

Poetry Detective Rhyme and Rhythm Investigation

Dragon Song

- Like a white cloud in springtime, he skids through the sky,
- Whistles tunes into valleys, pushes boats with a sigh.
- Through the forest he scurries, catching leaves in his wings;
- With a rustle of treetops, the Wind Dragon sings.

- With a wing-fall as fragile as light on the sea,
- She sings of frost shivers and white-gilded trees.
- Unshaken, she soars, while the wind whips and blows;
- Under sky-splattered starlight, the Moon Dragon glows.

- With a temper so fierce and a beauty so clear,
- She sways to a calling that no one can hear.
- Pulling treasures like gifts from some faraway shore,
- Wild and untamed, hear the Sea Dragon's roar.



1. Colour in all of the rhyming words that you can see in the poem.
Use a new colour for every new rhyme.

2. Can you describe the rhyming pattern?

3. Count the number of syllables in each line of the poem and write it in the box at the beginning of the line. Do you notice a pattern? If so, what is it?

4. Count the number of lines per stanza. Is there a pattern? Do you notice any repetition in the lines that are used?

Poetry Detective Rhyme and Rhythm Investigation Answers

Dragon Song

12 Like a white cloud in springtime, he skids through the sky,

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1. Colour in all of the rhyming words that you can see in the poem.
Use a new colour for every new rhyme.

2. Can you describe the rhyming pattern?

Children should recognise that this poem is written in rhyming pairs. They may describe this as an AABB rhyming pattern.

3. Count the number of syllables in each line of the poem and write it in the box at the beginning of the line. Do you notice a pattern? If so, what is it?

Children may recognise that all the lines have between 10 and 13 syllables. You may wish to discuss how poetry is an art form and that the poet makes their own rules. This poet has kept each line a similar length but only some forms of poetry (for example, haikus) have strict syllable rules.

4. Count the number of lines per stanza. Is there a pattern? Do you notice any repetition in the lines that are used?

Four lines per stanza are used.

Children may recognise that every line begins with a capital letter and ends with

punctuation (with lines 2 and 4 being the ends of sentences).

Children may recognise that the final line of each verse reveals what the verse describes (wind; moon; sea). Each of these lines begins with a descriptive clause or fronted adverbial.

Dragon Song

Performance Poetry



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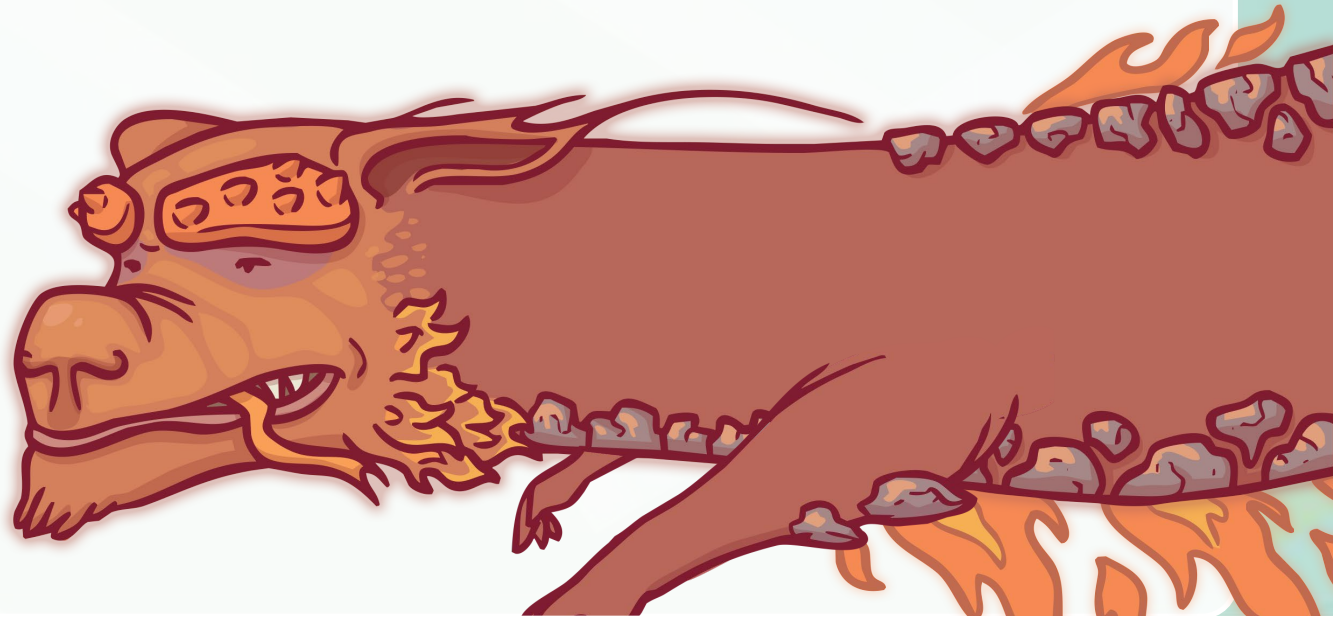


