

Introduction

Poetry is fun. It looks and sounds different from any other form of writing. When you read poems, you see the world through someone else's eyes. When you write poems, you put your ideas, feelings and experiences into words.

This book starts by looking at the special features of poems and how to perform them effectively. It then helps you understand poetic language and explains how to understand poems better. It also introduces you to some poetic forms. There are plenty of ideas for writing your own poems and lots of tips that will help to make your poems sound great.

Finding your way around this book

Before you start using this book, write your name in the name box on the first page.

Then decide how to begin. If you want a complete course on poetry, you should work right through the book from beginning to end. Another way to use the book is to dip into it when you want to find out about a particular topic, such as personification. The Contents page will help you to find the pages you need.

Whichever way you choose, don't try to do too much at once – it's better to work through the book in short bursts.

When you have found the topic you want to study, look out for these icons, which mark different parts of the text.



This icon shows you the activities that you should complete. You write your answers in the spaces provided. This book does not include answers to the activities because there are so many different possible answers and it wouldn't be practical to list all of them. Check your answers with an adult and when you are sure that you understand the topic, put a tick in the box beside it on the Contents page. On page 40 you will find suggestions for some projects (**Now you try**), which will give you even more opportunities to improve your understanding of poetry.

Explanation

This text explains the topic and gives examples. Make sure you read it before you start the activities.



This text gives you useful background information about the subject.