

SUGGESTED POETRY TIMETABLE

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Choosing a Favorite Poem | Choral Dramatization | Illustrating Snippets | Writing a Poem #1 | Writing a Poem #2 |
| Day 6 | Day 7 | Day 8 | Day 9 | Day 10 |
| Written Response to a Poem | Talking about Poems | Investigating Free Verse | Writing a Poem #3 | Publishing Our Poems |

Day One: Choosing a Favorite Poem

Students read from anthologies independently and mark a favorite poem with a sticky note. Students can work in groups to share their favorites and give reasons for their choices. Poems can be transcribed onto chart paper and displayed around the room

Day Two: Choral Dramatization

Poetry Event: Choral Reading Activities, page 8.

Day Three: Illustrating Snippets

See Poetry Event: Snippets, page 16. Students illustrate the snippet using a variety of art media: pastels, watercolor, torn paper, etc.

Day Four: Writing a Poem #1

See Poetry Event: Snippets, page 16. Students write a poem, hiding their chosen snippet.

Day Five: Writing a Poem #2

See pages 14–15. Provide a model of poetry writing for the students to practice writing (e.g. haiku, acrostic, couplet).

Day Six: Written Response to a Poem

Display a poem for the students to respond to. Invite the students to write a response explaining what they liked or didn't like about the poem. What did it make them think about?

Day Seven: Talking about Poems

Arrange the students in groups of four. Assign one poem to each group (could be on a theme or by a single poet). Students discuss the poem by focusing on the words and images, the form, personal connections. New groups of four are formed. Each participant shares the poem that was discussed in the home group.

Day Eight: Investigating Free Verse

Poetry Event: Free Verse, page 17.

Day Nine: Writing a Poem #3

Poetry Event: Found Poem, page 17.

Day Ten: Publishing Our Poems

Each student can choose one poem that they have written to publish and illustrate. The poems can be assembled into a class anthology to be shared with others. What title will the class choose for the anthology?

TEN QUESTIONS TO GUIDE A RESPONSE TO A POEM

1. Describe in one sentence what the poem is about.
2. What is it about the poem that you particularly liked? Disliked?
3. What did this poem remind you of?
4. What things in the poem did you see? hear? feel? taste?
5. What are some questions or puzzles that you have about this poem?
6. Did this poem give you any special feeling(s)? How did this happen?
7. How did the poet use words or groups of words effectively?
8. How is the poem different from/the same as other poems you have read?
9. What would you tell or ask the poet about the poem?
10. How is this a poem?