His teeth hide a furnace, spewing ash and bright embers.

His scales dry and charred; a face man remembers.


A flicking, forked tongue licks the sides of a stake;

The Fire Dragon feasts, leaves the world in its wake.






Dragon



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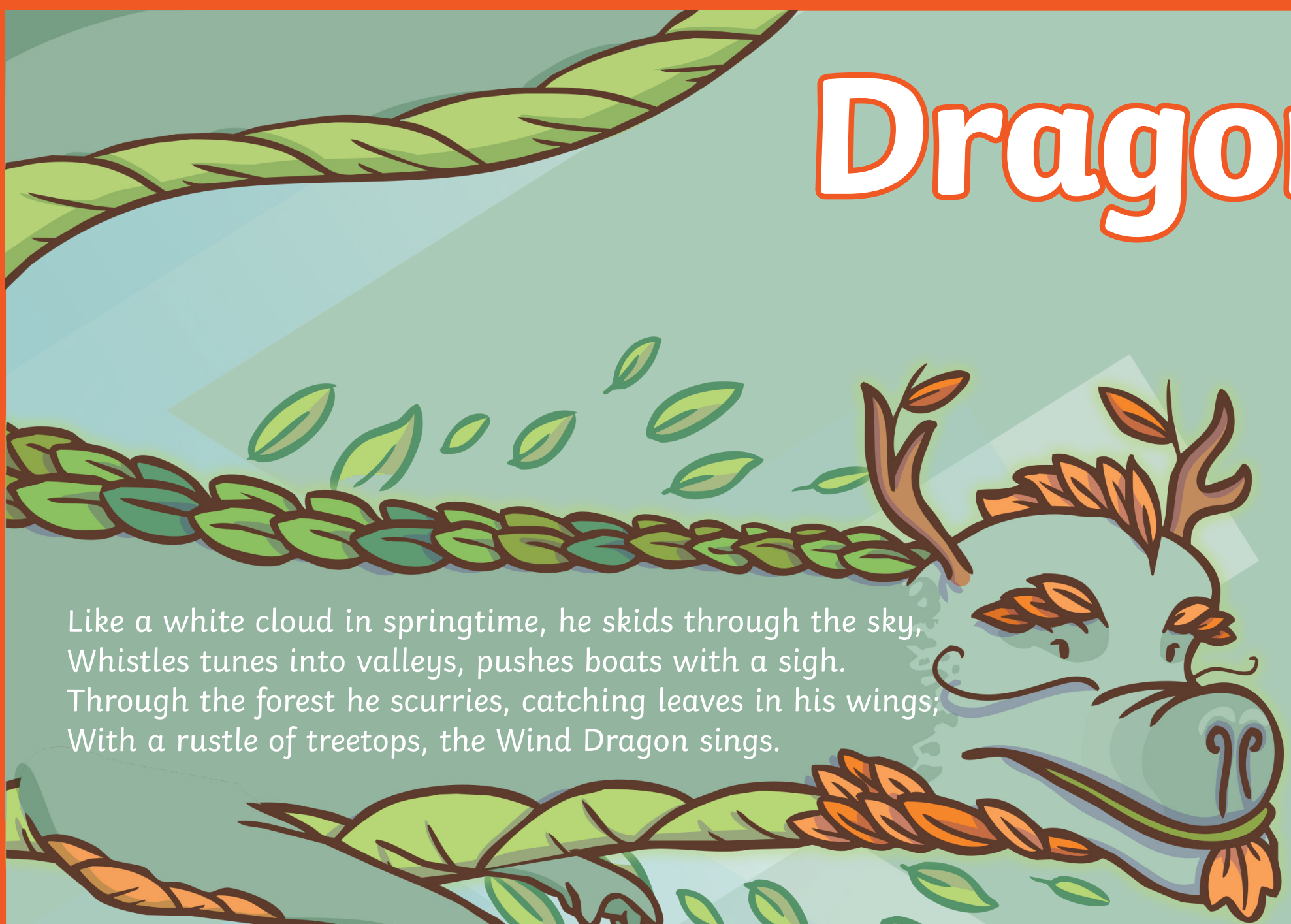


