



## Fishing – Gerard Benson

There is a fine  
Line

Between fishing  
And standing  
On the bank  
Like an idiot.



# Who?

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📌 teacher & teacher trainer in Bruges, Belgium

📌 materials writer

📌 curriculum development

📌 in-service trainer / speaker at conferences

📌 #reallyrealgrammar

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At the end of the session:  
handout with a list of the poems

Full text of all the poems?



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**LET'S MAKE A POEM!**



# **I Miss My Sister** - *Kenn Nesbitt*

I miss my sister all the time

For her it's not the same

She never misses me at all

She has a better aim



I  **My**  - *Kenn Nesbitt*

I  my  all the

For  it's  the

She   me

has a

**gradual deletion**



image: [poetry4kids.com](http://poetry4kids.com)

- *Kenn Nesbitt*

# 1 Build a poem together and gradual deletion

Which kind of poems?

- fairly short
- everyday/useful language
- expressive (read aloud)
- ...



image: [poetry4kids.com](http://poetry4kids.com)

# Snowball - *Shel Silverstein*

I made myself a snowball as perfect as could be.

I thought I'd keep it as a pet and let it sleep with me.

I made it some pajamas and a pillow for its head.

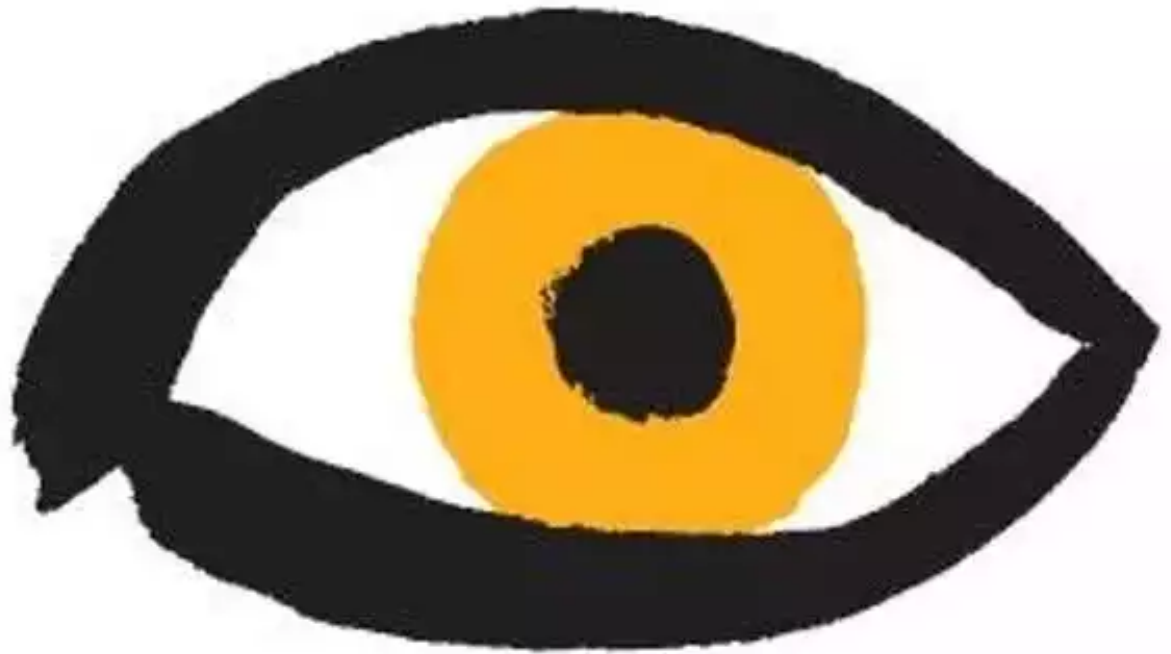
Then, last night it ran away.

But first -- it wet the bed.

Just for 😊 fun!



## 2 Noticing language (+ practice)



# Good morning - Dave Calder

This is  
the teacher forecast

Mrs Brown  
will be gloomy with occasional outbreaks of rage,  
storms are expected by mid-afternoon

Miss Green  
will be mild, although her smiles  
will probably cloud over when she finds  
the spider in her chalk box

Mr White  
will be rather windy, especially after dinner-time,  
with poor visibility when his glasses fog over

Some drizzle is expected around Miss Red,  
she has not quite got over her cold,  
and Mrs Blue is already gusting down the corridor  
and should reach gale force 9 when she hits the playground.

