

Summer Reading Activities



	Fourth Grade – Activity #9														
Title	Poetry														
Parent Information	Poetry is a form of artistic writing that follows a different structure than typical literature. Words in a poem are arranged in lines of texts, called stanzas. The words and phrases in a poem are often chosen based on meaning, sound, or rhythm. Our first exposure to poetry often comes in the form of nursery rhymes but there are many different forms and styles. Alliteration, syllabication, using parts of speech, and figurative language are a few other techniques poets use to catch the reader's attention. Reading and writing poetry is a fun way to play with language and vocabulary. Poems can be funny, serious, or thought provoking and can be focused on a variety of topics. Encourage your child to try out a few different types of poetry writing from the suggestions below.														
Objective	Read and write poetry														
Time	15 – 20 minutes														
Materials	Pencil and paper and/or journal														
Procedures	Create a poem using one of the suggested styles or create your own. Acrostic Poem An Acrostic poem uses the first letter of each line to spell out a word that is written vertically. Choose a word and then brainstorm words or phrases that describe your topic to fit the letters of the chosen word. Ex. Ready for a downpour Always wet In the spring Need an umbrella Diamonte Poem A Diamonte poem follows a seven-line structure using parts of speech to describe a topic or theme. <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Noun</td> <td><i>Summer</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adjective, Adjective</td> <td><i>Hot, Dry</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Verb, Verb, Verb</td> <td><i>Swim, Camp, Hike</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Noun, Noun, Noun, Noun</td> <td><i>Sunscreen, Beach, Hammock, Popsicle</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Verb, Verb, Verb</td> <td><i>Surf, Dive, Grill</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adjective, Adjective</td> <td><i>Sunny, Bright</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Noun</td> <td><i>Vacation</i></td> </tr> </table>	Noun	<i>Summer</i>	Adjective, Adjective	<i>Hot, Dry</i>	Verb, Verb, Verb	<i>Swim, Camp, Hike</i>	Noun, Noun, Noun, Noun	<i>Sunscreen, Beach, Hammock, Popsicle</i>	Verb, Verb, Verb	<i>Surf, Dive, Grill</i>	Adjective, Adjective	<i>Sunny, Bright</i>	Noun	<i>Vacation</i>
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	Haiku Poems A Haiku poem follows a three-line structure using syllables. <table border="0"> <tr> <td>5 Syllables</td><td><i>In the summer heat.</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>7 Syllables</td><td><i>Sliding down the waterslide.</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>5 Syllables</td><td><i>Splashing in the pool.</i></td></tr> </table> Rhyming Poems Poems that use rhyme often include a set of rhyming words at the end of each line or every other line. Play with language to create a rhyming poem. There are no set rules. Ex. <i>My cat loves to nap.</i> <i>Especially if she spies a lap!</i> <i>Don't try to move an inch.</i> <i>Her claws will make you flinch!</i>	5 Syllables	<i>In the summer heat.</i>	7 Syllables	<i>Sliding down the waterslide.</i>	5 Syllables	<i>Splashing in the pool.</i>
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Additional Resources and Information	Visit Kenn Nesbitt's – Poetry4Kids.com • Poetry Writing Lessons for Kids Visit Scholastic • Parent Guide to Poetry • Playing with Poetry • Poetry Challenge Poetry book suggestions: • <i>A New Green Day</i> by Antoinette Portis • <i>Black is a Rainbow Color</i> by Angela Joy • <i>Joyful Noise – Poems for Two Voices</i> by Paul Fleischman • <i>Kiyoshi's Walk</i> by Mark Karlins • <i>The Llama Who Had No Pajama – 100 Favorite Poems</i> by Mary Ann Hoberman • <i>Soccerverse – Poems About Soccer</i> by Elizabeth Steinglass • <i>Spi-Ku: A Clutter of Short Verse on Eight Legs</i> by Leslie Bulion • <i>Tan to Tamarind: Poems About the Color Brown</i> by Malathi Michelle Iyengar • <i>Where the Sidewalk Ends</i> by Shel Silverstein						