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Dragon Song

A green dragon with a long, braided tail and wings, flying through a forest. It is catching leaves in its wings.


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Whistles tunes into valleys, pushes boats with a sigh.
Through the forest he scurries, catching leaves in his wings;
With a rustle of treetops, the Wind Dragon sings.

A blue dragon with a long, flowing tail and wings, flying through a starry night sky. It has a white-gilded crown and a white-gilded tail.

With a wing-fall as fragile as light on the sea,
She sings of frost shivers and white-gilded trees.
Unshaken, she soars, while the wind whips and blows;
Under sky-splattered starlight, the Moon Dragon glows.


A blue dragon with a long, flowing tail and wings, flying over a body of water. It has a crown and a long, flowing tail.

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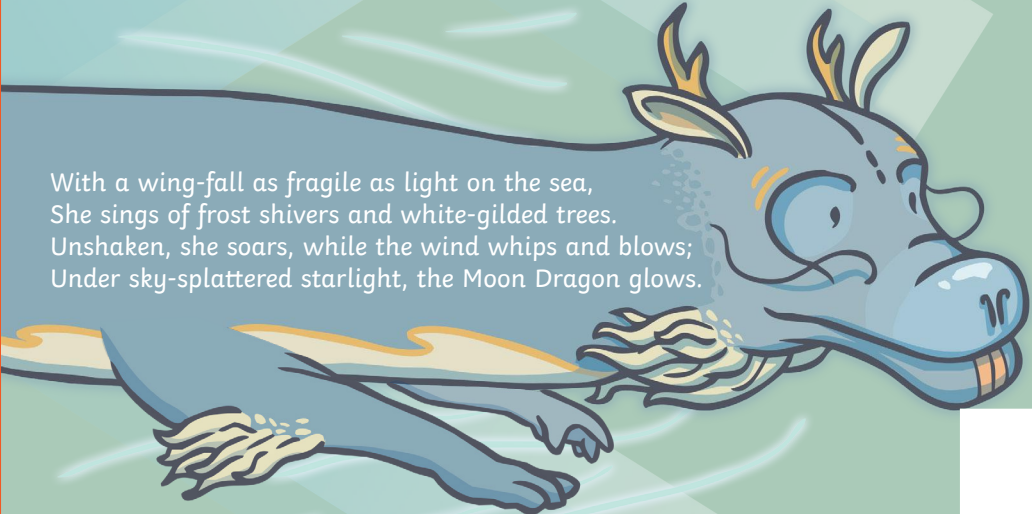
A brown dragon with a long, flowing tail and wings, flying over a landscape. It has a crown and a long, flowing tail.

His teeth hide a furnace, spewing ash and bright embers.
His scales dry and charred; a face man remembers.
A flicking, forked tongue licks the sides of a stake;
The Fire Dragon feasts, leaves the world in its wake.


Dragon Song

A green dragon with a long, braided tail and wings, flying through a forest. It is surrounded by falling green leaves and small brown branches.


Like a white cloud in springtime, he skids through the sky,
Whistles tunes into valleys, pushes boats with a sigh.
Through the forest he scurries, catching leaves in his wings;
With a rustle of treetops, the Wind Dragon sings.