For the rest of you, it will be much as usual,  
A mixture of sunny moments and sudden heavy showers.  
Have a good day.



# Good morning - Dave Calder

## Weather words

Write the words from the box next to the definitions.

gale – cloud over - gloomy - fog - drizzle – gust - shower - poor visibility

1 light rain that continues for a long time

drizzle

2 a very strong wind

gale / gust

3 a short spell of rain

shower

4 thick low cloud

fog

5 dark, not bright or sunny

gloomy

6 fill with clouds

cloud over

7 limited range of view

poor visibility

8 to blow strongly

gust

*Which auxiliary verb is used in the forecast?*

will



PROCRASTINATE  
**NOW**  
AND  
**PANIC**  
LATER

# Moment – Dave Calder

In a moment

I'll do my homework

in a moment

I'll take the look off my face

in a moment

in just a moment

when this programme finishes

in a moment

when I've found a pencil

in a moment

when you stop nagging me

in a moment

in just a moment

when pigs float past the window any moment

now

what's that?

my friends are at the door

and want to play out?

I'm there already

• Other things you'll do in a moment / you'll do right away?

• What stops you from actually doing something?

• Which things make you say  
*I'm there already*

WILL-future?

I'll do my homework

I'll take the look off my face

Present perfect simple?

when I've found a pencil

In a moment

I'll ...

When I've ...

### 3 Jigsaw reading



# Mum's Umbrage - Graham Denton

*Put the lines of this poem in the right order.*

A) He told her I'd been naughty,

B) On my first day back at school –

C) 'Now just you wait a minute,'

D) 'he misbehaved all summer

E) And behaving like a fool.

F) and I never called you once!'

G) The teacher called my mother,

H) came my mother's quick response,

G) The teacher called my mother,

B) On my first day back at school –

A) He told her I'd been naughty,

E) And behaving like a fool.

C) 'Now just you wait a minute,'

H) came my mother's quick response

D) 'he misbehaved all summer

F) and I never called you once!'

# Mum's Umbrage - Graham Denton

*Discuss.*

- How do (your) parents react when your teachers report on (your) (bad) behaviour.
- *also see 'Parent's Evening' - Allan Ahlberg*

*Whose thoughts would this be? Parents? Students? Teachers?*

1. I wonder what she'll tell'em.
2. I wonder what she'll tell us.
3. I'm nervous as can be.
4. I wish I'd got my spellings right.
5. And now I've got to face them.
6. He's such a good boy really;
7. I hope it's not *all* bad.
8. I feel just like a kid again.

*Any other ideas, feelings, thoughts?*

## Parent's Evening - Allan Ahlberg

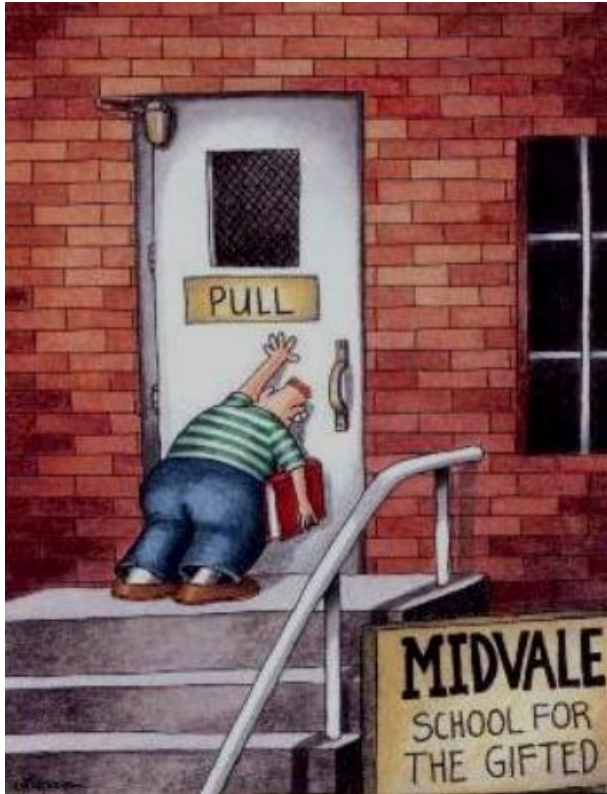
---

We're waiting in the corridor,  
My dad, my mum and me.  
They're sitting there and talking;  
I'm nervous as can be.  
I wonder what she'll tell'em.  
I'll say I've got a pain!  
I wish I'd got my spellings right.  
I wish I had a brain.

