

*Suggested Poetry Resources to Support a Unit of Study on Reading and Writing Poetry*

## Novels in Verse

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
Home of the Brave	K.A. Applegate
Jinx	Margaret Wild
One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies	Sonya Sones
Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse
Street Love	Walter Dean Myers
Aleutian Sparrow	Karen Hesse
All the Broken Pieces	Ann E. Burg
Bird	Elliot Zetta
The Dreamer	Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis
Locomotion	Jacqueline Woodson
The Boy Who Loved Words	Roni Schotter
Love that Dog	Sharon Creech
Hate that Cat	Sharon Creech
Witness	Karen Hesse
Heartbeat	Sharon Creech

# Narrative Poetry – Poems That Tell Stories

Bolded titles are single poems

## **Title**

Where I Live

The Friendly Four

Amber Brown was Brave, Essie Was Smart: The Story of  
Amber and Essie

**Things**

**Poem**

**The Tree on the Corner**

**Until I Saw the Sea**

**On Turning Ten**

**Writing Invitation**

**My Parents Think I'm Sleeping**

**The Writer**

**Enchantment**

**Good Hot Dogs**

Hey World, Here I Am

World Neighborhood Odes

Ode to Common Things

Baseball, Snakes and Summer Squash: Poems About  
Growing Up

Come With Me: Poems for a Journey

Becoming Joe Dimaggio

This Is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness

## **Author**

Eileen Spinelli

Eloise Greenfield

Vera B. Williams

**Eloise Greenfield**

**Langston Hughes**

**Lillian Moore**

**Lillian Moore**

**Billy Collins**

**Naomi Shihab Nye**

**Jack Prelutsky**

**Richard Wilbur**

**Joanne Ryder**

**Sandra Cisneros**

Jean Little

Gary Soto

Pablo Neruda

Donald Graves

Naomi Shihab Nye

Maria Testa

Joyce Sidman

# Good All-Around Anthologies

## Title

## Author

Poems To Read (Mature Content)

Robert Pinsky and Maggie Dietz, eds.

Poetry 180 (Mature Content)

Billy Collins, ed.

I, Too, Sing America: Three Centuries of African American Poetry (Mature Content)

Catherine Clinton, ed.

Reflections on a Gift of Watermelon Pickle

Dunning, Lueders, Smith

Seeing the Blue Between

Paul Janeczko

Once Upon Ice: And Other Frozen Poems

Jane Yolen

In the Land of Words: New and Selected Poems

Eloise Greenfield

The Place My Words Are Looking For

ed. Paul Janeczko

# Examples of Poetic Forms

Title	Author
Falling Down the Page: A Book of List Poems	Georgia Heard
Joyful Noise: Poems For Two Voices	Paul Fleischman
I Am Phoenix: Poems for Two Voices	Paul Fleischman
Knock a Star: A Child's Introduction to Poetry	X.J. Kennedy and Dorothy M. Kennedy, eds.
-In section 2 – Word Music, Beats that Repeat, Word Play	
-In Section 3 – Limericks, Songs	
Farmer's Dog Goes to the Forest: Rhymes of Two Voices	David Harrison
Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry With a Beat	Nikki Giovanni, ed.
A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems	Paul Janeczko, ed.
When Riddles Come Rumbling: Poems to Ponder	Rebecca Kai Dotlich
In the Spin of Things: Poetry in Motion	Rebecca Kai Dotlich
Over in the Pink House: New Jump-Rope Rhymes	Rebecca Kai Dotlich
Side by Side: Poems to Read Together	Lee Bennett Hopkins
Questions: Poems (I Can Read)	Lee Bennett Hopkins
Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices	Paul Janeczko
Big is Big (and little, little): A Book of Contrasts	J. Patrick Lewis
Four Fur Feet	Margaret Wise Brown
Hey You: Poems to Skyscrapers, Mosquitoes, and Other Fun Things	Paul Janeczko
<u>Doodle Dandies: Poems That Take Shape</u>	J. Patrick Lewis
Foot in the Mouth: Poems to Speak, Sing, and Shout	ed. Paul Janeczko
Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems	John Grandits

