

Poetry Exploration: Preschool-1st Grade

READ ALOUD GUIDE

This guide is designed for use with poetry for grades PK-1. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.



Standards: RL.K.5., RL.1.4

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the poem based on the cover and title.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using RIF's [Vocabulary Guide](#).

The Structure: Briefly introduce the type of poem (e.g., rhyming poem, limerick) and ask students what they notice about how the poem sounds or is organized.

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, listen carefully to the poem. Does it rhyme, repeat certain words or lines, or follow another pattern?"

Prior Knowledge: Choose one of these questions based on the poem:

- "What do you already know about this topic?"
- "Have you ever experienced or noticed something like this?"
- "How does this topic make you feel?"
- "What words come to mind when you think about this?"



Think Aloud: "I notice how the poem sounds when I read it. Some words repeat and it has a rhythm that makes it fun to listen to."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What is this poem about?
- What do you notice about the sounds in the poem? Can you find rhyming words, repeated words, or other patterns?
- What pictures do you see in your mind when you hear the poem?
- How does this poem make you feel?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What did you notice about the way the poem sounds? Did anything repeat or follow a pattern?"

Extending Our Thinking: Connect the poet's use of language to how we can all use words creatively to express our ideas and feelings. Invite students to draw a picture inspired by the poem and dictate or write 1-2 sentences using rhyming words, repetition, or another sound pattern (e.g., "I see a cat wearing a hat" or "The sun is bright, bright, bright").

For more fun and activities, visit [RIF.org/Literacy-Central](https://www.RIF.org/Literacy-Central)