We're waiting in the corridor,  
My husband, son and me.  
My son just stands there smiling;  
*I'm* smiling, nervously.  
I wonder what she'll tell us.  
I hope it's not *all* bad.  
He's such a good boy, really;  
But dozy - like his dad.

We're waiting in the corridor,  
My wife, my boy and me.  
My wife's as cool as cucumber;  
I'm nervous as can be.  
I hate these parent's evenings.  
The waiting makes me sick.  
I feel just like a kid again  
Who's gonna get the stick.

I'm waiting in the classroom.  
It's nearly time to start.  
I wish there was a way to stop  
The pounding of my heart.  
The parents in the corridor  
Are chatting cheerfully;  
And now I've got to face them,  
And I'm nervous as can be.



## First Day at School

*Charles Thomson*

My new friend and I  
Feel a bit scared,  
But things are easier  
When they're shared.

Just for fun! 😊

# Big Bad Raps - Loredana Verta

Put the stanzas of this poem, telling the story of Little Red Riding Hood, in the right order. Then listen and check.

A	Her grandmother lived not far away, so Red went to pay her a visit one day.	D	He ran till he came to her grandmother's door. Then he locked granny up with a great big roar.
B	He took her place in her nice warm bed, and he waited there for Little Miss Red.	E	And the big bad wolf, who knew her plan, he turned his nose and ran and ran.
C	Just on the edge of a deep, dark wood lived a girl called Little Red Riding Hood.	<div>Make your own fairy-tale rap!</div> <div>use <a href="https://rhymezone.com">rhymezone.com</a></div>	

1	2	3	4	5
C	A	E	D	B

Word:

Search

Find rhymes



[Rhymes] [Lyrics and poems](#) [Near rhymes](#) [Thesaurus](#) [Phrases](#) [Mentions](#)  
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Highlight words related to...

Advanced >>

### Words and phrases that rhyme with *witch*: (206 results)

#### 1 syllable:

-rich, bitch, bitchx, blitch, britch, britsch, chich, crich, **ditch**, ditsch, fiche, **fitch**, **flitch**, fritch, fritsch, fritsche, fritzsche, glich, **glitch**, gritch, **hitch**, ich, **itch**, kiche, kitch, **kitsch**, klich, knitch, krych, lich, liche, litch, **mich**, miche, **mitch**, mitsch, **niche**, nitsch, nitsche, nycz, piche, **pitch**, pitsch, pritch, **quitch**, **rich**, riche, ritch, **scriitch**, sitch, skitch, slich, smitch, **snitch**, stich, **stitch**, **switch**, titch, **trich**, trich-, triche, tritch, tritsch, **twitch**, **which**, which?, wich, wiche, zich

#### 2 syllables:

1-2-switch, autriche, **bewitch**, bfgoodrich, boliche, **brood bitch**, capiche, carritch, catstitch, chainstitch, **chain stitch**, chipwich, **cross-stitch**, dipswitch, **dip switch**, **distich**, dulwich, eliche, **enrich**, fast-twitch, flamiche, freeswitch, goodrich, **greenwich**, half-hitch, **half hitch**, **hemstitch**, **high pitch**, ilyich, inditch, **jock itch**, **knit stitch**, lightswitch, lock-stitch, **low pitch**, lubitsch, magwitch, maniche, parritch, pemrich, **plain stitch**, rockbitch, **sales pitch**, **shell stitch**, **slip stitch**, slo-pitch, slow-pitch, slow-twitch, slowpitch, softswitch, sumbitch, **tent stitch**, time-switch, topstitch, tough-pitch, **unhitch**, unstitch, unwitch, **whipstitch**, **wild pitch**, woodrich

#### 3 syllables:

auction pitch, bait-and-switch, **barber's itch**, bienenstich, blanket-stitch, **blanket stitch**, cable-stitch, callitriche, cocoliche, **concert pitch**, crnkovich, **crochet stitch**, **double stitch**, **drainage ditch**, ehrenreich,

rhymezone.com

## 4 Jumbled poems



*2 or 3 poems jumbled together*  
*Sort them out and sequence each of them.*

- a) You must kiss a lot of frogs.
- b) And pressed her hand so white.
- c) Remember all you maidens
- d) Her teeth came out at night.
- e) Before you find a prince
- f) He spoke the truth, for, like the stars
- g) From the Isle of Dogs
- h) Your teeth are like the stars, he said,

Strategy?

