electronic resources that are particularly helpful in sharing poetry with children.

More from Pomelo Books

Ready for more poetry? Share the PoetryTagTime Trio—*PoetryTagTime*, *P*TAG*, and *Gift Tag*—the first-ever e-book anthologies of original poetry for children and teens.

These e-books are ideal for projecting on a screen and sharing with your whole classroom in a participatory reading. Keep your Poetry Friday tradition going strong!







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