

In this unit, students will learn the tools and strategies needed to approach poetry.

Why poetry?

Students will explore the **methods** and **devices** used by **poets**, which will prepare them to **read** and **interpret** both **formal and free verse poems**. Students will also have many opportunities to practice what they have learned by **creating their own poems**.

What will my student learn?

Students will use a **Poet's Journal** that contains activity pages tied to each instructional lesson. The poems for each lesson are printed in the journal, and the activity pages allow students to **review material, answer questions, complete comprehension activities, and compose poems** themselves.

In their writing lessons, students will work either independently or collaboratively to **create original poems** that model the structure and style of the poems they studied in each lesson.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What is an apostrophe poem?
Follow up: Tell me about the apostrophe poem you wrote or heard a classmate share.
2. You have been learning about tone. What is tone?
Follow up: What are some different kinds of tone? Can you give me an example?
3. What have you learned about the poet Walt Whitman?
Follow up: Tell me about his poem "When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer."
4. What is anaphora?
Follow up: Why do poets use anaphora?
5. Who was your favorite poet, or what was your favorite poem from this unit?
Follow up: Why? What new things did you learn about poetry?