# Themed Collections

## *Living Creatures*

### **Title**

Mammalabilia  
Lizards, Frogs and Polliwogs  
Animal Poems  
Toad by the Road: A Year in the Life of These Amazing Amphibians  
Creatures of Earth, Sea and Sky  
Words with Wrinkled Knees: Animal Poems  
Insectlopedia  
A Hippo's a Heap: And Other Animal Poems  
Swan Song  
Feathers: Poems About Birds

### **Author**

Douglas Florian  
Douglas Florian  
Valerie Worth  
Joanne Ryder  
  
Georgia Heard  
Barbara Juster Esbensen  
Douglas Florian  
Beverly McLoughland  
J. Patrick Lewis and Christopher Wormel  
Eileen Spinelli

## *School*

### **Title**

The Dog Ate My Homework  
School Supplies: A Book of Poems  
Wonderful Words: Poems about Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening  
If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: Poems About School  
A Writing Kind of Day: Poems for Young Poets  
Flit, Flutter, Fly: Poems About Bugs and Other Crawly Creatures  
Lunch Money: And Other Poems About School  
Almost Late to School: And More School Poems  
Did You See What I Saw?: Poems About School  
Alphabestiary: Animal Poems from A to Z  
Count Me a Rhyme: Animal Poems by the Number  
What A Day It Was At School

### **Author**

Sara Holbrook  
Lee Bennett Hopkins  
Lee Bennett Hopkins  
Kalli Dakos  
  
Ralph Fletcher  
Lee Bennett Hopkins  
  
Carol Diggory Shields  
Carol Diggory Shields  
Kay Winters  
Jane Yolen  
Jane Yolen  
Jack Prelutsky

## *Bilingual Poetry*

### **Title**

### **Author**

My Name is Jorge on Both Sides of the River: Poems in English and Spanish	Jane Meina
Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Latino in the United States (Mature Content)	Lori M. Carlson, ed.
Red Hot Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Being Young and Latino in the United States (Mature Content)	Lori M. Carlson, ed.
The Tree is Older Than You Are: A Bilingual Gathering of Poems and Stories from Mexico	Selected by Naomi Shihab Nye
Tortillas Para Mamá” And Other Nursery Rhymes/ Spanish and English	Griego, Bucks, Gilbert and Kimball
Pío Peep: Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes	Alice Schertle

## *Art*

### **Title**

### **Author**

Celebrate America in Poetry and Art	Nora Panzer, ed.
Songs of Myself: An Anthology of Poems and Art	Georgia Heard
Words with Wings: A Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art	Belinda Rochelle, ed.
Yellow Elephant: A Bright Bestiary	Julie Larios
Animal Poems	Valerie Worth
Soul Looks Back in Wonder	illustrated by Tom Feelings
Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art	Jan Greenburg
Songs of Myself: Poetry and Art	Georgia Heard
Side by Side: New Poems Inspired by Art from Around the World	Jan Greenberg
Poems to Celebrate the Wonders of Museums	ed. Lee Bennett Hopkins
Mural on 2nd Avenue	Lilian Moore

## *Sports*

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
Sports! Sports! Sports!	Lee Hopkins Bennett
Good Sports: Rhymes About Running, Jumping, Throwing, Jack Prelutsky and More	
Opening Days: Sports Poems	Lee Hopkins Bennett
Goal! More Than Soccer and Sports Poems	Gerardo Migliarisi
Soccer and More: Poems and Essays	Gerardo Migliarisi

## *Humorous Poetry*

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
For Laughing Out Loud: Poems to Tickle Your Funnybone	Jack Prelutsky
Ook the Book: And Other Silly Rhymes	Lissa Rovetch
The Underwear Salesman: And Other Jobs for Better or Verse	J. Patrick Lewis
Falling Up	Shel Silverstein
Where the Sidewalk Ends	Shel Silverstein
Runny Babbit	Shel Silverstein
Light in the Attic	Shel Silverstein
The New Kid on The Block	Jack Prelutsky
<u>Be Glad Your Nose Is on Your Face: And Other Poems: Some of the Best of Jack Prelutsky</u>	Jack Prelutsky
Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems	John Grandits

## *History*

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
The Brothers' War: Civil War Voices in Verse	J. Patrick Lewis
America at War	Poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins
A Wreath for Emmett Till	Marilyn Nelson

