Poetry: We’re Loving It!

Presented by
Dr. Rita Buchoff
Alligator pie, alligator pie,
If I don’t get some I think I’m gonna die.
Give away the green grass, give away the sky,
But don’t give away my alligator pie.

Alligator stew, alligator stew,
If I don’t get some I don’t know what I’ll do.
Give away my furry hat, give away my shoe,
But don’t give away my alligator stew.

Alligator soup, alligator soup,
If I don’t get some I think I’m gonna droop.
Give away my hockey stick, give away my hoop,
But don’t give away my alligator soup.

Random House Book of Poetry
Jack Prelutsky
What do we know about children’s perceptions of poetry?

What does this say to us as teachers?
Chanting

Any group of words that is recited with a lively beat
Poetry

- Rhythm and rhyme
- Complement or extend the curriculum
- Varied to meet the needs and interests of children
- Selected for any age level
Tips on Getting Started

- Select a verse that contains a definite rhythm, interesting sound patterns, and content that would be appealing to students
- Enlarge the verse so everyone can see it
- Model the verse dramatically
- Invite the children to chant along
- Add physical responses
- Use chanting as a springboard to other activities including written composition
Let’s Get Started!
Juba This and Juba That

Juba this and Juba that
Juba saw a yellow cat
Juba up and Juba down
Juba runnin’ all around

Juba This and Juba That
Virginia A. Tashjian
Have you ever, ever, ever
In a long-legged life,
Seen a long-legged sailor
With a long-legged wife?

No I never, never, never
In a long-legged life,
Saw a long-legged sailor
With a long-legged wife.

Variations:
Pigeon-toed
Short-legged

*Shimmy Shimmy Coke-A-Pop*
John & Carol Langstaff
Chanting

- Promotes successful language experiences for all children
- Develops self-confidence
- Encourages a spirit of cooperation
Butterscotch Pie

Butterscotch, Butterscotch
Butterscotch pie
For butterscotch flavor
I gladly would die.
I love it in cookies
I love it in cakes
I crave it in candy
Or fudge that I make.
It’s heaven in sauces
Divine in ice cream
I have butterscotch, butterscotch,
butterscotch dreams.

Butterscotch Dreams
Sonja Dunn
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Children, too.  
The guys and gals  
Are gonna boogy for you.  
Gonna turn around,  
Touch the ground,  
And shimmy, shimmy, shimmy  
All around.  
We do our homework,  
Cause we really like school,  
But when it comes to boogyin’,  
We’re a bunch of dancin’ fools …  

Variation on a traditional verse
Tongue Twisters
Can you quickly say this three times?

- Mixed biscuits
- This is the sixth sister.
- Mom shops for Pop’s socks.
- Seven selfish shellfish
- Bess’s pet pestered Fess.
Fuzzy Wuzzy

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't fuzzy wuzzy,
Was he?
Betty Botter bought some butter
But, she said, "This butter's bitter,
If I bought some better batter
It would make my butter better.

So she bought a bit of butter
Better than her bitter butter,
And she put it in her batter
And the batter was not bitter.

So ‘twas better Betty Botter
Bought a bit of better butter.

*Mother Goose Rhyme*
Jump Rope Rhymes
Coca-Cola went to town,  
Diet Pepsi knocked him down.  
Dr. Pepper fixed him up,  
Now I’m drinking Seven-Up.  
Seven-Up caught the flu,  
Now I’m drinking Mountain Dew.  
Mountain Dew fell off the mountain,  
Now I’m drinking from the water fountain.

_Schoolyard Rhymes_
Judy Sierra
My mother and your mother
Live across the way.
Every time they go to town,
This is what they say:
Ichabocker, ichabocker, ichabocker, boo!
Ichabocker, soda cracker, out goes you!

Variations:
* Hang out clothes
* Do their work
* Etc.

Traditional Verse
Bubble gum, bubble gum
Penny a packet,
First you chew it,
Then you crack it,
Then you stick it in your jacket,
Then your parents
Kick up a racket!
Bubble gum, bubble gum,
Penny a packet.

Traditional Verse
Variations:

• Ball bouncing rhymes

• Hula Hoops

• Rhythm instruments
Let’s Write!
Down By the Bay

Down by the bay
Where the watermelons grow
Back to my home
I dare not go
For if I do
My mother will say ….

“Did you ever see a goose
Kissing a moose?”
Down by the bay.

“Did you ever see a whale
With a polka dot tail?”
Down by the bay.

“Did you ever see a dog
___________________?”
Down by the bay.
My dog is less than one foot tall
And hasn’t any tail
She never answers when I call,

Some possible rhyming words:

- snail
- rail
- frail
- pale
- trail
- mail
- nail
- pail
- stale
Way down south where bananas grow,  
A grasshopper stepped on an elephant’s toe.  
The elephant cried with tears in his eyes,  
“Pick on somebody your own size.”

Way down in Florida where oranges grow,  
Some second graders stepped on an alligator’s toe  
The alligator screamed with tears in his eyes,  
“Pick on somebody your own size.”

Traditional verse
Some Additional Ideas
I'm a little froggy,  
Slick and green.  
I once was a tadpole,  
As you have seen.  
Then I grew some strong legs  
While swimming about,  
And now I'm a frog.  
So hurray, let's shout!  
"Ribbit!"

Can also be sung to the tune of *I'm a Little Teapot*

*Hummingbird Educational Resources*
Origami Frog

1. Start by making the piece of paper into a square.

2. Fold the paper into a square.

3. Fold each of the corners to the center point.

4. Fold each of the two top edges to the center line.
5. Fold the triangle at the bottom upwards.

6. Fold each of the bottom two corners to the middle of the bottom edge.

7. Fold the bottom portion upwards (along the dotted line).

8. Fold the top half of the lower rectangle downwards toward yourself. This forms the frog's legs.
Give your frog a head by folding a small part of the upper point downwards. Draw two eyes, and your frog is done.

To make your frog jump, push down on the "X" and slide your finger away from the frog.

Can you write a poem about your origami jumping frog?
Fold Me A Poem
Kristine O’Connell George
Poetry Theater
The Crocodile’s Toothache

The crocodile went to the dentist
And sat down in the chair,
Now the dentist said, “Now tell me sir,
Why does it hurt and where?”
And the crocodile said, “I’ll tell you the truth,
I have a terrible ache in my tooth.”
And he opened his jaws so wide, so wide,
That the dentist, he climbed right inside,
And the dentist laughed, “Oh isn’t this fun?”
As he pulled the teeth out, one by one.
And the crocodile cried, “You’re hurting me so!
Please put down your pliers and let me go.”
But the dentist laughed with a Ho Ho Ho,
And he said, “I still have twelve to go-
Oops, that’s the wrong one, I confess,
But what’s one crocodile's tooth, more or less?”
Then suddenly, the jaws went SNAP,
And the dentist was gone, right off the map.
And where he went one could only guess …
To North or South or East or West …
He left no forwarding address.
But what’s one dentist, more or less?

Where the Sidewalk Ends
Shel Silverstein
Rhymes

Rhymes to whisper, rhymes to yell,
Rhymes to chime like a swinging bell.
Rhymes like a jump rope, now let’s begin:
Take a turn and jump right in!

Jamboree: Rhymes for All Times
Eve Merriam
Using poetry in the classroom is a worthwhile and creative activity.

Limited only by the imagination of the teacher and children.

So … what are you waiting for?
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