

# Storytime

Australia

## STORY RHYME!



### Can you compose an amazing poem?

Write a poem about your favourite place... and share it with your class!

You might even discover that writing poems is fun, and a new poet will be born! This **Story Rhyme! Pack** is full of info and activities that will help you to create your own unique poem...

The idea of writing poems about a special place was inspired by the story **The Stolen Treasure** from **Storytime Issue 9**. It's about two pirate kids who discover a wonderful new home! (Pirates love to rhyme when singing sea shanties and are good at finding special places...)

This pack will help you to rhyme... and give you great ideas for writing poetry!

### INSIDE THIS PACK:

- ➡ In Brief
- ➡ Storytime Glossary
- ➡ What Is a Poem?
- ➡ Different Types of Poems & Rhymes
- ➡ Poetry Techniques
- ➡ Finish the Rhymes!
- ➡ Time to Rhyme!
- ➡ Rhyming Cards!
- ➡ Awesome Animal Alliteration!
- ➡ Super Similes!
- ➡ Talking About Places
- ➡ Top Tips for Writing Your Poem
- ➡ What Is Your Poem About?
- ➡ My Poetry Cloud!

Remember, you are a poet... even if you don't know it!

# IN BRIEF

**The Stolen Treasure** is a story about a pirate boy who solves a puzzle in a rhyming sea shanty and discovers an amazing new place to call home. It inspired our new competition, which challenges budding poets to write poems about a favourite place...



## LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- Learning new words is fun! That's why the **Storytime Glossary** was created – so that students can look up words they don't recognise from this month's issue and discover their definitions for themselves.
- This pack is all about poetry, so why not have a class discussion about poems the kids know? First, read the **What is a Poem?** sheet, and then go through the poems listed on the **Different Types of Poems & Rhymes** page – can your students think of works that fit each category? What types are their favourites?
- There are lots of cool tricks that poets use to make their works memorable. The **Poetry Techniques** page lists some of the more commonly used ones – you could provide the class with a small selection of poems and challenge them to spot as many of the techniques as they can in them!
- Rhyming is particularly common in poems, and this pack has **Finish the Rhymes!**, **Time to Rhyme!** and **Rhyming Cards!** activities to encourage children to try out their own rhyming skills! You could also play a round-robin game where you say a word and then each member of the class has to come up with a word that rhymes with it...
- The **Awesome Animal Alliteration!** and **Super Similes!** sheets challenge kids to try out these techniques – can they come up with original examples of their own?
- Your students can then go over the **Talking About Places**, **Top Tips for Writing Your Poem**, **What Is Your Poem About?** and **My Poetry Cloud!** sheets. These will prepare them for writing their own poems.

# STORYTIME GLOSSARY

Look up any unfamiliar words from *Storytime* Issue 9 here!

## The Mole and His Mother (Page 6)

- ▷ **Tangled** – twisted together
- ▷ **Soil** – earth that plants grow in
- ▷ **Wiggly** – moving around in a twisting way
- ▷ **Hollow** – empty inside
- ▷ **Glum** – a bit sad
- ▷ **Tapped** – hit very gently
- ▷ **Acorn** – nut of an oak tree
- ▷ **Breeze** – gentle wind
- ▷ **Tingle** – little tickly feeling

## The Compass of Life (Page 9)

- ▷ **Clattered** – moved while making a ‘clatter’ sound
- ▷ **Pulled a face** – made a funny expression
- ▷ **Tinkering** – adjusting or fixing
- ▷ **Device** – machine for a particular purpose
- ▷ **Magnetism** – force exerted by magnets
- ▷ **Shiver** – small shake
- ▷ **Experiments** – scientific tests
- ▷ **Algebra** – mathematics that uses symbols to represent numbers in formulas
- ▷ **Equation** – a mathematical statement showing that two things are equal
- ▷ **Formula** – a mathematical rule, shown using symbols
- ▷ **Devoured** – quickly and eagerly read
- ▷ **Gravity** – the force that attracts objects to each other
- ▷ **Mesmerized** – enchanted

## Gaia the Earth Mother (Page 14)

- ▷ **Vast** – huge and wide
- ▷ **Towered** – stood tall
- ▷ **Encircles** – surrounds
- ▷ **Overthrow** – remove from power
- ▷ **Raged** – said angrily
- ▷ **Granite** – kind of rock
- ▷ **Sternly** – in a serious way
- ▷ **Lounging** – sitting in a relaxed way
- ▷ **Crib** – bed for a baby
- ▷ **Lullabies** – songs for getting kids to sleep
- ▷ **Gurgled** – made a noise like ‘gurgle’
- ▷ **Triumphed** – won
- ▷ **Honour** – respect