# Poetic Picture Books

(From "Reading and Writing Poetry Across the Year" by Heard and Laminack)

## Title

Night in the Country  
Twilight Comes Twice  
Hello, Harvest Moon  
Saturdays and Teacakes  
The Barn Owls  
No Two Snowflakes  
What is Science?  
Owl Moon  
When Mama Comes Home Tonight  
Koala Lou  
My Mother's Voice  
Beach  
Welcome, Precious  
It's a Butterfly's Life

## Author

Cynthia Rylant  
Ralph Fletcher  
Ralph Fletcher  
Lester Laminack  
Tony Johnston  
Sheree Fitch  
Rebecca Kai Dotlich  
Jane Yolen  
Eileen Spinelli  
Mem Fox  
Joanne Ryder  
Elisha Cooper  
Nikki Grimes  
Irene Kelly



# Any Poems By..

## Author

## Examples of Works

Valerie Worth	All the Small Poems and Fourteen More
Mattie J.T. Stepanek	Celebrate Through Heartsongs
Walter Dean Myers	Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices
Georgia Heard	This Place I Know: Poems of Comfort
Janet S. Wong	A Suitcase of Seaweed and Other Poems
Nikki Grimes	Thanks A Million, Shoe Magic
Billy Collins	Sailing Around the Room, The Trouble With Poetry and Other Poems
Lillian Moore	I Thought I Heard the City, I Feel the Same Way, Mural on Second Avenue and Other city Poems
Rebecca Kai Dotlich	Lemonade Sun, The Spin of Things, Over in the Pink House
Nikki Giovanni	Spin a Soft Black Song
Pat Mora	Confetti: Poems for Children
K. O'Connell George	Toasting Marshmallows

# Professional Texts

Title	Author
A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms	Paul B. Janeczko, ed.
Handbook of Poetic Forms	Ron Padgett, ed.
A Poetry Handbook	Mary Oliver
The Poetry Home Repair Manual	Ted Kooser
Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School	Georgia Heard
Naming the World: A Year of Poems and Lessons	Nancie Atwell
Getting the Knack: 20 Poetry Writing Exercises	Stephen Dunning and William Stafford
The Practice of Poetry: Writing Exercises from Poets Who Teach	Robin Behn and Chase Twichell, eds.
Poetry Everywhere	Jack Collom and Sheryl Noethe
Wham! It's a Poetry Jam: Discovering Performance Poetry	Sara Holbrook
A Note Slipped Under the Door: Teaching from Poems We Love	Nick Flynn and Shirley McPhillips
The Revision Toolbox: Teaching Techniques That Work	Georgia Heard
Poetry: Powerful Thoughts in Tiny Packages (Units of Study for Primary Writers)	Lucy Calkins and Stephanie Parsons
Seeing the Blue Between: Advice and Inspiration for Young Poets	Paul Janeczko, ed.
Writing Toward Home: Tales and Lessons to Find Your Way	Georgia Heard
For the Good of the Earth and the Sun	Georgia Heard
Climb Inside A Poem: Poetry Across the Year	Georgia Heard and Lester Laminack

# Media Support

*Favorite Poem Project (mini documentaries of people talking about their favorite poems)*  
<http://www.favoritepoem.org/videos.html>

*USA Character Project (portraits that can serve as starters for poetry in different voices):* <http://www.usanetwork.com/characterproject/#/gallery/photo/>

*Billy Collins' "Poetry 180"*

<http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/>

*Academy of American Poets*

[www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)

*Library of Congress Poetry Web Page*  
<http://www.loc.gov/poetry>

*A Choral Speaking Teacher's Guide*

<http://www.scriptsforschools.com/90.html>

*The Poetry Foundation*

[www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)

*Poetry Blogs*

<http://readingyear.blogspot.com>

<http://poetryforchildren.blogspot.com>

<http://kidslitinformation.blogspot.com>

[http://chickenspaghetti.typepad.com/chicken\\_spaghetti](http://chickenspaghetti.typepad.com/chicken_spaghetti)

*Many of your favorite poets most likely have websites which contain a wealth of information and ideas you can explore and share with your students. Simply Google the name of your favorite poets and see what comes up!*