

California Federation of Chaparral Poets

Youth Poetry Lesson K-3rd



How To:

Poetry Lesson

Step 1: Activate Prior Knowledge—What do your students already know about poetry?

Step 2: Explore Key Concept—What is poetry?

Step 3: Introduce the poet and provide historical/biographical information on him or her.

Step 4: Read the mentor poem aloud at least two times (teacher-read, student-read, pair reading, audio recording, etc.)

Step 5: Provide suggested prompts/questions to students.

Step 6: Give students age-appropriate prompt, and have them start writing!

Step 7: Have students share poems with their peers.

Step 1:

What is Poetry?

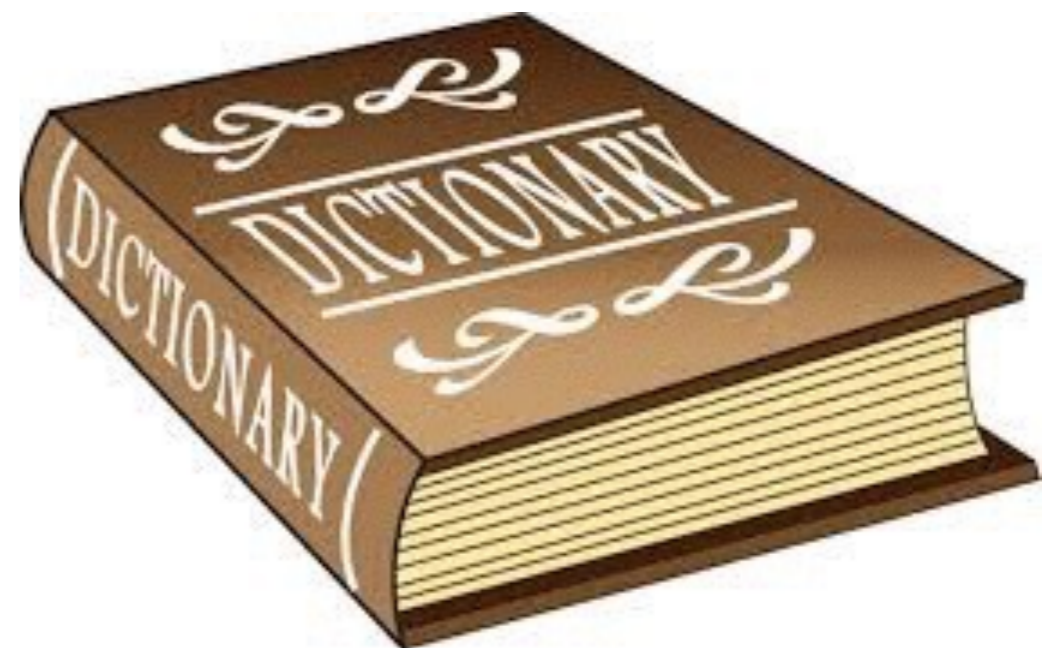
Brainstorm any words that you think of when you hear the word “poetry”



Step 2:

What is Poetry?

Poetry (noun) is literary work in which special intensity is given to the expression of feelings and ideas by the use of distinctive style and rhythm; poems collectively or as a genre of literature.



Step 3:



hello

my name is

**William Carlos
Williams**

Find five facts about William Carlos Williams.

Steps 4-6:

Kindergarten-Grade Three (Ages 5-8) Poem & Prompt

THE RED WHEELBARROW

so much depends
upon

a red wheel
barrow

glazed with rain
water

beside the white
chickens.

—William Carlos Williams



Possible Prompts or Questions:

- What images do you see when you read this poem?
- What sense(s) does this poem appeal to?
- What is a concrete image?
- Draw an image of the red wheelbarrow as it is described in the poem.

Object Poem Prompt

After reading “The Red Wheelbarrow” by William Carlos Williams, write a poem about a special object. Use concrete language (anything you can see, hear, feel, taste, or smell).