

6TH GRADE

Lesson 14, School Days 42-48 (7 School Days)

Poetry Unit 1

Poems to be covered in this Unit:

“Oranges” by Soto
“Ode to Family Photographs” by Soto
“Adventures of Isabel” by Nash
“Ankylosaurus” by Prelutsky
“Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright” by Benet
“A Dream Within a Dream” by Poe
“Life Doesn’t Frighten Me” by Angelou
“Walrus and the Carpenter” by Carroll
“Simile: Willow and Gingko” by Merriam
“Fame is a Bee” by Dickinson
“April Rain Song” by Hughes
“Abuelito Who” by Cisneros
“The World is not a Pleasant Place to be” by Giovanni
“Child on Top of a Greenhouse” by Roethke

Instructions:

1. Reciting: Begin experiencing each poem by reciting it out loud, preferably before an audience of at least one other person (parent, teacher, sibling, mentor, etc.) Poems have always been intended for public utterance, just like songs. Try to recite to someone who can help you with correct pronunciation of words. That way, you can know how unfamiliar words are supposed to sound.

2. Poetry Terms Study Guide: Carefully study the poetry terms below, related to this unit. Quiz later after finishing the Unit.

imagery: when poetry gives you a mental picture

symbolism: when one thing stands for another

rhyme: when multiple words sound similar: e.g. lime/dime

pronunciation: speaking words correctly

rhythm: the meter or beat of a poem

metaphor: saying one thing is another (The hawk was a falling rocket)

simile: saying one thing is like another (The truck was like thunder.)

stanza: small, separate piece of a poem

rhyme scheme: how rhyming words are arranged in stanzas

end rhymes: When the last syllables of lines rhyme

internal rhymes: rhymes within the same line of poetry

ode: lyric poem usually of praise

situational irony: When a story's outcome is different (often opposite) of what the characters expected

sarcastic irony: saying the opposite of the truth (e.g. 'nice shoes') when you mean they're ugly

dramatic irony: when viewers of a play/movie/etc. can understand what's happening, but the characters can't

figurative language: when language is not intended to be taken literally

personification: giving human traits to non-human objects/animals/etc.

chorus: in poetry/drama/etc. when multiple people speak/sing in unison

onomatopoeia: When words sound like what they mean (e.g. boom, whirl)

alliteration: when many words start with the same consonant sound

narrative: when a poem tells a story

lyric Poem: expresses songlike thoughts/feelings of a single narrator

concrete poems: shaped on the page like the poem's subject

haiku: poem with three lines and 5, 7, 5 syllables per line respectively

limerick: humorous, rhyming, five-line poem with rhythmic beat

Answer the following Comprehension/Discussion Questions about the Poems:

1. In **"Oranges"** what **tacit** (unspoken) agreement did he make with the store lady and why didn't he come right out and ask her?
2. Look at the poem's last line: Why might someone have thought he was making a fire in his hands?
3. In **"Ode to Family Photographs,"** how can you tell his mother is not an expert photographer? What was so wonderful about all the family pictures?
4. In **"Adventures of Isabel,"** Find examples of irony in lines ten and thirty, and explain why these are **irony**. (irony is when something happens that is opposite of what we would expect.)
5. In line eight of **"Ankylosaurus"** it refers to "a mouthful of pegs." This is a metaphor for what?
6. What true, historical event is chronicled in the Poem entitled **"Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright?"**
7. List two things you learned from the poem about the Wright brothers and their accomplishment.
8. Much of Poe's poetry suggests that he may have suffered from **depression** (*long-lasting extreme sadness*). List two things from **"A Dream within a Dream"** that makes you think he may have been sad, regretful, or depressed.
9. Briefly describe what you liked and disliked about Angelou's poem, **"Life doesn't frighten me."**

10. Carroll's "**The Walrus and the Carpenter**" is considered a perfect example of what is known as "Nonsense Poetry." Get on Google and look up online about nonsense poetry; then write a paragraph about what you learned.
11. Merriam's "**Simile: Willow and Ginkgo**" makes a comparison between two types of trees – the willow, common worldwide, and the Ginkgo, primarily found in Asia. Get online and look at photos and read briefly about the two types of trees; then list two things you learned about each.
12. Also, find an example of "internal rhyme" in a line from the poem.
13. The title line of Dickinson's poem, "**Fame is a Bee**" is a metaphor. Explain why this is a metaphor.
14. Read through Hughes' "**April Rain Song**" and list two things you love about the rain.
15. What is making the narrator of "**Abuelito Who**" sad?
16. Read Giovanni's "**The world is not a pleasant place to be,**" and find two examples of personification.
17. Theodore Roethke's poems almost always deal with botany (the study of plants), and "**Child on Top of a Greenhouse**" is no exception. Read the poem and its title very carefully. Then explain what unfortunate occurrence you believe the poem is describing (look at the title of the poem).

Lesson on Rhyme-Scheme: (I recommend parental or mentor assistance.)

1. We will concentrate on only two of our unit's poems as we learn more about the poetic device known as "Rhyme Scheme." Those two poems are "A Dream within a Dream" by Poe and "The Walrus and the Carpenter" by Carroll.

Poe Poem:

2. We will look first at the rhyme scheme in Poe's poem because that poem does not have separate stanzas and will therefore be somewhat simpler. In a rhyme scheme, the **end-rhyme** sound on the very first line of the poem (or stanza) is always referred to as "**A**". After that, any time you come to that same sounding end-rhyme, it will be an "A" in the rhyme scheme. Notice that Poe's first three lines end with "brow," "now," and "avow." Remember, in the poem's rhyme scheme, all lines that have end-rhymes with the "ow" sound will be designated as "A". So the first three lines in his rhyme scheme would be – A – A – A – because all three lines match the first line's end-rhyme.