A blue dragon with a long, flowing tail and wings, flying through a dark sky. It has a small, glowing yellow crescent moon on its forehead.

With a wing-fall as fragile as light on the sea,
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Unshaken, she soars, while the wind whips and blows;
Under sky-splattered starlight, the Moon Dragon glows.

A blue dragon with a long, flowing tail and wings, flying over a body of water. It has a crown on its head and a small, glowing yellow crescent moon on its forehead.

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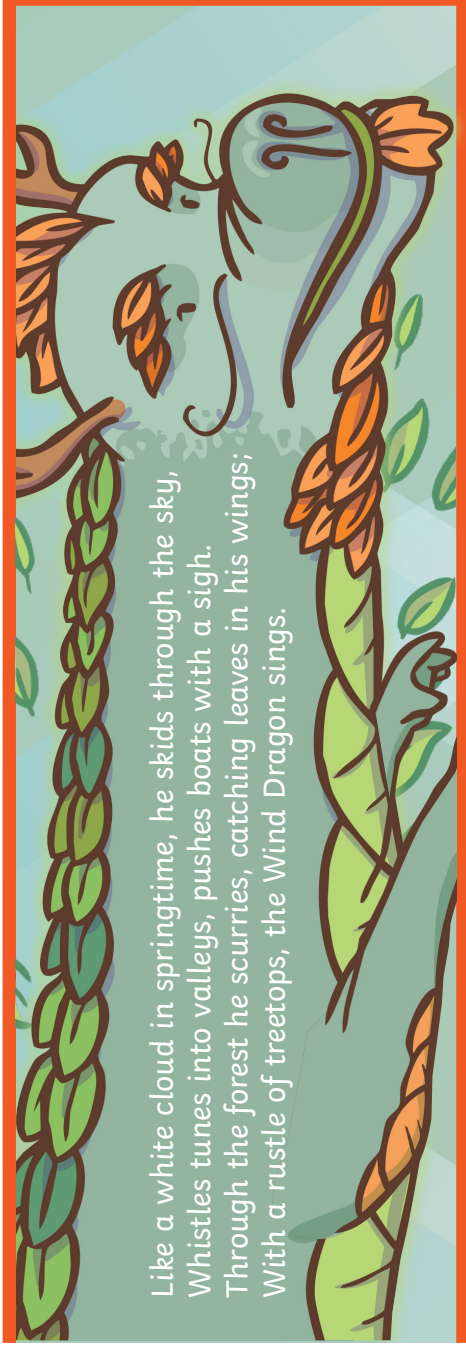


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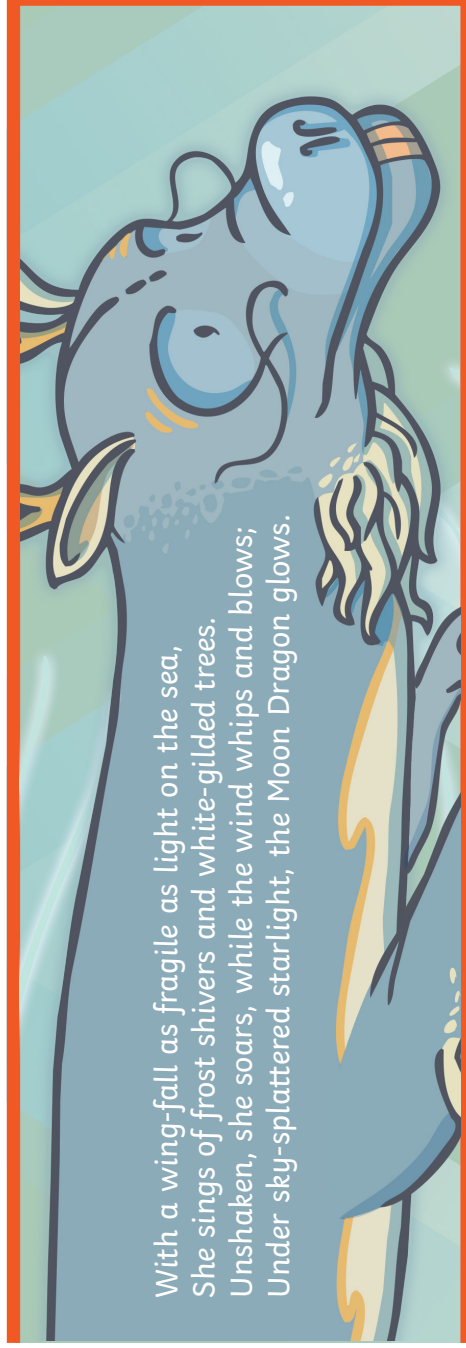




