



# A Quick Look at 'Poetry Sort'

This activity encourages children to read poems together and make judgements about them. We have come up with a set of sorting boards (some easier than others) which different groups in the class could use with the same set of poems and then feed back to each other. We have gone on to make a connect four game and have used similar sorting boards for poems by John Agard and for ballads.

Poetry Sorting Board 1	
Poems which make fun of spelling, words or language.	Poems where very different and surprising things are compared.
Poems where people talk to things or animals.	Poems where things or animals talk and think.
Poems that make your tongue twist.	Poems that tell a story.

Poetry Sorting Board 2	
Poems which give you some advice on how to behave or live.	Poems which make you shiver.
Poems written a long time ago.	Poems which tell a story.
Poems about the seasons.	Nonsense poems.

Poetry Sorting Board 3	
Poems about the weather.	Poems about plants or animals.
Poems which ask a question.	Poems which are difficult to understand.
Scary or creepy poems.	Poems that tell a story.

Poems come in different shapes so we have produced poem cards in both wide and tall flavours with spaces for you or your students to add their own.

You might want to make up your own sorting boards on larger sheets of paper.

Many students will enjoy making up their own poem cards to include in the activity. These, of course, can be more elegant and decorative than the ones we have produced on line.

## The Tickle Rhyme

'Who's that tickling my back?' said the wall.  
 'Me,' said a small  
 Caterpillar. 'I'm learning  
 To crawl.'

IAN SERRAILLIER

## The Radish

The radish is  
 the only dish  
 that isn't flat  
 but spherical.

Eating small  
 green peas off it  
 could make you quite  
 hysterical.

N.M.BODECKER

## The Fall-Out

A quarrel is a pair of scissors  
 Scoring points that go too deep,  
 And with steel in their cold hearts  
 Two people cut each other to shreds.

SANDY BROWNJOHN

## The Parent

Children aren't happy with nothing to  
 ignore,  
 And that's what parents were created for.

OGDEN NASH