3. Notice that his next two lines end with the "eem" sounding end-rhyme. This is a different ending than the ow sound, so the "eem" end-rhyme sound becomes the second sound in the rhyme-scheme and lines 4 & 5 will be designated as the second letter of the alphabet, "B." So far, we have A-A-A-B-B. As we go down, we would designate "C" for the next two end-rhymes, "D" for the two after that and so on. Notice that lines 8 & 9 do not have an exact matching end-sound. This would be considered a "slant-rhyme" or "off-rhyme. But it would still be considered like an authentic rhyme in the rhyme scheme. Below, you can see what the entire poem's rhyme scheme would look like, line by line:

AAABBCCDDBBEEFFGGGHHIIBB

Carroll Poem

4. When we figure out the rhyme scheme for poems with separate stanzas, like Carroll's poem, the procedures are different. Typically, one would work out a rhyme scheme for each separate stanza. And since the rhyme scheme matches exactly for each stanza, it would look like this for every stanza: ABCBDB.

Poetry Unit One Vocab. Study Guide:

rouge: reddish makeup for cheeks

stride: length of steps

ravenous: extremely hungry

rancor: anger; bitterness; resentment

inedible: not safe to eat

deem: consider; judge someone/something to be a certain way

beseech: beg earnestly

dismal: gloomy; ineffective

self-reliant: able to take care of oneself

zwieback: type of hard cracker made mostly of eggs

satchel: small carrying bag

concoct: make up a recipe/scheme/plan/story/lie

miniscule: tiny

cudgel: short, heavy club

shan't: shall not

bed of roses: luxurious or agreeable situation

sympathize: have pity for someone in unfortunate circumstances

quantities: amounts (usually large)

hydrated: consuming adequate liquid

origami: Japanese art-form of folding paper

billowing: rising and rolling like waves

thrive: flourish; prosper; grow vigorously

plunging: jumping into something; forcing into some condition

etching: corroding or scratching a design into metal

gingko: Chinese shade tree

nymph: mythical beautiful female demigods living in nature

speculate: guess; make risky investments

abuelito: Spanish for grandfather

Poetry Terminology Matching Exam – Restudy/retake until you achieve 100% on all quizzes

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ___ imagery: | a. when a poem tells a story |
| ___ symbolism: | b. completely unexpected outcome |
| ___ rhyme: | c. shaped on the page like the poem's subject |
| ___ pronunciation: | d. when multiple words sound similar: e.g. lime/dime |
| ___ rhythm: | e. how rhyming words are arranged in stanzas |
| ___ metaphor: | f. speaking words correctly |
| ___ simile: | g. rhymes within the same line of poetry |
| ___ stanza: | h. poem with three lines and 5, 7, 5 syllables per line respectively |
| ___ rhyme scheme: | i. when language is not intended to be taken literally |
| ___ end rhymes: | j. saying one thing is another (The hawk was a falling rocket) |
| ___ internal rhymes: | k. giving human traits to non-human objects/animals/etc. |
| ___ ode: | l. small, separate piece of a poem |
| ___ situational irony: | m. when words sound like what they mean (e.g. boom, whirl) |
| ___ dramatic irony: | n. when one thing stands for another |
| ___ figurative: | o. expresses songlike thoughts/feelings of a single narrator |
| ___ personification: | p. the meter or beat of a poem |
| ___ chorus: | q. when the last syllables of lines rhyme |
| ___ onomatopoeia: | r. when poetry gives you a mental picture |
| ___ alliteration: | s. when many words start with the same consonant sound |
| ___ narrative: | t. lyric poem usually of praise |
| ___ lyric poem: | u. in poetry/drama/etc. when multiple people speak/sing in unison |
| ___ concrete poems: | v. saying one thing is <u>like</u> another (The truck was like thunder.) |
| ___ haiku: | w. When audience understands situation but characters do not |
| ___ limerick: | x. humorous, rhyming, five-line poem with very rhythmic beat |

Vocabulary Quiz from poems:

___rouge:	a. gloomy; ineffective
___stride:	b. not safe to eat
___ravenous:	c. reddish makeup for cheeks
___rancor:	d. guess; make risky investments
___inedible:	e. amounts (usually large)
___deem:	f. rising and rolling like waves
___beseech:	g. tiny
___dismal:	h. able to take care of oneself
___self-reliant:	i. mythical beautiful female demigods living in nature
___zwieback:	j. have pity for someone in unfortunate circumstances
___satchel:	k. Japanese art-form of folding paper
___concoct:	l. type of hard cracker made mostly of eggs
___miniscule:	m. consider; judge someone/something to be a certain way
___cudgel:	n. length of steps
___shan't:	o. shall not
___bed of roses:	p. jumping into something; forcing into some condition
___sympathize:	q. small carrying bag
___quantities:	r. Chinese shade tree
___hydrated:	s. beg earnestly
___origami:	t. Spanish for grandfather
___billowing:	u. anger; bitterness; resentment
___thrive:	v. luxurious or agreeable situation
___plunging:	w. extremely hungry
___etching:	x. short, heavy club
___gingko:	y. corroding or scratching a design into metal
___nymph:	z. make up a recipe/scheme/plan/story/lie
___speculate:	aa. consuming adequate liquid
___abuelito:	bb. flourish; prosper; grow vigorously

Quiz Keys:

Poem Vocab

Poetry Terms

c	r
n	n
w	d
u	f
b	p
m	j
s	v
a	l
h	e
l	q
q	g
z	t
g	w
x	b
o	i
v	k
j	u
e	m
aa	s
k	a
f	o
bb	c
p	h
y	x
r	
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