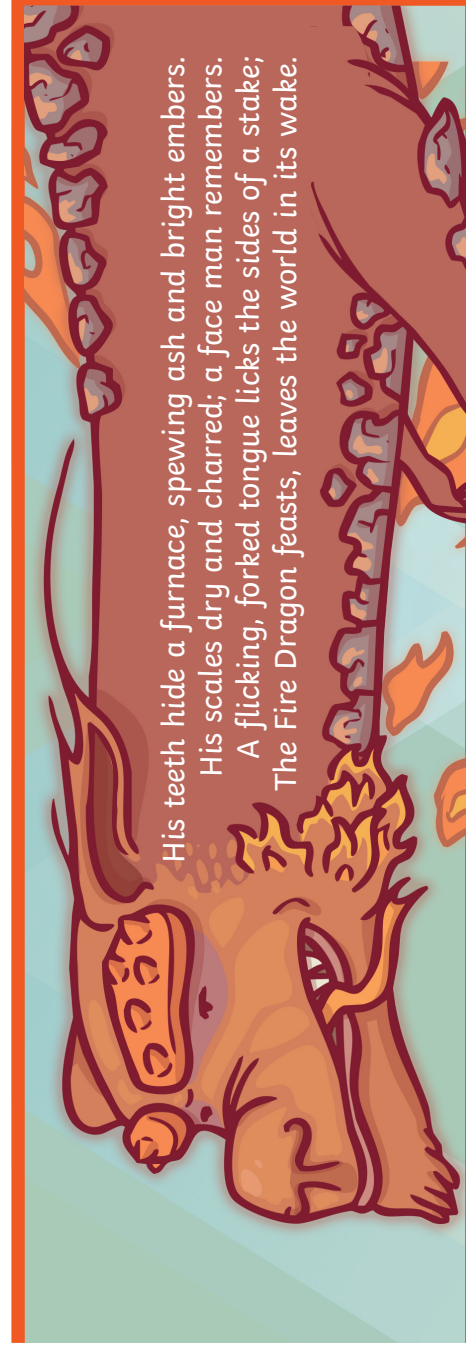
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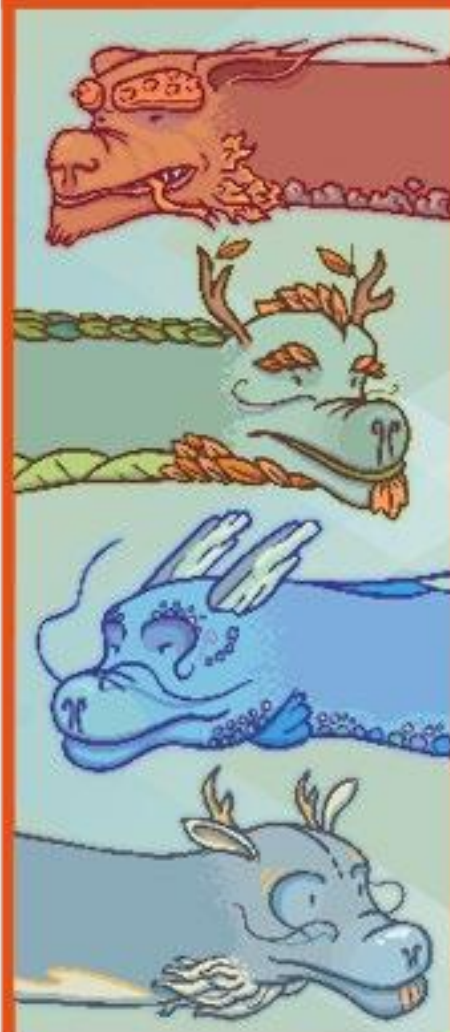
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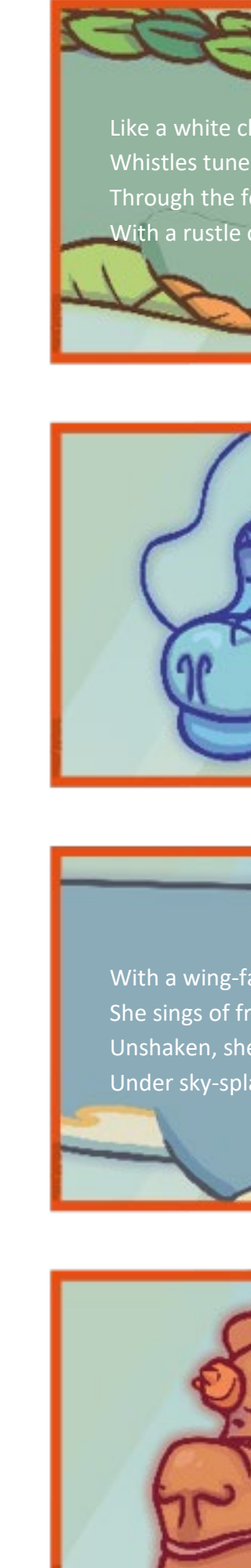