## The Happy Family (Page 20)

- ▷ **Spiny** – spiky
- ▷ **Rippling** – with waves in it
- ▷ **Manor house** – grand country house
- ▷ **Sprouted** – grew
- ▷ **Bountiful** – providing a lot
- ▷ **Rumbled** – made noises like ‘rumble’
- ▷ **Sheltered** – stayed in a protected place
- ▷ **Antennae** – thin body parts on head for sensing things with
- ▷ **Chatter** – talk quickly and a lot
- ▷ **Suitable** – right for him
- ▷ **Scurrying** – moving quickly
- ▷ **Creepy-crawlies** – insect-like animals
- ▷ **Crawl** – move on their bellies

Continued on page 2...

## STORYTIME GLOSSARY

**The Quest for Cleverness** (Page 24)

- ▷ **Straggly** – thin and untidy
- ▷ **Cloak** – long garment hanging from the shoulders
- ▷ **Knowledgeable** – knowing a lot
- ▷ **Practical** – useful in the real world
- ▷ **Merchant** – person who sells things
- ▷ **Golly** – an expression of amazement
- ▷ **Pouch** – small bag
- ▷ **Pedlar** – travelling seller
- ▷ **Jailer** – guard in jail
- ▷ **Dungeon** – underground prison in castle
- ▷ **Bellowed** – yelled loudly
- ▷ **Accomplish** – do

**The Stolen Treasure** (Page 31)

- ▷ **Bunk** – multi-levelled bed
- ▷ **Seasick** – ill due to movement of a boat
- ▷ **Seafaring** – travelling on the sea
- ▷ **Billowed** – puffed out
- ▷ **Cutlass** – kind of sword
- ▷ **Thrusting up** – standing up
- ▷ **Shanty** – sailor's song
- ▷ **Ploughed** – pushed
- ▷ **Dinghy** – small boat
- ▷ **Padlock** – kind of small lock
- ▷ **Puffins** – small seabirds
- ▷ **Nestled** – snuggled
- ▷ **Stump** – bottom part of tree after it has been cut down
- ▷ **Rightful** – proper
- ▷ **Recited** – said out loud
- ▷ **Call dibs** – claim ownership

**Pollyanna's Perfect Day** (Page 36)

- ▷ **Streaming** – coming like a stream
- ▷ **Attic** – space under roof of house
- ▷ **Leaped** – jumped
- ▷ **Tripped over** – fell over
- ▷ **Ditch** – narrow channel
- ▷ **Stained** – marked
- ▷ **Glad** – being happy and thankful

**The Nodding Tiger** (Page 38)

- ▷ **Humble** – ordinary and unimportant
- ▷ **Hut** – small, simple house
- ▷ **Hobbled** – walked clumsily
- ▷ **Grimacing** – twisting up his face
- ▷ **Pounced on** – jumped on
- ▷ **Sore** – painful
- ▷ **Strode off** – walked off in a determined way
- ▷ **Crime** – thing that is against the law
- ▷ **Mandarin** – official in historical China
- ▷ **Scrolls** – rolled-up pieces of paper
- ▷ **Ruffian** – troublemaker
- ▷ **Injured** – hurt
- ▷ **Volunteered** – chosen to do something
- ▷ **Descended** – went down
- ▷ **Tame** – obedient
- ▷ **Punishment** – penalty for doing something wrong



# WHAT IS A POEM?

A poem is a piece of writing that uses words in creative ways to share ideas or emotions. Poems sound great when they are read out loud – they can be like ‘songs without the music’. The words of many songs work well as poetry!



WHERE CAN I  
READ MORE  
POEMS?

There are plenty of books of poetry for kids in your school library, and you can also find poems online at [childrenspoetryarchive.org](http://childrenspoetryarchive.org). Reading poems is a great way to get ideas for your own masterpiece!

Yes, they are! If you like singing nursery rhymes, you probably know a few classic poems already...

ARE NURSERY  
RHYMES ALSO  
POEMS?



SHOULD I  
READ POEMS  
OUT LOUD?