Find rhymes.

Poem 1:  
One Day My Prince Will Come - Paul Curtis

Poem 2:  
True Love - (anonymous)

## One Day My Prince Will Come - Paul Curtis

- c) Remember all you maidens
- g) From the Isle of Dogs
- e) Before you find a prince
- a) You must kiss a lot of frogs.

## True Love - (anonymous)

- h) Your teeth are like the stars, he said,
- b) And pressed her hand so white.
- f) He spoke the truth, for, like the stars
- d) Her teeth came out at night.



source: maproom.net

## 5 Guess the missing word(s)



**MISSING**

# School Crime - John Rice

'So you say your school's been burgled',  
the policeman scratched his face,  
'And there's nothing left to write with ...  
... this looks like a  case!'



## 6 Wall poster poems

*A poem can be on a poster on the wall and added to by any students.*

As blue as ...

As deep as ...

As cold as ...

As high as ...

As hot as ...

As loud as ...

Deeper than ...

higher than ...

faster than ...

cooler than ...

taller than ...

better than ...

## 6 Wall poster poems

*A poem can be on a poster on the wall and added to by any students.*

If I were a rectangle

I'd be a ...

If I were a circle,

I'd be a ...

If I were a cone,

I'd be a ...

If I were a ...,

I'd be a ...

## 6 Wall poster poems

### *variation*

## Taboo Words

- You decide for another group which words they **cannot use** in their Wall Poster Poem.

As blue as ...

As deep as ...

As cold as ...

As high as ...

As hot as ...

As loud as ...



the proof of the pudding  
IS IN THE EATING

As blue as ...

As deep as ...

As cold as ...

As high as ...

As hot as ...

As loud as ...



- You decide for another group which words they **cannot use** in their Wall Poster Poem.

# If I were a shape - Brian Moses

If I were a shape

I'd be a **rectangle**,

I'd be a snooker **table** with Steve Davies potting the black,

I'd be a football **pitch** where Spurs would always be winning,

I'd be a chocolate **bar** that you could never finish,

If I were a **rectangle**.

If I were a **circle**,

I'd be a **hoop** rolling down a mountainside,

I'd be a **wheel** on a fast Ferrari,

I'd be a **porthole** in Captain Nemo's submarine,

If I were a **circle**.

If I were a **cone**,

I'd be a black **hat** on a wicked witch's head,

I'd be a **warning** to motorists, one of thousands,

I'd be a **tooth** in a T Rex's jaw,

If I were a **cone**.

But if I were a **star** ...

I'd be Robbie Williams!

## 7 Change a poem

*Add, remove, substitute words to change the sense of an existing poem.*

Substitute the words in bold.

**My favorite food is broccoli** — *Kenn Nesbitt*

My favorite food is **broccoli**.

I eat it every day.

There isn't any other food  
that makes me feel this way.

It makes me feel so **healthy**.

It makes me look so **cute**.

But, mostly, I like **broccoli**  
because it makes me **toot**.

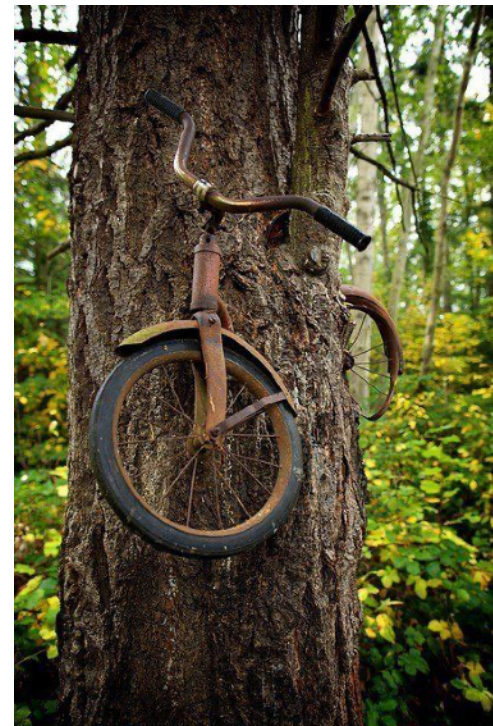
## Oh, Woe Ith Me! - Bruce Lansky

Ath I wath biking  
down the thweet,  
I hit a bump  
and loht my theat.

