



### **Grade 1 Reading and Writing Unit: Poetry**

In this unit, your child will learn to apply previous reading and writing strategies to the genre of poetry. He or she will realize the similarities and differences between poetry and fiction. Your child will be writing poetry, as well as reading poetry at this time. He or she will be able to read and study the strategies in reading, then apply the skills and techniques to his or her own writing in writing.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Noticing the differences between poems and stories
- Noticing and using features of poetry- punctuation, capitals, repetition, bold print, font change, etc.
- Visualizing- making mental pictures to deepen understanding
- Noticing and using comparisons in poetry
- Noticing and using sensory images; words that apply to the five senses
- Connecting poetry to songs
- Making connections to other texts
- Identifying the feeling of a poem or creating a feeling in his or her own poem
- Reading with appropriate fluency

Questions to ask as your child is reading and writing at home:

- What are the differences between poems and stories?
- What features did you use in your poem? Why do you think the author did that/Why did you do that?
- What do you picture in your mind as you are reading your poem?
- Which words from the poem help you create your mind picture?
- What do you think inspired the author to write his or her poem?
- What connections do you have with your poem?

Some books/poems your child will be read to in class may include:

- Dear World by Takayo Noda
- *Autumn Leaves*
- *The Bells* by Edgar Allen Poe
- *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*

This poetry unit will support both reading and writing for your child. The poems we read within Reader's Workshop will guide his or her work during Writer's Workshop. Take time each night to read and discuss poems with your child. Don't forget to continue to read fiction texts as well, utilizing all of the strategies we have gone over this year!