

Literacy Unit - Poetry

This unit of work will be over a 2 week cycle and will include a weekly SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) activity linked to the learning. Usually we would complete a 'cold write' at the beginning of a unit of work and a 'hot write' at the end of the unit to show the progression children have made. These are always done independently with no help regarding sentence structure, ideas or corrections but we do give the children spellings if they ask for them (this should give you a chance to get on with housework etc too).

Lesson 1 Monday 4th May:

Cold Write:

- Read the poem 'Daddy fell into the pond' (you can find this on the next page).
- Discuss what you like about the poem.
- After you have read and discussed the poem, have a go at writing your own poem involving something funny that has happened to someone in your family.

Daddy Fell Into the Pond

by

Alfred Noyes

Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey.
We had nothing to do and nothing to say.
We were nearing the end of a dismal day,
And then there seemed to be nothing beyond,

Then

Daddy fell into the pond!

And everyone's face grew merry and bright,
And Timothy danced for sheer delight.

"Give me the camera, quick, oh quick!
He's crawling out of the duckweed!" Click!

Then the gardener suddenly slapped his knee,
And doubled up, shaking silently,
And the ducks all quacked as if they were daft,
And it sounded as if the old drake laughed.
Oh, there wasn't a thing that didn't respond

When

Daddy Fell into the pond!

Lesson 2 Tuesday 5th May:

SPaG Lesson - Alliteration

Lots of poems use alliteration so today's SPaG lesson is to understand what alliteration is. Alliteration is when two or more words that are closely connected (often next to each other) start with the same letter/sound. For example, Horrid Henry, Weepy William and Perfect Peter

Activity 1:

Alliteration Name Game

It can be fun to join an adjective to a name using alliteration, e.g. Moany Mandy, Boring Basil and Energetic Enid. Who can come up with the most interesting and amusing names? Can your child create an alliteration name for every letter of the alphabet (except a, e, i, o and u)? Or could they find the most appropriate alliterative adjective for their friends and family members?

EXTENSION:

Write sentences with some of the names you have created using alliteration.

Lesson 3 Wednesday 6th May:

This lesson will be a research lesson where children can use the internet to find examples of poems. Discuss what you like about them and how you think they could improve.

Use the questions below to help you discuss the poems:

- Does it use rhyming words?
- Does it have any alliteration in it?
- Does it have a rhythm to it?
- What is the poem about?
- Does it have any adjectives?
- Has it got a title?

You don't have to record your findings, it's more of an opportunity to discuss features of a poem with your child.

Lesson 4 Thursday 7th May:

Now time for the fun bit - writing your own poem. You can work together to write your poem with a parent, grandparent or sibling or you can work on your own. Please read the poem 'The Caterpillar' on the next page and then write your own poem about an insect of your choice.

The Caterpillar

By Christina Rossetti

Brown and furry
Caterpillar in a hurry,
Take your walk
To the shady leaf, or stalk,
Or what not,
Which may be the chosen spot.
No toad spy you,
Hovering bird of prey pass by you;
Spin and die,
To live again a butterfly.