I cwathed my bike  
into a twee,  
I thcwathed my fathe  
oh, woe ith me.

My bike is wecked,  
I've no excuthe.  
And wortht of all,  
my tooth ith looth.

- **As I was** biking
- Down the **street**
- I hit a bump
- And **lost** my **seat**
- I **crashed** my bike
- Into a **tree**
- I **scratched** my **face**
- Oh, woe **is** me
- My bike is **wrecked**
- I've no **excuse**
- And **worst** of all
- My tooth **is loose**.



TH=S(H)

W=R

## Brie Encounter - Brian Bilston



Brief

grey

rock and a hard place

still don't

a damn

baby's

lost her

can't bear

gotta / got to

carefully

shed a

hello me

the skies are gruyere since she left me  
i've never felt so danish blue  
caught between a roquefort and a hard cheese,  
i stilton't know what to do

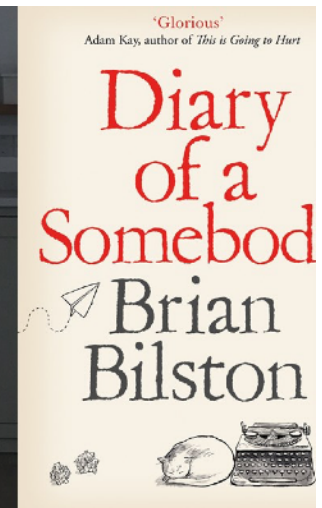
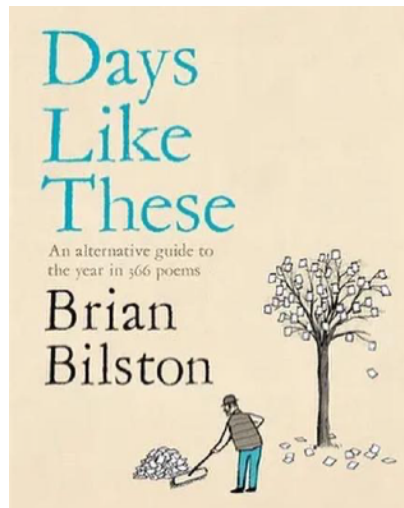
don't give edam about the future  
now my babybel's walked out the door  
can't believe i've double gloucester  
i camembert it any more

i've ricotta get myself together  
and build my life back caerphilly  
cheddar tear for the final time  
say goodbye to us and halloumi

# Brian Bilston



- the Poet Laureate of Twitter
- 'He is to poetry what Banksy is to art' (The Irish Times)
- 'a poet clouded in the pipe smoke of mystery' ([brianbilston.com](http://brianbilston.com))
- @brian\_bilston



**Brian Bilston**

@BrianBilston

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**Brian Bilston**

12 February 2019 · 🌐



A few people have asked if I could provide links to where my new book 'Diary of a Somebody' can be ordered. The simple answer is that ANY bookshop\* should be able to pre-order a copy.

If it's helpful, the page below supplies some links to a few online booksellers.

<https://www.panmacmillan.com/.../diary-of-a-som.../9781529005547>  
... See more



PANMACMILLAN.COM

**Diary of a Somebody by Brian Bilston**

A unique mix of poetry and diary by the unofficial Poet Laureate of...

