

# Unit 7: Reading and Writing Poetry

Content Area: **English Language Arts**  
Course(s): **Writing 2, Reading 2**  
Time Period: **June**  
Length: **10 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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Poetry is an exciting time in reading and writing workshop. This unit offers a unique opportunity to zoom in on craft from both reader's and writer's perspective. Readers develop their understanding and appreciation of not just what the author of a text is saying but of how that text gets that meaning across. Students will develop a knowledge of poetry, but also will be made more aware of the ways in which authors use language to build meaning in all writing. Students will experience first hand how differently crafted texts can offer truly different takes on the same subject. This unit will equip students with the ability and confidence to write better prose, but also will allow them to explore poetry, a powerful genre on its own, capable of providing them with a medium to discover and articulate their own wisdom and wit.

## Standards

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LA.RL.4.2	Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.
LA.RL.4.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in literature.
LA.RL.4.5	Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems (e.g., verse, rhythm, meter) and drama (e.g., casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, stage directions) when writing or speaking about a text.
LA.RL.4.7	Make connections between specific descriptions and directions in a text and a visual or oral representation of the text.
LA.RF.4.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.W.4.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.4.6	With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting.
LA.L.4.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.4.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.4.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting

with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.

TECH.8.1.2.A.CS1

Understand and use technology systems.

## Student Learning Objectives

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Reading:

Students will learn to....

- read poetry in partnerships and discuss the poetry
- determine theme(s) in a poem by analyzing word choice
- inference and construct meaning from poetry
- understand and appreciate poetry

Writing:

Sudents will learn to....

- use strategies learned while writing poetry to develop their writing in other genre
- create original poetry
- create an anthology of their poetry including mentor poems

## Essential Questions

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Essential Questions for Reading:

- How does author's' use of precise words enhance meaning?
- Why is imagery and symbolism as a poetic/literary device important to the understanding/appreciation of poetry?
- What are poetic devices? How are poetic devices used to engage readers?
- How can we use inference to construct meaning?

Essential Questions for Writing:

- How can I write lots of poems by combining strong feelings or big thoughts with concrete details and carefully chosen words?
- How can I write and rewrite poems so that I find honest, precise language, and use repetition, tone, and comparisons to say something that can't easily fit into ordinary words?
- What strategies do poets use to manipulate language to create poems?
- How do poets transfer what they learned about writing and language to writing in other genres?
- How can I explore different structures for my poems, trying to find a structure for each poem that matches what I want to say in that poem?

## Enduring Understandings

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### Enduring Understandings for Reading

Students will understand that...

- Poets use precise words to enhance the meaning in the poem.
- Poetic devices are used to engage readers of poetry.
- Poetry is written with a speaker and stanzas.
- Poets choose topics that matter and that hold big feelings in moments or images.

### Enduring Understandings for Writing:

Students will understand that...

- Learning to write poetry develops writer's' understanding of how to write prose.
- Poetry, as a genre, grants writers license to explore, play, befriend, and celebrate language .
- Poets write best when they write about what they know (writers find significance in the big issues and ordinary details of their own lives)
- Understanding structure, metaphor, word choice and repetition will strengthen the writing of poetry.

## Application

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### Reading:

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

- identify the speaker's feelings and/or attitude about the subject of a poem (tone)
- identify elements of poetry and analyze how they impact the poem's theme, meaning and/or tone
- identify the mood of a poem
- identify figurative language and analyze how that language impacts theme/tone/mood
- notice a poem's particular structure and how it impacts the poem's meaning

### Writing:

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

- draft meaningful poems first and then select a poetic form that contributes to that meaning
- dabble in a variety of poetic forms
- craft poems, sculpting their forms with conventional strategies and techniques
- explore and experiment with language to have fun and make meaning while creating poems
- dabble in a variety of poetic forms

## Skills

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Reading:

Students will be skilled at ...

- reading and discussing poetry independently and with others
- Identifying various poetic devices
- Identifying the mood and tone of the poem

Writing:

Students will be skilled at ...

- exploring and experimenting with language to have fun and make meaning while creating poems
- generating ideas that have enough power and resonance to make meaningful and significant poems
- writing in a variety of poetic forms