
POETRY WRITING UNIT

- 10 daily, detailed lessons
- Anchor chart examples
- Bonus lesson ideas



INTRODUCTION:

- This month we will dive into writing poetry!
- Students will practice writing both free-verse and form poetry types and by the end of the 10 lessons, students will have created their very own poetry book!

The core lessons included in this writing poetry unit are:

1. We are poets
2. Sensory poems (planning)
3. Sensory poems (writing)
4. Feelings poems (planning)
5. Feelings poems (writing)
6. Shape poems
7. Acrostic poems
8. Color poems
9. Cinquain poems
10. Publishing our poems

All anchor chart examples and printables are linked and included within this document.

BONUS lessons included:

- Additional poems
- Creating a class poetry book
- Hold a poetry party!



SLIDES:

- Examples of slides from this unit are below:



My Turn: LESSON 1



think aloud as you model using sensory details to describe ice cream

Examples from 1st graders: LESSON 3

Three student examples of 'My Shape Poem' are shown. Each example uses a different shape to create a poem. The first example is a flower shape, the second is a heart shape, and the third is a fish shape. Each poem is written on a grid and includes a title 'My Shape Poem' and a 'Poet' line.

LESSON 4

Today we will learn about **acrostic** poems:



Shining bright
Up high in the sky
Nice and warm on my face

An acrostic poem is a poem where the first letter in each line spells the topic!

SENSORY POEMS

PREVIEW:

- We will begin our poetry unit by writing sensory poems. I like to start with sensory and feelings poems, because they are more free-form and students can really learn to express themselves and their thoughts before learning some form poetry!

MINI LESSON:

We will plan out our sensory poems.

When students come over to the rug remind them that yesterday we learned about some different elements of poetry. We realized that poems can look and sound many different ways, and we learned that we are all poets!

Let students know that today, we will learn how to write a type of poetry called sensory poetry. Explain that when writing sensory poems we will tap into our 5 senses and use sensory details to describe something we know about. Review the 5 senses and your students will remind students that as the poet, they can choose any topic or way to write a poem.

To practice this, I like to choose a topic that students will be familiar with and draw a picture of it on chart paper (you will want to save this for tomorrow's lesson). We will then brainstorm sensory words and phrases to describe that topic. [Teacher example here](#). Some ideas for this activity (students could choose to create something, the beach, the forest, etc.) Remember to choose a topic that students will know enough about.

Let students know that when they go back to their seats, they will choose their own topic to write a sensory poem about and then brainstorm some words and phrases to describe the topic on their [planning sheet](#). Encourage students to think of as many words and phrases as they can for today and we will narrow it down tomorrow.

If students are stuck coming up with topics to write about, you may want to do a quick mini-lesson on “things we can write poems about” (which is really anything, but you can encourage them to get more creative with a little [reference chart like this](#)).

INDEPENDENT WRITING:

When students go back to their seats, they will choose their one topic and use their [planning sheet](#) to write down as many sensory details around the topic as they can.

CLOSING:

For each of the 5 senses, ask for a different student to share their topic and the sensory details they had for that sense.

POETRY:

There are many different types of poetry and they can be very different from one another!

Some poems rhyme, and some don't

Poems are a way to express our thoughts and feelings in a creative way

Some poems use sensory details

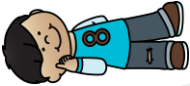
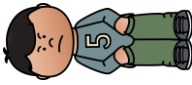
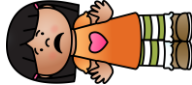
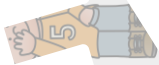
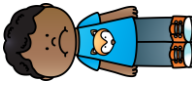
Some poems have illustrations, some don't

poems are long, some are short

Poems tell a story



I FEEL...

	bored		curious
	angry		shy
	scared		surprised
	happy		embarrassed
	sad		proud

Let's PUBLISH POETRY:

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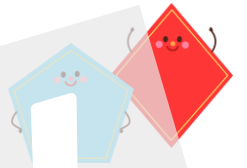
Does my sensory poem include all 5 senses?

☐

Did I express my emotions in my feelings poem?

☐

Are the words in my shape poem about the topic?

☐

Are the words and phrases in my acrostic poem related to my topic?

☐

Did I use my senses to help me write my color poem?

☐

Did I follow the rules of a cinquain poem?



You're ready to copy onto your publishing pages!

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Do I have detailed, colorful illustrations?

☐

Is my handwriting the neatest I can make it?

and