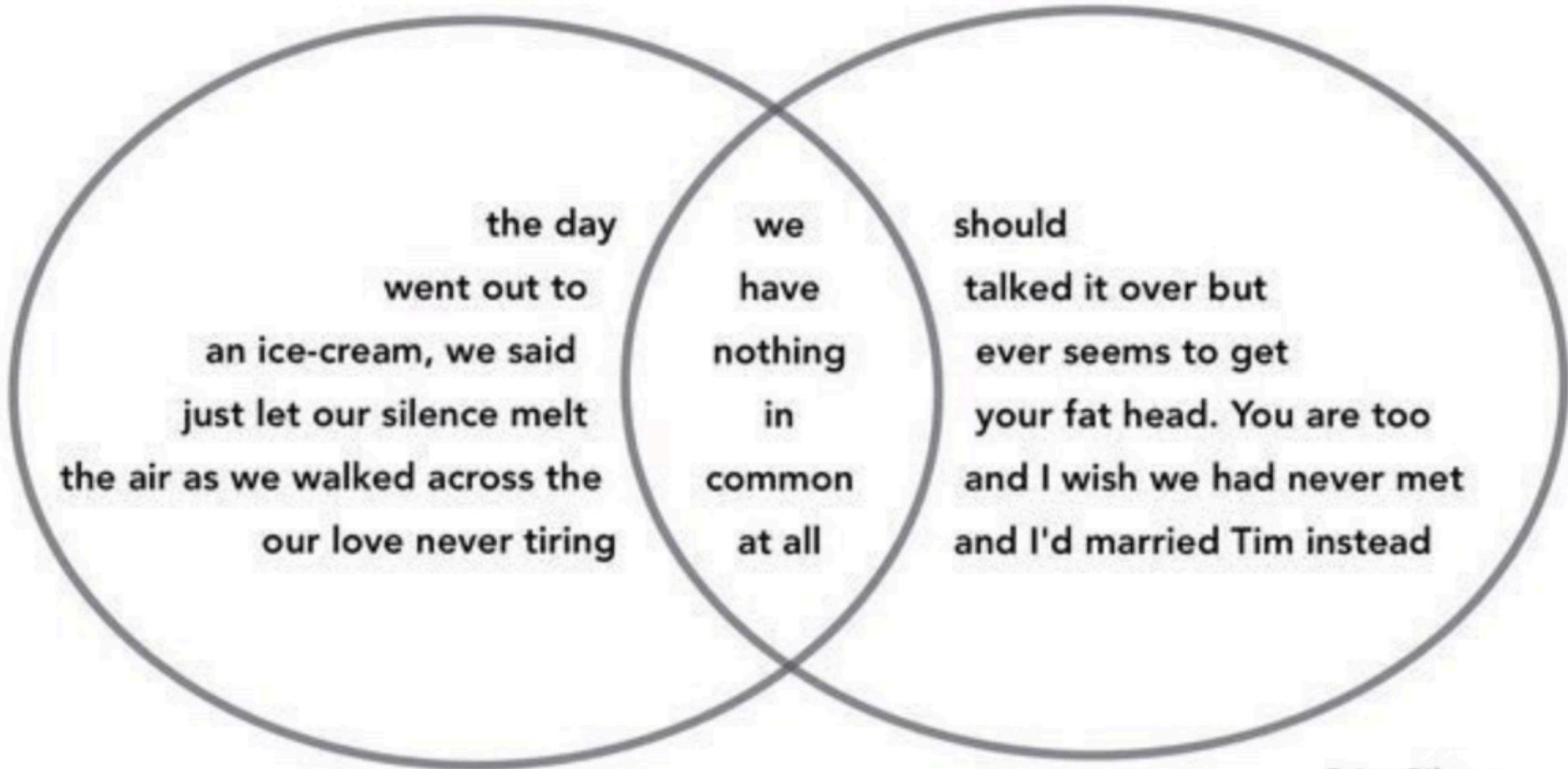
birthday of John Venn (born 4th Aug, 1834)  
poem inside a Venn diagram to celebrate  
source: [brianbilston.com](http://brianbilston.com)

Just for fun! 😊

## AT THE INTERSECTION

him

her



Brian Bilston

## 8 Which word doesn't fit in?

Here are some words from a poem. **One** of the words is **NOT** in the poem.

Can you guess which one? Why do you think so?

- dinosaurs
- computers
- baseball
- superheroes
- scores
- Mars
- program
- bicycles
- things
- extinct
- cartoon
- ghosts
- aliens
- ghouls
- video games
- model cars

# What Do I Know - Neil Levin

I know about the **dinosaurs**  
And how to spell their names  
And how they all became **extinct**  
As everybody claims.

I know a hundred **baseball** teams.  
I've memorized the **scores**.  
I know about **computers**.  
And can even **program** yours.

I know a thousand **superheroes**  
(supervillains too),  
And every **cartoon** character  
From Bart to Scooby-Doo.

I know I'm good at **video games**,  
And building **model cars**,  
And reading about **ghosts** and **ghouls**  
And **aliens** from **Mars**.

I know about a lot of **things**,  
But here's what I know best:  
No matter what I know the most,  
It won't be on the test.



## 9 Headline poems

1. individually - in pairs - in groups
2. Skim newspapers for useful headlines.
3. Choose a topic or theme.
4. Collect ten to fifteen headlines.
5. Arrange headlines in any order that makes sense or states a message. (Leave out the ones that don't fit in.)
6. Write on paper (poster), type (copy / paste), or cut and glue  
Add appropriate punctuation.
7. Include photos, drawings, or any other illustrations  
(newspapers or their own creation).
8. Add a title.