Yes! Many poems are written to be read out loud, and it is a fun challenge to perform them in an entertaining way! You should read your poem aloud to yourself when you are writing it – that will help you to find ways to make it sound better.

# DIFFERENT TYPES OF POEMS & RHYMES

Here are some cool and fun types of poems that you might want to check out!



## Narrative poems

These are poems that tell a story!

**EXAMPLE:** *The Owl and the Pussy-cat* by Edward Lear, is a narrative poem.

## Concrete poems

These are also called *shape poems*.

The words are arranged to look like the thing you're writing about! You could write a poem about a snake in a long wiggly line or a poem about rain in a raindrop shape!

## Acrostic Poems

**Acrostic poems** use the first letter of each line of the poem to spell out a word vertically.

This word relates to the subject of the poem!

## Nonsense poems

These playful poems feature made-up words, characters or places, and are meant to be fun and creative!

**EXAMPLE:** the nonsense poem *On the Ning Nang Nong* by Spike Milligan.

## Haiku

**Haiku** are three-line Japanese poems that don't have to rhyme.

To be a haiku, a poem needs to have five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second line and five syllables in the third line.

## Limericks

They are short, funny poems with five lines. They always start with the words "There was a..." and end in a silly way.

**EXAMPLE:** Edward Lear's limerick *There Was an Old Man with a Beard*.

# POETRY TECHNIQUES

There are many clever tricks you can use when writing your poem!

**RHYMING** To make your poem rhyme, the words at the end of some lines should sound the same or very similar, e.g. cow and now. Not all poems rhyme, but the poem you write for the competition should have at least two rhymes in it.

Twinkle, twinkle little **star**,  
How I wonder what you **are**!  
Up above the world so **high**,  
Like a diamond in the **sky**.

On the **p**avement  
his **p**aws go **pit-pat**.  
Could it be **C**laude  
the **c**ool **k**itty **c**at?

**ALLITERATION** This means using words that start with the same letter or sound. Alliteration sounds good when you read it out loud and gives your poem rhythm.

**ASSONANCE** This is similar to alliteration, but instead of repeating the sound at the start of each word, you repeat vowel sounds in the words. This is another good way to give your poem rhythm.

Today the sleigh  
flew off again,  
Right through the  
big **blue** moon.

The Owl looked up to the stars above,  
And sang to a small guitar,  
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy, my love,  
What a beautiful Pussy you are,  
You are, You are!  
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"

**REPETITION** You can repeat the same word, phrase or even line to get your ideas across. This also helps to give your poem rhythm – for an example, check out Edward Lear's *The Owl and the Pussy-Cat*.

**SIMILES** In poems, we often describe things in imaginative ways – similes are used to compare two things using the words 'like' or 'as' ('as cold as ice', 'as light as a feather').

Up above the world so high,  
**Like** a diamond in the sky.



**METAPHORS** When you use a metaphor, instead of saying something is 'like' something else, you say that it *is* that thing. For instance, you might say someone is a ray of sunshine, or describe tree branches as a 'wonderful stair', as Amy Lowell did in the poem *Climbing*.

**PERSONIFICATION** In poems, you can use your imagination to bring objects or animals to life and describe them as you would describe a human. For example, in the nursery rhyme *Hey Diddle, Diddle*, 'the dish ran away with the spoon'.

# FINISH THE RHYMES!

Test your rhyming skills by coming up with the perfect words to finish these poems!

Frankie the **frog**,  
Lived in a **bog**,  
Sat on a **log**,  
Barked like a \_\_\_\_\_!

In this **box**  
There is a **fox**  
And he is wearing  
\_\_\_\_\_!

Find a penny,  
Pick it **up**,  
Spend it on a  
\_\_\_\_\_!

If you ever meet a monster,  
Here's what you should **do**:  
Shake his hand and tell him  
\_\_\_\_\_!

Let's play outside,  
Let's go for a ride,  
Let's climb, let's **shout**,  
Let's \_\_\_\_\_!

You might think that on my back,  
I'm carrying a school rucksack,  
But there's a secret tucked in **there**,  
\_\_\_\_\_!



# TIME TO RHYME!

How many words can you think of that rhyme with the things from the tale of 'The Stolen Treasure' below?

Try out rhymes by saying them out loud!

SEA

BOAT

BIRD

LOCK



HOME



# RHYMING CARDS!

Rhyming is a fun way to come up with catchy poems! You can improve your rhyming skills by playing with these cards – can you sort them into pairs that rhyme with each other?



