

HomeTalk

Thoughtful Conversations for Families
and Schools

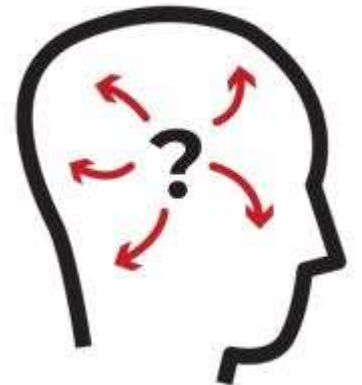
Issue 26 – Poetry



Note to parents/carers and teachers

This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children

Thinking
Moves



This week's focus is poetry

"You can find poetry in your everyday life, your memory, in what people say on the bus, in the news, or just what's in your heart"

Carol Ann Duffy - poet



"Poetry is an act of peace"

Pablo Neruda – poet



"A poet's work is to name the unnameable, to point at frauds, to take sides, start arguments, shape the world, and stop it going to sleep"

Salman Rushdie - author



Caring thinking

- How can poetry help you understand other people's, and your own feelings?

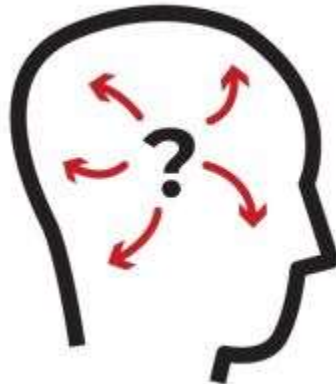


Collaborative thinking

- Would it be easy or hard to write a poem together with a friend?

Creative thinking

- Are there any limits to what you can say, or how you say it, in a poem?



Thinking Moves

Critical thinking

- What's the difference between a good poem and a bad one?
- Who should be the judge of this?

Thinking Moves



Think AHEAD

Can poems help us think how to live our lives?



Think BACK

Can you remember a poem that you really liked?



CONNECT

Does the power of poetry lie in connecting ideas in new ways?



DIVIDE

What's the difference between poetry and prose?



LISTEN/LOOK

Where should you listen or look to find poetry?



ZOOM (in/out)

What's the strongest line in the poem?

What's the biggest message in the poem?

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For age 3 – 5 years



LOOK at the poem - **My Handprints** - on the next page



<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-29069-eyfs-my-handprints-activity>

Talking Points

- What's special about your handprints?
- Are you looking forward to the time when you will be tall? What do you think will be different about your life then?
- Why does the poem suggest that your childhood will pass so quickly?

Activity

- Imagine all the places where you could make handprints (maybe not in chocolate on the wall!).
- Make a print or drawing, or take a photo, of your handprints in three different places.

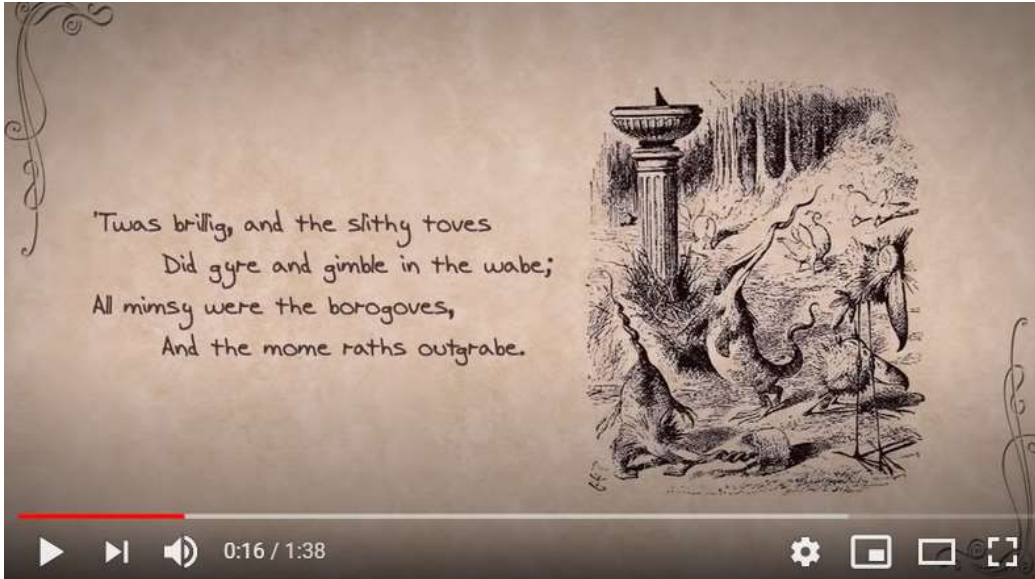
My Handprints

*Look at my handprints,
While I am so small.
A priceless treasure
To remember when I am tall.
Cherish my handprints,
This time will go fast.
In the blink of an eye
The childhood will pass.*

Source: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-29069-eyfs-my-handprints-activity>

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For age 6 – 9 years



https://youtu.be/Q_Um3787fSY

Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll is a nonsense poem from his 1871 novel *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*, the sequel to *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

See next page for the words to the poem.

Next
page

Talking Points

- Does it matter whether a poem makes sense or not?
- What is it about this poem, do you think, that has made it so well-known?
- Which line do you like best in the poem, and why?
- Would you find it fun to write a nonsense poem?

Activity

- Write a short description, in normal words, of what you think a borogove is. Perhaps draw a picture too.
- Then look up borogove in Wikipedia and see if you agree with what it says.

Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand;
Long time the manxome foe he sought—
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For ages 10+ years



<https://youtu.be/iHi6wIDaT1Y>

Dis Poetry – Benjamin Zephaniah performing his poem ‘Dis Poetry’ at Live Theatre in Newcastle in March 2009.

See next page for the words to the poem.

 Next
page

Talking Points

- How does Dis Poetry compare to what you usually think of when someone talks about poetry?
- What’s the main message that you take from this poem?
- What do you think Benjamin Zephaniah means at the end, by a degree in Dreadfull Ghettology?

Activity

- Try writing a short poem, or rap, about something you do every day. Perhaps do it together with a friend.
- Then try reciting it as if you were in front of a big audience. How would that feel?

Dis poetry by Benjamin Zephaniah

<http://www.davidpbrown.co.uk/poetry/benjamin-zephaniah.html>

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More ideas.....

<https://dialogueworks.co.uk/HomeTalk/>



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#P4C and #thinkingmoves



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Want to join our weekly HomeTalk mailing list?

Email: bobhouse@dialogueworks.co.uk