Example headline poem: Camilla

Silent prayers. Then the inferno

**Camilla to undergo surgery**

Greatest show on earth



# BRILLIANT FURY

one in six hospital beds

reveals

'End of true love

ONE IS NOT AMUSED

Pressure mounts

must calm down

Danger products

back on track?

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

We're  
fitter  
than  
ever  
before

I want to see justice done,

WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

a passion for

hunting

ultra-left

cava-quaffing

musicians

Don't panic  
... it's NOT  
a pandemic

'Hurrah, I've found the secret of success'  
says pop star

The White Rich Knight  
and

THIS SEASON'S  
MUST HAVE S



Yeehaw!

a triumph !

MeToo  
activists say:

Help us, please

betrayed by a toxic

BEAST

... Louboutin  
says his shoes  
are 'liberating'

after three stabbings near shopping centre

This is only  
the start...

of

A bit of

HORROR

&

MAYHEM



# 10 Alliteration poems

*Collect words starting with the same letter.  
Organise them in a poem.*

*Example:*

## **To B or Not to B— Kenn Nesbitt**

I **b**ought a **b**lack **b**anana,  
and a **b**roken **b**aseball **b**at,  
a **b**urst **b**alloon, a **b**usted **b**oat,  
a **b**eat-up **b**owler hat.

I wasn't **b**eing **b**rainy, **b**right,  
or **b**rilliant, **b**ut you see,  
my **b**rain was **b**oggled after  
**b**eing **b**itten **b**y a **b**ee.



12,074,736,115 visitors served

☐ TheFreeDictionary ☒ Word Finder



br



☒ Starts with ☐ Ends with ☐ Contains ☐ Unscramble

Correct all you're your grammar errors instantly. Try it now.

## Words that start with br



Note: This page may contain terms that are offensive or inappropriate for some readers.

Found 4969 **words that start with br**. Browse our [Scrabble Word Finder](#), [Words With Friends cheat dictionary](#), and [WordHub](#) word solver to find words starting with br. Or use our [Unscramble word solver](#) to find your best possible play! Related: [Words that end in br](#), [Words containing br](#)

Scrabble

Words With Friends

WordHub

Crossword

15-letter words that start with br  
13-letter words that start with br  
11-letter words that start with br  
9-letter words that start with br  
7-letter words that start with br  
5-letter words that start with br  
3-letter words that start with br

14-letter words that start with br  
12-letter words that start with br  
10-letter words that start with br  
8-letter words that start with br  
6-letter words that start with br  
4-letter words that start with br  
See also

### 15-letter words that start with br

brachycephalies

brainlessnesses

braunschweigers

bremsstrahlungs

breathabilities

bronchoscopists

# Hamlet Sketch - Spike Milligan

Said Hamlet to Ophelia,  
I'll draw a sketch of thee,  
What kind of pencil shall I use?  
2B or not 2B?

Just for fun! 😊



# 11 Multiple choice

*Choose what fits best.*

**Fear** – Peter Dixon

I'd rather be caught by ...

I'd rather be covered in ..,

I'd rather be eaten by...,

Or boy-eating sharks in the seas.

I'd rather be chased by ...,

Melted alive in ...,

Eat bogies, and ... forever, than:

