

Y4 English

What they need to know...

This half term, we are exploring non-narrative writing, specifically poetry. We will be using a range of poems from other cultures and will explore their themes and features. Around Christmas time, we will look at information writing.

The objectives which link to this unit of work include:

- Can write in a number of different forms to suit purpose with an awareness of audience.
- Can use a wider range of presentational devices in non-fiction writing, including headings, sub-headings, diagrams, captions and bullet points.
- Can use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause.
- Can write using a full range of sentence types.
- Can use rich adjectives, adverbs and verbs in the same sentence (thesaurus work).

Take one poem!

We would love you to bring in a poem to share and perform for your class!

You can choose any poem you like. There is so much choice, you might find it hard to pick just one! You could ask an adult to help you choose or use the links below and watch poets performing their poetry to be inspired. Think of what you enjoy reading and let that help you pick a poem. Themes you could look at are: animals, funny poems, food, family, school.

1. When you have chosen your poem, you will need to think about and answer the questions in the blue box.
2. Then practise performing the poem aloud in front of a mirror or audience.
3. It would be amazing if you could learn the poem off by heart and had actions to go along side it!

We can't wait to see your performances!

- *What does the poem say to you as a reader?*
- *What type of poem is it?*
- *How is it laid out?*
- *How does the poem sound to you?*
- *What does the language of the poem do?*
- *Do you like any particular words or phrases? Why?*
- *Does it have rhythm? How does it feel?*
- *Whose is the voice of the poem?*
- *What is the theme of the poem?*

Wonderful websites

Use the [CLPE website](#) to watch a poet perform a poem.

Poets we love on there are:

Allan Ahlberg, John Agard, John Lyons, Joseph Coelho, Julia Donaldson, Kate Wakeling, Michael Rosen, Rachel Rooney, Roger McGough and Valerie Bloom.

Let's write...



Can you look for some examples of an instructional text at home, in your local library or in the school library? What makes instructions different from a story or a poem?

Below is an instructions checklist. Use this to help you create instructions for your friends in school.

- Use a 'How to...' title.
- Lists—these can be of ingredients/equipment/materials.
- Numbers, letters or bullet points to show order.
- Time conjunctions— First, next, then, after that, now, finally.
- Imperative verbs or bossy verbs— e.g. Sit, Scoop, Twist.
- Diagrams/illustrations.

Pick any topic that you're interested in and write a set of instructions. It could be instructions for anything from how to build a Stone Age axe, how to create a Christmas bauble, how to create a world on Minecraft or even how to draw unicorns!

Bring in your instructions to share with the class.

Grammar fun

GRAMMAR EXPLANATIONS

As part of our Year 4 objectives, we need to be able to explain the following terms:

determiners, pronouns, possessive pronouns and adverbials.

Can you find out exactly what they are and write an explanation for each, with examples?

You can decide how you want to explain each word.

Write it. Illustrate it. Say it. Record it.

Make it serious or make it fun.

How you present your explanation is up to you.