

The poet's words

A **poet** chooses words very carefully. Each word is important to the meaning or the sound of the poem. When you read a poem, think about the words in it and what they say to you.

Word pictures

Poets use words to paint pictures and describe things. When you read a poem, look for the words that help to make a picture in your mind.

On a soggy day like this,
Raindrops explode on the window pane.

Think about what the word 'explode' tells you about the raindrops. What do you picture?

Sound patterns

Poets make sounds with words. When you read a poem aloud, listen for the special sound patterns made by the words.

- Listen for words that **rhyme**. They have the same sound at the end.

Summer **sun**
Let's have **fun**

- Listen for words that begin with the same letter sound.

In the sizzling **summer sun**

- Listen for **rhythm** or beat in the poem. Clap along!

Sun, sun, **sun** – let's have **fun**

Slow, slow,
Said the snail,
Slowly laying
His slippery trail.



Busy, busy,
Said the bee,
Buzzing by
Bzzzzzzzzzzily.



Test yourself

Look at the poem about the snail and the bee.

1. In the first verse, copy the two rhyming words.
2. What does the word 'slippery' tell you about the snail's trail?
3. In the second verse, write three words that begin with the same letter sound.
4. Why do you think the poet chose the last word?

Remember

Words can paint pictures or make sound patterns – or both!