

Activity: Nature Poetry

Kit needed: Paper, pens, pens, binoculars (optional)

Group/ family size: 2+

Age Group: 3+

Location: Garden or Local green space

Learning about: Plants, wildlife, poetry & Rhyming



Instructions:

With your family go for a walk it doesn't have to be a long one, but we recommend at least half an hour. While you are walking try and stop every 1- 2 minutes (depending on the age of the child) and using your binoculars and pen and paper note down what you can see or hear , also write down anything that attracts your child's attention in-between stops, try to make note of more natural things instead of manmade. Ask your child about what they can see, 'what shape is it? What colour is it? How does it smell? How does it make you feel?

Once you have at least 10 things written down find a shady spot and look at what you have written, take some time to think if you can rhyme any words with what you have seen. A rhyme is when words end with the same sound, such as log and dog, sun and fun, lizard and wizard.

Poems are a mix between a story and a song, it can be a short few lines or it can be long, firstly think of a title maybe what was your favourite thing about the walk?

Then look at your list of words and read out loud, think what you would like your poem to be about, you can use your rhyming words at the end of the lines of your poem.

'We all went for a **walk**

Up to the downs over the **chalk**

The walk only lasted half an **hour**

But I saw my favourite **flower**'

Don't go too fast but focus on each line and use breaks between lines to let the reader know when to pause and when you should take a breath.

Once you have finished writing read your poem out loud a few times until you have memorised it to show other people. You can also draw a picture to go along with your poem.

Additional comments:

Consider looking up some poems about nature by famous poets and reading as a family before setting out for your walk.

When you are out walking please avoid private property/ land unless you have the landowner's permission and watch out for stinging insects, brambles and nettles, be careful not to disturb wildlife or destroy habitats.