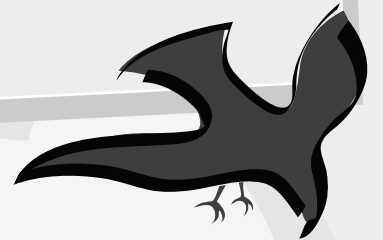


# Poetry

## 10th Annual Summer Book Contest

Dear Parent,

In preparing your student for writing their own poetry, you can help them consider these main elements as they choose what kind of poetry book they will make. We have provided some key poetic terms and a poetry glossary along with some poem types on page 2. Consult the Rules Checklists for specific contest rules and mailing instructions. Additionally, a poetry book list to encourage your children's creativity is available on page 2 of our Rules Checklist.



Dear Students,

For the 2024 Poetry Book Contest, you may choose between creating a book that follows either option #1 or #2 outlined below. Students will follow the Rules Checklist and will find the judging Rubric helpful for specific details required.

### Option 1

#### Collection of Poems

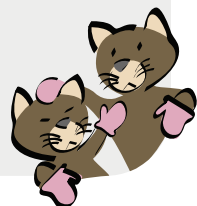
- A Poetry book can be a collection of poems that work together or feel related in some way. They may center around a particular theme, form, style, or series of life events, and can be placed in a deliberate order. Every poem must be written and illustrated by the author.

### Option 2

#### Single Poem in Book

- One single story told in a poetic format throughout the book. This can be a story in rhyme or something more subtle and sophisticated. All styles have their merits and you get the choice. We have provided a list of popular styles on page 2, but don't let us limit your creativity!

- All poems should include an illustration or an embellishment on each 2-page spread. For example, these can include a drawing, a border, or an illuminated letter.
- Poems can tell little stories or highlight moments of life. The best poems evoke visual images or emotions.



# Terminology

**Imagery** — Using words to create a picture, mood, or feeling.

**Rhyme** — Two or more words with final syllables mimic each other (usually in the word endings, but also internally): "Hark; hark! The lark at heaven's gate sings."

**Rhyme Scheme** — The pattern of rhyme that comes at the end of each line or verse. The first rhyme is labeled A; the second rhyme is labeled B. So in a stanza of 4 lines you can have AABB; or ABAB.

**Repetition** — Using repeated phrases, words, etc.

**Meter** — The pattern of stressed syllables and unstressed syllables

**Stanza** — A set of lines in poetry grouped together, usually having the same length, meter and rhyme scheme.

**Verse** — Writing in arranged lines which have a rhythm and often end in rhyme.

**Stanza** — A set amount of lines in poetry grouped together by their length, meter, or rhyme scheme.

**Couplet** — A two-line stanza.

**Tercet** — A three-line stanza.

**Quatrain** — A four-line stanza.

**Cinquain** — A five-line stanza.

**Sestet** — A six-line stanza.

**Meter** — The pattern of stressed syllables (long-sounding) and unstressed syllables (short-sounding) in poetry.

**Syllable** — The single, unbroken sound of a spoken or written word.

**Verse** — Free or more formally constructed, including everything from couplets, cinquains, and quatrains.

# Types

These are just some of the most common options for poetry. Feel free to pick other types you may learn about and want to try.

- **Acrostic:** Poetry in which the first letter of each line spells out a specific word or phrase and each line does not need to rhyme. The word is the subject of the poem, and each line is related to that topic.
- **Ballad:** Old and traditional form of poetry that typically tells a dramatic or emotional story. They came from Europe in the late Middle Ages and were initially passed down from one generation to another, and often with music. Ballads do have a set form; they are typically four lines (quatrain) and have a rhyme scheme of ABAB or ABCB.
- **Cinquain:** A poem consisting of five lines and twenty-two syllables: two in the first line, then four, then six, then eight, and then two syllables in the last line.
- **Concrete/Shape:** The words in the poem take the form or shape of the item its describing. They can be written in any style, as long as the formatting creates a shape related to the words. Example: the lines/words in a poem about an apple would be in the shape of an apple on the page once complete (with a stem, leaf and round body of an apple).
- **Free Verse:** Poetry form that does not use strict rhyme and meter. It's perfect for younger kids because it gives them the freedom to write whatever they feel like without worrying about rhyme schemes or syllables. Popular type is a descriptive poem, in which the poet gives a detailed description of a person, place, animal, or inanimate object.
- **Haiku:** Form of poetry that originated from Japan. They are a short poem that consists of 3 lines written in a 5-7-5 syllable count.
- **Limerick:** Made popular by Edward Lear in the 19 th century. Limericks follow a strict rhyme scheme of AABBA, where the third and fourth lines are shorter than the rest of the lines in the poem.
- **Lune:** Made up of 3 lines and uses 11 words in all. The first line has 3 words, the second has 5, and the last has 3 again.
- **Lyric:** A short poem that is similar to a song, originally written to be performed with musical instruments like the lyre. Most lyric poetry expresses personal emotions and feelings, with a personal feeling of the speaker.
- **Sonnet:** Contains three quatrains (sections of four lines each), followed by a couplet of two lines. The rhyme scheme is abab, cdcd, efef, gg. Shakespeare perfected the form, writing 154 sonnets in this style.