



WELL VERSED

Tried and True Techniques to Bring Poetry into the Lives of Young People

Like the books themselves, many of the activities listed below can be adapted for use with children from preschool to high school. You are the expert on your students and store customers, so tailor the activities to suit their needs. For specific age and grade level recommendations, please consult the bibliography included on this sheet.

Immerse your students in the language

- Read your favorite poems to your students. They'll be inspired by your enthusiasm.
- Ask students to bring in favorite poems from home to share with the class. Either you or they may read them aloud for all to hear.
- Post poems prominently around your classroom or library. Find favorites; copy onto chart paper or use posters available from Penguin and other sources.
- Build a poetry collection in your classroom or library. Display the books in baskets and face-out on racks so children can see the covers. Let children choose titles that interest them.
- Partner kids up. Have them read poetry aloud to each other.
- Encourage memorization but don't mandate it. Have kids create "Poem in Your Pocket" cards to carry around for quick reference. They can make their own by copying the words onto an index card.
- Check your local library for CD's, videos, and audiotapes of poets reading their work.
- Better yet, invite a poet to your school. Call the Penguin author appearance line at (212) 414-3465 or visit www.penguinputnam.com/authorappearances to find out how.
- Bring your students to readings at local public libraries and bookstores.

Integrate poetry into the curriculum

- Begin a social studies session by reading a related poem. *A World of Wonders: Geographic Travels in Verse and Rhyme* by J. Patrick Lewis is perfect if you're studying geography or explorers.
- *Big, Bad and a Little Bit Scary: Poems That Bite Back!* illustrated by Wade Zahares, is packed with poems about frightful, ravenous animals by such literary luminaries as Ogden Nash, Eve Merriam and D.H. Lawrence. A perfect start to science class. Brilliant in biology. And an excellent accompaniment to ecological studies.
- Introduce "concrete poetry" in art class. All the poems in Brad Burg's *Outside the Lines: Poetry at Play* use form and shape to illustrate and enhance meaning. In "Frisbee" the words form a circle. The further the Frisbee flies, the smaller the print. Come in for the catch and the print gets bigger. "In Tic-Tac-Toe (a battle plan)" each move on the game grid dictates the sequence of the stanzas.
- Read *Remember the Bridge: Poems of a People* as you study history. Poet Carole Boston Weatherford's work focuses on slavery, the civil rights movement and African-American culture. Historic photographs and illustrations complement the text.
- Explore the rhythm of poetry in music and movement class. *A Rumpus of Rhymes: A Book of Noisy Poems* by Bobbi Katz will get students singing. Check out her raucous "School Bus Rap" (I'm a bin, bin, bin./ I'm a/ be, bee, beep./ I'm a bus./ A school bus) and the joyous gyrations of "Washing Machine" (I'm a washing machine./ I make dirty clothes clean./ so that nobody has to rub:/ Glubita glubita/ glubita/ glubita glubita/ glubita.../ GLUB.)
- Pack poetry into unexpected places. Read before recess. Read before lunch. Read before you say good-bye for the day. *Nonsense! He Yelled* and *I Invited a Dragon to Dinner* are unabashedly boisterous and fun.

Inspire creativity

- Ask: "What do poets write about?" Have students choose a topic to explore through poetry.
- Nonsense! He Yelled is a funny look at children's names. On the final page poet Roger Eschbacher invites readers to participate: "Good-bye! Good-bye!/ We say good-bye./ It's sad we're out of time./ Before we go,/ won't you please try/ Your own name in a rhyme?"
- Nikki Grimes's Bronx Masquerade is a novel with poetry at its heart. Students in a high school English class unveil once-secret identities and form unexpected bonds when an innovative English teacher initiates "Open Mike" poetry readings in class. Share this empowering collection with your junior high or high school students and consider providing them with a similar opportunity. You never know what can happen.
- Soto's Fearless Fernie touches upon the bonds between two friends. Read the book to your students. They may wish to write their own odes to friendship.
- Encourage active listening with Katz's Rumpus of Rhymes. Have students write their own "noisy poems" using onomatopoeia.

