

Poetry spine 2025/2026

Reading poetry is a fantastic way to aid children’s fluency, develop vocabulary and enjoy the written word. The poems below could be read to and by the children at any time of the day. They are different to poems studied as part of English or reading lessons. This year’s selection includes different subject matter, authors and styles. Some are very modern, others older, more traditional poems. Some are to be performed; others could be a quieter read. All, we hope are to be enjoyed, discussed, and reflected upon. Staff may also share other poems that they discover during the year or that children bring in to share.

We have a growing collection of poetry books in our library which children are encouraged to read. Our aim is that by highlighting the enjoyment of reading poetry, more children will choose to read and even write poems in their own time.

Class/ Year group	Autumn	Spring	Summer
EYFS	<p>Five little speckled frogs Five little ducks Five little men in a flying saucer Five little monkeys jumping on the bed. Ten green bottles (More nursery rhymes are covered in the music curriculum: Pat a cake, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, I'm a little teapot, Hickory Dickory Dock, Wind the bobbin up, Twinkle Twinkle.)</p>	<p>Wheels on the bus, Row, row row your boat Incy wincy spider Baa baa black sheep</p>	<p>Head, shoulders knees and toes Hey diddle diddle Jack and Jill went up the hill Old McDonald</p>
Year 1	<p>Five currant buns by Anon p 87 What is Fog? By John Foster P 242 The Dinosaur’s Dinner by June Crebbin p 212</p>	<p>Happy Poem by James Carter p 161 Seasons of Trees by Julie Holder p246 These are the hands by Paul Cookson by 173</p>	<p>The cave by Tony Mitten p 107 The Mouse the Frog and the little red hen by Anon p61</p>
Year 2	<p>The Owl and the Pussy cat by Edward Lear p 191 Winter walk by Wendy Larmont p 247</p>	<p>Coming out of Hibernation by Pie Corbett p 248 A big surprise by Michaela Morgan p 155</p>	<p>A tree by James Carter p 256 A fairy Alphabet by Clare Bevan p 133</p>

		Rocket Boy by Celia Gentles p 119	
Year 3/4	Jack Frost by Brenda Williams p 29 Playground song by Clare Bevan p 181 Tree by Dave Calder p 34	I ask you! By David Whitehead p 55 Shame by Tracey Blance p 326 Geography by John Kitching p 109	A puzzle by Anon p 72 Dragonflies by Joan Poulson p376 Historian by John Kitching p 64
Year 5/6	The Hills by Rachel Field p 123 City Lights by Margaret Greaves p 121 The Visitor by Valerie Bloom p 161 Shallow poem by Gerda Mayer p 265 Extract from a Midsummer Night's Dream (Act 2 scene 1 14-15) p 303	Forest by Ann Bonner p368 The Unwritten by W.S Merwin p 86 City Jungle by Pie Corbett p 123 The Tudors by Clare Bevan p 78/9	Leaving the village by Selina Rodrigues p 113 The Tide Rises and the Tide Falls by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow p 129