Be ... in the playground by Mum

**A a python**

A paint

A cannibals

**A a monster**

A in hell

A mushrooms

A seen

B the police

**B fleas**

**B spiders**

B an alien

B a fire

B sprouts

**B kissed**

C surprise

C blood

C lions

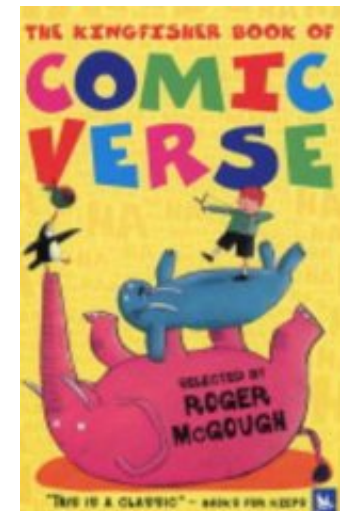
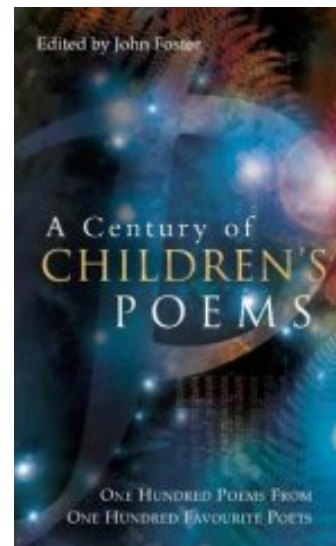
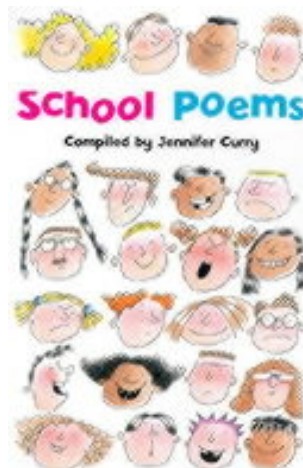
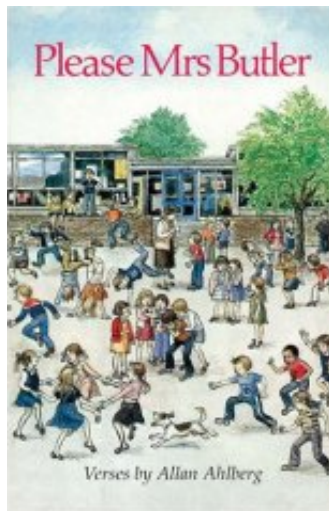
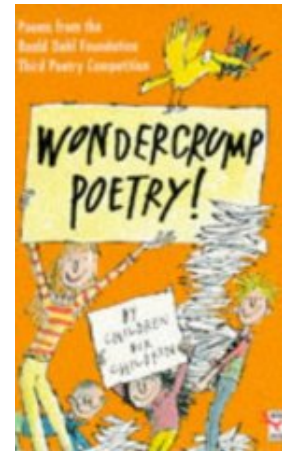
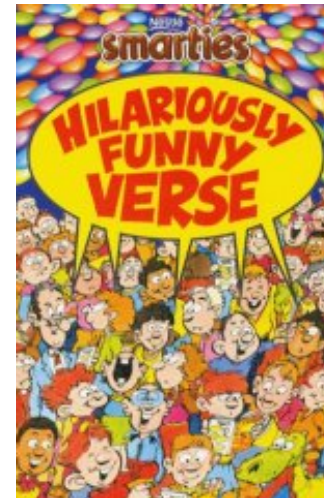
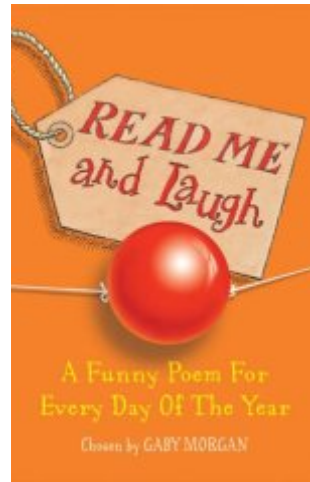
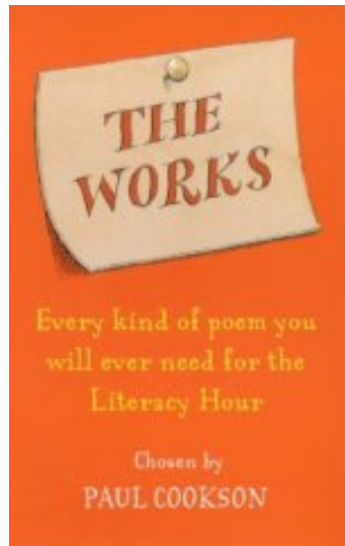
C a bull

**C the sun**

**C earwax**

C hit

# Sources



# THE POETRY UNITED CHANT - Les Baynton

WHAT DO WE WANT	clap clap clap
WHAT DO WE LIKE	clap clap clap
WHAT DO WE LOVE	clap clap clap

GIVE US A	P	clap clap clap
GIVE US AN	O	clap clap clap
GIVE US AN	E	clap clap clap
GIVE US A	T	clap clap clap
GIVE US AN	R	clap clap clap
GIVE US A	Y	clap clap clap



GIVE US THE RHYTHM ... POETRY  
WHAT WE WANT IS POETRY

clap clap clap  
clap clap clap  
clap clap clap  
**YES!**

# Thank you!

Any  
Questions?



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