

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read and learn a poem

- Read *Keep a poem in your pocket*. Read it twice: the first time in your head and the second time out loud. What do you think it means? How could a poem stop you from being lonely?
- Read *Top tips for learning a poem by heart*. Try memorising the poem, 'Keep a poem in your pocket'.

2. Make a comparison between two poems

- Use your favourite poem from yesterday and one other poem.
- Pick the *Compare Frame*, the *Contrast Frame* or the *Compare/Contrast Frame*.
- Fill it in to compare or contrast the two poems.

Use your frame to explain about the two poems to somebody else. Ask them which of the poems they prefer and whether they think the poems are mainly similar or mainly different.

3. Make illustrations

- Use any of the poems from yesterday and draw or make an illustration to go with it.

Try this Fun-Time Extras

- Explore the Children's Poetry Archive. Look for nature poems in particular.
- Can you find one that you like yourself and one that you could recommend to somebody else?

<https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/explore/?theme=131>

Keep a poem in your pocket

Keep a poem in your pocket
And a picture in your head
And you'll never feel lonely
At night when you're in bed.

The little poem will sing to you
The little picture bring to you
A dozen dreams to dance to you
At night when you're in bed.

So - -

Keep a picture in your pocket
And a poem in your head
And you'll never feel lonely
At night when you're in bed.

By Beatrice Schenk de Regniers



Top tips for learning a poem by heart

- Read the poem aloud several times slowly.
- Copy the poem out a couple of times.
- Be strategic. Pick a poem with a pattern, metre and rhyme are much easier to learn by heart than free verse.
- Learn and internalise the “story” in the poem
- Understand the poem by knowing every word’s meaning
- With a card, cover everything but the first line of the poem. Read it. Look away, see the line in the air, and say it. Look back. Repeat until you’ve “got it.”
- Uncover the second line. Learn it as you did the first line, but also add second line to first, until you’ve got the two.
- Then it’s on to three. Always repeat the first line on down, till the whole poem sings.



Compare Frame

There are several ways in which

and could be said to be similar.

The first way that they are alike is that they are both ...

Another similarity is that they

A further feature they have in common is

Finally, they both

We think the most significant similarity is ...

because...

from Speaking Frames by Sue Palmer

Contrast Frame

.... and

are different in a number of ways.

First of all,

but ...

Another difference is that

while

Finally,

but ...

We think the most significant difference is ...

because...

from Speaking Frames by Sue Palmer

Compare/Contrast Frame

In some ways, and are alike. For instance, they are both

Another feature they have in common is that ...

Furthermore, they are both

However, they also differ in some ways. For example,

while

Another difference is that,

whereas ...

On the whole the similarities/differences seem more significant than the similarities /differences because...

from Speaking Frames by Sue Palmer