Investigate the form

- Find out what students know. Ask: "What is poetry?" List student responses on chart paper. Post in your room to see how ideas evolve over time.
- Extend the concept. Ask: "What is the difference between poetry and prose?" and then, "Why write in verse instead of prose?"
- Ask: "How does the shape of a poem affect its meaning?" Explain to students that the way a poet breaks up the text clues the reader in to how it should be read. Give an example by reading a favorite poem aloud. (Shorter poems are best for this exercise.) Then, using chart paper or an overhead projector, show the students the text in story form. Explain that the way you've copied the poem is different from how the author wrote it. Read the poem again. This time, ask students to listen carefully. Can they determine where each line of poetry begins and ends? Read the poem again. Students raise hands when they think there should be a "line break." Put a slash after the words to indicate the break. When finished, show the students the text as the poet intended. Like your first example, have this ready for display on chart paper or overhead projector.

Compare

- Explore the use of simile. Big, Bad and a Little Bit Scary is a good place to start. First read D. H. Lawrence's poem "Bat," focusing on the way in which Lawrence uses inventive language to describe this creature of the night: "like a glove, a black glove thrown up at the light,/ and falling back." In "The Sparrow Hawk" poet Russel Hoban describes the bird in his opening line: "Wings like pistols flashing at his side." Then, explain to your students that descriptions using "like" or "as" are called similes. Challenge students to use similes to enliven their own poetic efforts.
- Explore metaphor with Gary Soto's Fearless Fernie: Hanging out with Fernie and Me as an example. First, ask students to brainstorm "common" ways of describing a weightlifter. "Beefy," "brawny," and "muscled" are a few examples. Then, read aloud Soto's description of the weight-lifting Fernie in "Fearless Fernie": "Big plates on his chest, ropes in his arms,/ Trout shimmering under the skin/ of his brown shoulders. (p.32)" Explain to students that a metaphor is a writer's way of vividly describing his or her subject. Again, challenge students to use metaphor in their own work.

Connect with the Community

- Display students' writing not only in your classroom but in the hallways as well. Let the whole school know about their good work!
- Host a poetry reading. Invite teachers and parents, even another class, to hear your students read.
- Arrange for your students to read their poetry at your local library, café, or bookstore.

Booksellers: Poetry Ideas for Store Promotions

- Host a store poetry slam during April. Invite the community to listen to local grade school or teen poets recite poems on stage. Give awards for the best poem or most heartfelt reading.
- Create tabletop promotions using new poetry books. Give away a "Poem in Your Pocket" card the first week in April, and encourage customers to return each week for a new card. Be sure to make the book featured on each card the centerpiece of your tabletop for that week.
- If you have room, create a teen Poetry Getaway corner. Set up comfortable chairs and tables, and let them relax with some good verse. You might even want to provide paper and pens so they can jot down their own inspirations. Think about holding a workshop on writing poetry journals.
- Host teacher's night events using the contents of the World of Poetry Kit. Recommend that teachers come prepared to share how they teach poetry in the classroom, their favorite books to use in discussing poetry, and any exciting upcoming authors they've recently discovered.

Titles of Interest

I Invited a Dragon to Dinner And Other Poems to Make You Laugh Out Loud

Illustrated by Chris L. Demarest

Written entirely by fresh talent, this collection of twenty-nine poems is the result of a nationwide contest to find the best new writers of verse for children...a feast of delight just waiting to be devoured.

0-399-23567-1

40 pp.

Ages 3-7

\$16.99 hc

Nonsense! He Yelled

Roger Eschbacher

Illustrated by Adrian Johnson

Come celebrate whatever it is that makes you special, along with twenty-six kids who know they're different -and wouldn't have it any other way!

0-8037-2582-5

32 pp.

Ages 4-8

\$15.99 hc

Outside the Lines

Poetry at Play

Brad Burg

Illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon

Twenty-two concrete poems are put into motion with Gibbon's playful illustrations. Children will love this poetry that doesn't stay in its sensible rows, but rather rolls down hills, blows bubbles, and skips stones!

0-399-23446-2

32 pp.

Ages 5 up

\$15.99 hc

A World of Wonders

Geographic Travels in Verse and Rhyme

J. Patrick Lewis

Illustrated by Alison Jay

There are all sorts of amazing things to know about thousands of "spaces and places to be" within the fantastical world of *GE-OG-RA-PHY*.

