

Poetry Prompts: Week 7

Rhyme

This sheet is to accompany Poetry Prompt 7 that features Waterstones Children's Laureate 2022–2024 Joseph Coelho. This week's poetry prompt focussed on rhyme. Joseph Coelho also plays with rhyme in this poem. Listen and look out for the rhyming words as you hear and read it...



Read the poem:

Read the poem aloud. You could read this to yourself, with a friend or have someone else read it to you.

Hide The Jelly

Press the button, swipe the screen.

Ring the bell, drop the bean.

Hide the jelly on the train.

Take a flight on a plane.

From *Blow a Kiss, Catch a Kiss*
by Joseph Coelho
(Andersen Press, 2022)

Think about the poem:

When you read the poem, what did it make you think about? How did it make you feel? What made you feel this way?

As you read the poem, what images came into your mind? If you were to illustrate the poem, how might you do this? Take a piece of paper and any drawing equipment you have to hand and use this to create an accompanying illustration. Why do you think the image you created stood out to you? What was it about the poem that put this particular image into your mind?

Look at the language:

- Read the poem again, and this time, using two different coloured pens, **circle or highlight the pairs of words** that rhyme. What do you notice about the ways these words are spelt? Although they sound the same, they are spelt differently. **Look carefully at where the differences in spelling** between the two words are.
- Look back at the words you identified. You'll see that the first and second lines rhyme, as do the third and fourth lines. **This is known as an AABB rhyme pattern.**
- On a piece of paper, **see how many other words you can think of that rhyme** with, first of all screen and bean then train and plane. Look carefully at the words on your list. Are all the **words spelt the same or are they spelt differently?** You may need to check your spelling using a dictionary.
- **Try playing with the lines in the original poem**, to build in some of the rhyming words on your own list, e.g.

Press the button, bash the tambourine.

Ring the bell, jump in between.

Hide the jelly down the drain.

Turn around and start again.

Perform the poem:

- This is a short poem, and the rhyme also helps you to learn the lines easily. **Take some time to learn the words** so that you can perform it off by heart.
- The rhyme gives the poem a steady pulse. **Tap your feet along to the rhythm** and see if this helps you to learn the poem and feel the rhythm of the words.
- Now **think about how you will perform it**. Now you've explored how the rhyme adds rhythm to the words, how might you use this in your performance? The poem plays with words, which makes it amusing and fun for the listener. **How could you bring the fun element of the poem out** in the way you express yourself using your facial expression and voice as you read?

Write your own!

- **Explore and play with other rhyming words** to create verses of your own. They might be a bit nonsensical, like this one, or they might be about something specific, like a favourite food, hobby or animal.
- Work with pairs of lines that rhyme at a time, then **put four lines together to create the AABB rhyme pattern** you saw in the original verse.
- Don't forget, **rhyming words aren't always spelt in the same way**, so check your spellings carefully, using a dictionary if you need to. **You could also use a rhyming dictionary if you are stuck** when trying to think of words that rhyme.
- If you're inspired by the first verse, **you could also go on to write a second or even third verse too!** Or, you might want to write lots of different single verse poems.
- **Try performing your own verses out loud** when you've written them to check they have the same rhythm and flow of the original poem, as you explored when you performed it. **You could tap your feet along** to the natural beat of the words if this helps. If it doesn't flow, **think about how you could change the lines to improve the rhythm**.

Find all Poetry Prompts as well as more information about Joseph Coelho at www.booktrust.org.uk/childrens-laureate

Learn more about poetic devices, including rhyme, and see these used in a range of different poems on CLPE's website.

This sequence of activities was designed in partnership with CLPE. CLPE is a UK-based children's literacy charity working with primary schools to raise the achievement of children's reading and writing by helping schools to teach literacy creatively and effectively, putting quality children's books at the heart of all learning. Find out more about their work, and access further resources and training at: www.clpe.org.uk.