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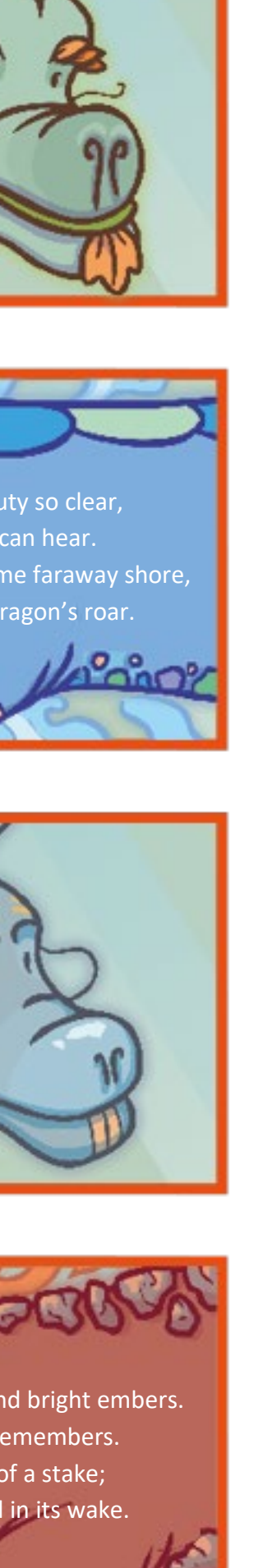
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Dragon Song **Illustration** Template