ANSWERS: Goat and boat, cap and tap, bear and chair, hug and carrot, star and car, cake and snake, book and hook.



# AWESOME ANIMAL ALLITERATION!



*Alliteration* is when two or more words begin with the same letter or sound. Can you draw a line between the words that alliterate in the lists below?

## Adjective

## Subject

Dizzy

Hedgehog

Slippery

Bug

Wonderful

Monkey

Crazy

Snake

Big

Octopus

Muddy

Pheasant

Happy

Goose

Frightened

Kangaroo

Orange

Donkey

Giant

Wombat

**SOUND IT OUT!** The best way to check if two words alliterate is by saying them one after another – do they sound the same? Remember, some words begin with similar sounds even though they don't start with the same letters! *For example, think of the words 'funny' and 'phone'...*

ANSWERS: Dizzy Donkey, Slippery Snake, Wonderful Wombat, Crazy Kangaroo, Big Bug, Muddy Monkey, Happy Hedgehog, Frightened Pheasant, Orange Octopus, Giant Goose.

# SUPER SIMILES!

A simile is when you describe something as being *like* something else! They are great fun to use in poems – can you come up with creative similes by finishing the phrases below in your own way?



As blue as... the sea

As quick as...

As furry as...

As tall as...

As small as...

As clever as...

As hot as...

As slippery as...

**TOP TIP:** It's extra-fun if the words in your simile are alliterations as well! For example, **as cute as a kitten!**

# TALKING ABOUT PLACES



storytime  
Australia

STORY RHYME  
PACK

Adjectives are 'describing words' – they tell us what things are like!

On this page are two scenes and some adjectives that could be used to describe them. Pick the five adjectives that you think best describe each scene and write them down beside them!



Sunny Large Little Sandy Wild  
Peaceful Quiet Green Cosy  
Fun Bright Busy Cool Tall  
Tall Modern Natural Urban

# TOP TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR POEM



storytime  
Australia  
STORY RHYME  
PACK

1

**Read before you write!** Check out some other poems before you start your own one – it's a great way to get ideas!

2

**Look around you!** A poem is all about how you see the world. That's why you should look at and think about the things around you. Doing this will help you find inspiration!

3

**Read it out loud!** Most poems work best if you recite them to yourself rather than just read them. Rhymes, alliteration and other cool poetic tricks sound awesome!

4

**Write what you feel!** Poems are great for capturing your emotions! Write about things that bring up strong feelings in you... like your favourite place!

5

**Compare things!** Similes and metaphors are used to describe things as being like other things. They are powerful tools for poets, so try to include at least one of them in your poem.

6

**Don't be afraid to repeat yourself!** Repeating something in your poem can be a *good* thing. You can use a phrase over and over again, maybe changing it slightly each time...

7

**Go wild!** In a poem, you don't have to obey all the 'rules' of writing. Feel free to play with words in new and interesting ways!

# WHAT IS YOUR POEM ABOUT?



**For this competition, you have to write a poem about your favourite place.**

The best poems have a subject that the poet has strong feelings about – and writing them is a great way to express your emotions!

For this writing activity, **pick your favourite place.**

It could be a room, a garden, a park, a museum, or even a place in the wilderness or the countryside. It doesn't matter where it is... the important thing is that you have strong feelings about it.

Now, close your eyes and think about your special place. What are the things that make it special to you? **Write down the things that come to mind** when you think about your special place.

MY SPECIAL PLACE IS:

---

WHAT IS IT LIKE?

IT IS SPECIAL BECAUSE:

Finally, think about why it is special to you. **Is it because of the people there or the things you do** in that place?

**Great work! Now turn to the next page to come up with words and ideas to use in your poem!**

# MY POETRY CLOUD!

On this page, write down words that describe your special place and how you feel when you are there. These words can be used in your poem!



WHAT IS MY SPECIAL  
PLACE LIKE?

HOW DO I FEEL  
WHEN I AM THERE?

WHAT DO I LIKE  
TO DO THERE?

## Poem-Writing Checklist

- ☐ Have you chosen your place?
- ☐ Does your poem have a title?
- ☐ Does your poem have at least two rhymes in it?
- ☐ Have you picked your favourite words?
- ☐ Have you read your poem out loud?
- ☐ Have you added your name?
- ☐ Have you shared it with your family or friends? Your teacher might even want you to share it in class!



MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----