

Shared Poem

In K–1, Shared Poem occurs for five minutes, four times a week. Shared Poem consists of reading poems together as a class to develop scholars' oral language, phonemic awareness, comprehension, and to enjoy the fun of language!

Shared Poem inspires scholars as they revel in the enjoyment of poetry and builds confidence in their ability to make meaning.

What Are the Objectives of Shared Poem?

- Scholars read, discuss, and comprehend big ideas within poems.
- Scholars fall in love with poetry by exploring rhyme, alliteration, and word play.

What Is the Structure of a Shared Poem Lesson?

During Shared Poem, scholars read and discuss a poem over two days.

Day 1: Read the Poem

- Read aloud, then together 2–3 times.
 - You must read the poem in a way that illuminates the meaning for your scholars. Modulate your voice and tone, and use gestures to convey the meaning for scholars.
- Notice and discuss rhyming words, alliteration, and other examples of word play.
 - The goal is to make this fun and engaging—not to drill scholars on phonics.

Day 2: Discuss the Poem

- Reread the poem 1–2 times.
 - Have scholars make a mind movie as you read and think about the feeling the poem gives them.
- Discuss the poem and unpack the meaning.
 - Ask, “What’s happening in the poem?” and “What are you envisioning?”
 - Ask, “What does that make you think?” and “Why did the author write this poem?”

What Else Do I Need?

• Kindergarten Shared Poem Text Selections:

- “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” from *The Random House Children’s Treasury: Fairy Tales, Nursery Rhymes & Nonsense Verse* edited by Alice Mills
- “Bubbles” from *Highlights* by Tanya Seale
- “Change in the Weather” from *Surprises (I Can Read Level 3)* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- “Little Miss Muffet” from *The Random House Children’s Treasury: Fairy Tales, Nursery Rhymes & Nonsense Verse* edited by Alice Mills
- “Favorite Things” from *Brothers and Sisters: Family Poems* by Eloise Greenfield
- “Rain on the Cars” from *The Sun, the Wind, and the Rain* by Beverley Randell, Annette Smith, and Jenny Giles
- “Little Boy Blue” from *The Random House Children’s Treasury: Fairy Tales, Nursery Rhymes & Nonsense Verse* edited by Alice Mills
- “Jump Rope Rhyme” from *Meet Danitra Brown* by Nikki Grimes
- “The Clam” from *In the Swim* by Douglas Florian
- “Baby Chick” from *Eric Carle’s Animals Animals* by Aileen Fisher
- “The Hippo” from *Mammalabilia* by Douglas Florian
- “Cat Kisses” from *Here’s a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry* collected by Jane Yolen and Andrew Fusek Peters by Bobbi Katz
- “Sing a Song of Cities” from *City I Love* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- “Fish” from *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young* selected by Jack Prelutsky by Arthur S. Bourinot
- “Dragon Smoke” from *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young* selected by Jack Prelutsky by Lilian Moore
- “Taking Turns” from *Talking Like the Rain: A Read-to-Me Book of Poems* by X. J. Kennedy and Dorothy M. Kennedy by Norma Faber
- “Don’t Worry if Your Job Is Small” from *Poems to Learn by Heart* by Caroline Kennedy by Anonymous
- “A Kind of Tenderness” from *Whistling the Morning In* by Lillian Morrison
- “Favorite Things” from *Brothers and Sisters: Family Poems* by Eloise Greenfield
- “The Spider” from *Something Big Has Been Here* by Jack Prelutsky
- “My Puppy” from *Here’s a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry* collected by Jane Yolen and Andrew Fusek Peters by Aileen Fisher
- “Grandpa” from *Here’s a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry* collected by Jane Yolen and Andrew Fusek Peters by Berlie Doherty
- “Sledding” from *Whistling the Morning In* by Lillian Morrison
- “Squirrels” from *Something Big Has Been Here* by Jack Prelutsky
- “Something Big Has Been Here” from *Something Big Has Been Here* by Jack Prelutsky
- “Hide-and-Seek Shadow” from *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young* selected by Jack Prelutsky by Margaret Hillert
- “In the Summer We Eat” from *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young* selected by Jack Prelutsky by Zhenya Gay
- “Cats” from *The 20th Century Children’s Poetry Treasury* selected by Jack Prelutsky by Eleanor Farjeon

- “The Daddy Longlegs” from Insectlopedia by Douglas Florian
- “North Pole” from Forget-Me-Nots: Poems to Learn by Heart selected by Mary Ann Hoberman by Mary Ann Hoberman

● **First Grade Shared Poem Text Selections:**

- “The Walkingstick” from Insectlopedia by Douglas Florian
- “My Nose” by Dorothy Aldis
- “Mary Had a Little Lamb” from A Treasury for One Year Olds: A Collection of Nursery Rhymes and Lullabies published by Sandy Creek
- “Snail’s Pace” from Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young selected by Jack Prelutsky by Aileen Fisher
- “Butterflies, You Puzzle Me” from It’s Raining Pigs & Noodles by Jack Prelutsky
- “Early to Bed, Early to Rise” from The Random House Children’s Treasury: Fairy Tales, Nursery Rhymes & Nonsense Verse edited by Alice Mills
- “Pumpkin” from It’s Halloween by Jack Prelutsky
- “The Goblin” from It’s Halloween by Jack Prelutsky
- “Thirty Days Hath September” from What Your First Grader Needs to Know edited by E. D. Hirsch Jr.
- “The Moon” from Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems selected by Paul B. Janeczko by Emily Dickinson
- “The Hawk” from Omnibeasts by Douglas Florian
- “Uses for Fog” from Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems selected by Paul B. Janeczko by Eve Merriam
- “I Know All the Sounds That the Animals Make” from What Your First Grader Needs to Know edited by E. D. Hirsch Jr. by Jack Prelutsky
- “The Hornet” from Insectlopedia by Douglas Florian
- “Leopard Plan” from African Acrostics: A Word in Edgeways by Avis Harley
- “A Lazy Thought” from Days Like This compiled by Simon James by Eve Merriam
- “Love Is…” from Hip Hop Speaks to Children edited by Nikki Giovanni by Common
- “If-ing” from Forget-Me-Nots: Poems to Learn by Heart selected by Mary Ann Hoberman by Langston Hughes
- “Rain and Snow” from Whistling the Morning In by Lillian Morrison
- “Thoughts on Talkers” from The Random House Book of Poetry for Children selected by Jack Prelutsky by Walter R. Brooks
- “Dear World” from Dear World by Takayo Noda
- “Jack Frost” from Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young selected by Jack Prelutsky by Helen Bayley Davis
- “Ice Skating” from Opening Days: Sports Poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins by Sandra Liatsos
- “The Manatee” from In the Swim by Douglas Florian
- “Greyday” from Poetry for Young People by Maya Angelou
- “My People” from Poetry for Young People by Langston Hughes
- “Moths and Moonshine” from The 20th Century Children’s Poetry Treasury selected by Jack Prelutsky by James Reeves
- “Metaphor” from Wonderful Words: Poems About Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins by Eve Merriam
- “Moonwalker” from Pocket Poems selected by Bobbi Katz by Carol Diggory Shields