

Grade 3 Reading and Writing Poetry

In these units your child will develop a deeper understanding of poetry. They will study how authors use various writing techniques to create meaning within poems. The reading and writing units are aligned. Your child will have an opportunity write their own poems incorporating the skills and strategies learned during the reading and discussion of poems.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Identifying the topic of a poem/noticing consistent topics
- Visualizing
- Inferring author's purpose for writing the poem
- Noticing author's word choice
- Reading poetry fluently (smoothly)
- Understanding figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification)
- Making meaning from poetry
- Writing original poetry using techniques studied in reading

Questions to ask as your child is reading at home:

- What is the topic of your poem? How do you know?
- Which words from the poem helped you visualize?
- Which words evoke a feeling for you?
- What is the difference between poetry, nonfiction, and fiction?
- What techniques did you use in your writing of poetry?

Books your child may enjoy during this unit:

- Honey, I Love
- This Place I Know: Poems of Comfort
- Hey World, Here I Am!
- A Writing Kind of Day
- Come On, Rain

Discuss with your child the poems he/she is reading and writing. Discuss why he or she thinks the author may have chosen specific words, structured the poem a certain way, and how it helps provide meaning. You can also ask them about the choices they made as a writer. As you begin to read more poetry at home it is important to continue to read fiction/non-fiction texts to support the strategies we have already reviewed this year.