Use your Dragon Song personification poem to help you draw what your dragon would look like. Think carefully about what parts of the dragon you could change, and which colours are associated with your element or object. Use your imagination and have fun!



Dragon Song **Planning a Personification Poem**

What are you personifying? (e.g. the moon, the wind): _____

First, create a list of the things that your element does. For example, the wind pushes over bins, turns umbrellas inside out and helps boats to move. Come up with reasons why your dragon might want to do these things!

Next, create a mind map of the way your dragon would move, sound, look and behave. Make sure that every description links back to the element of nature and use your list to help you.

The way the dragon would move:	The way the dragon would look:
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">I am personifying _____</div>	
The way the dragon would sound:	The way the dragon would behave:

Do any of your descriptions rhyme with any others? Are there any words that you can swap in so that they rhyme? Colour code your rhyming words.

Performance Poetry Checklist

I can...

- Speak loudly and clearly
- Control the speed of my reading for clarity and effect
- Use expression to emphasise parts of the poem
- Use my body to make shapes or move around
- Make gestures and actions to help show the poem's meaning
- Keep my focus while I am reading

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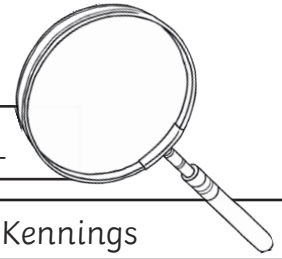
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Poetry Detective



Poem title: _____

Diamante		Tanka		Limerick		Kennings	
Narrative		Haiku		Shape poem		Ballad	
Sonnet		Epic		Nonsense		Free verse	
Cinquain		Reverse		Riddle		Acrostic	
Something else _____							

What is the poem about?

Does the poem rhyme?

Yes

No

Copy all of the rhyming words that you can find in the poem.

What is your favourite word or phrase in the poem?

Explain why you like it.

What is your least favourite word or phrase in the poem?



Explain why you don't like it.

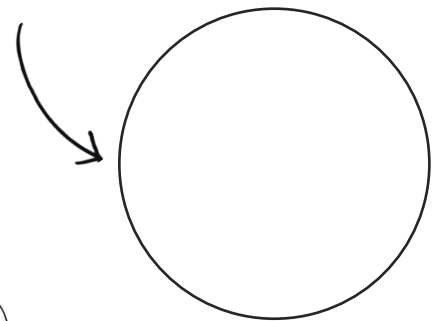
How does the poem make you feel? Explain your answer.

Draw how the poem makes

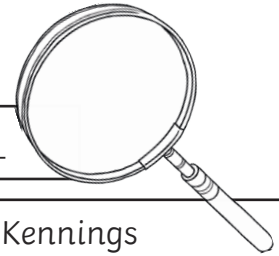
Would you recommend this poem to a friend?

Yes

No



Poetry Detective



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What is the poem about?

Does the poem rhyme?

Yes No

Is there a rhyming pattern?

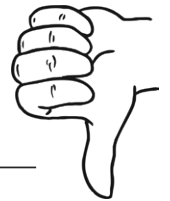
If so, what is it?

Copy all of the rhyming words that you can find in the poem.

What is your favourite word or phrase in the poem?

Explain why you like it.

What is your least favourite word or phrase in the poem?



Explain why you don't like it.

Are there any similes or metaphors in the poem? If so, find and copy one.

Does the poem follow a repeating pattern or rhythm? You may need to count syllables, words or lines.

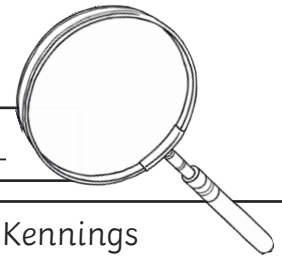
How does the poem make you feel? Explain your answer.

Would you recommend this poem to a friend?

Yes No



Poetry Detective



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Something else _____							

What is the poem about?

Is there a rhyming pattern?
If so, what is it?

Has the poet used imagery (figurative language) in the poem?

Similes	
Metaphors	
Personification	
Other	

Copy an example of imagery from the poem

What is your favourite word or phrase in the poem?

Explain why you like it.

What is your least favourite word or phrase in the poem?

Explain why you don't like it.



If you could change this word or phrase, what would you change it to?

Does the poem follow a repeating pattern or rhythm?
You may need to count syllables, words or lines.

How does the poem make you feel?
Explain your answer.

Who would you recommend this poem to?
Explain your answer



Does the poem contain any of the following?

Repetition of words or phrases	
Onomatopoeia	
Alliteration	
Assonance	

Preparing a Poem for Performance

Poem title: _____

Think about...

Expression

Do some of the words need to be read differently to others? How are you going to change your voice?

Volume

How are you going to make sure that you are loud enough? Are there any parts of the poem that need to be loud or quiet, shouted or whispered?



Speed

How are you going to make sure that you are speaking clearly? Are there any parts of the poem that need to be spoken faster or slower?



Sounds

Are you going to add any sound effects to the background of your poem? How might they help?

Movements

Are you going to stand still or should you move around? Do any actions need to be acted out?

Gestures

Are there any shapes that you can make with your hands to show meaning?