0-8037-2579-5

40 pp.

Ages 5 up

\$16.99 hc

Remember the Bridge

Poems of a People

Carole Boston Weatherford

Weatherford's poems, together with haunting black-and-white images, convey portraits of captured Africans, slaves on the auction block, heroes of freedom, craftsmen and storytellers.

0-399-23726-7

56 pp.

Ages 8 up

\$17.99 hc

Fearless Fernie

Hanging out with Fernie and Me

Gary Soto

Illustrated by Regan Dunnick

Gary Soto's original poems and Regan Dunnick's clever illustrations will spark recognition in all middle-schoolers who've gone through the humiliation of sports try-outs and first dances.

0-399-23615-5

80 pp.

Ages 10 up

\$14.99 hc

Bronx Masquerade

Nikki Grimes

When Wesley Boone writes a poem for his high school English class, some of his classmates clamor to read their poems aloud too. Through the poetry they share, they reveal their most intimate thoughts about themselves.

0-8037-2569-8

176 pp.

Ages 12 up

\$16.99 hc

Other poetry titles of interest

All Ages

A Brighter Garden

Karen Ackerman

Poems by Emily Dickinson

Illustrated by Tasha Tudor

"A group of Emily Dickinson's poems, selected especially for children and arranged in a seasonal sequence, is illustrated in Tasha Tudor's sentimental style." -The Horn Book

0-399-21490-9 64 pp. \$19.99 hc

My Daughter, My Son, The Eagle, The Dove

Ana Castillo

Illustrated by S. Guevara

Inspired by ancient Aztec chants, these poems trace the milestones of growing up and reflect parental joy in the process. The illustrations stylistically combine Aztec elements with strong contemporary images on bark.

0-525-45856-5 48 pp. \$12.99 hc

Mi Hija, Mi Hijo, el Aguila, la Paloma

0-525-45867-0 48 pp. \$12.99 hc Spanish Edition

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost

Illustrated by Susan Jeffers

"Frost's poem inspire[s] Susan Jeffers to a dreamily benign winter landscape." -Booklist. For this special edition with new jacket design, trim size, and three additional spreads, Jeffers has added more detail and subtle color to her frosty New England scenes.

0-525-46734-3 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Ages 4-8

Big, Bad and a Little Bit Scary

Poems That Bite Back

Written and illustrated by Wade Zahares

Bristling with sly humor and just a hint of danger, this irresistible collection of fifteen poems pays homage to everyone's favorite members of the animal kingdom -the bullies! Ferociously fun and ideal for reading aloud.

0-670-03513-0 32 pp. \$16.99 hc

Bird Watch

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Ted Lewin

"This nature poetry is paired with evocative watercolor art that gives young readers plenty of space to consider the graphic verbal images..."

-The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

0-698-11776-X 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

ALA Notable Children's Book

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Blue Ribbon

IRA-CBC Teachers' Choice

NCTE Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts

The Bookworm's Feast

A Potluck of Poems

J. Patrick Lewis

Illustrated by John O'Brien

"When a gentleman bookworm invites his friends to a feast, he serves everything from appetizer poems to dessert rhymes. The [26] poems use clever word plays and strong rhythms, and they have a delightful sense of the ridiculous." -The Horn Book

0-8037-1692-3 40 pp. \$15.99 hc

A Burst of Firsts

Doers, Shakers, and Record Breakers

J. Patrick Lewis

Illustrated by Brian Ajhar

"A book of first feats celebrated in verse....[M]ost of the records are of a quirky sort: the biggest bubble-gum bubble; kids' first choice for school lunch....There's no question this will spark lots of interest as well as some student poetry."

-Booklist

0-8037-2108-0 40 pp. \$15.99 hc

Casey at the Bat

Patricia Polacco

Poem by Ernest L. Thayer

"Fresh and funny, this rendition should attract a whole new audience to the poem." -Booklist

0-698-11557-0 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

Child Study Children's Book Committee Children's Books of the Year

Daydreamers

Eloise Greenfield

Illustrated by Tom Feelings

"Though the text [of this poem] is spare...the sentiments are richly expressed, with artful images and canny turns of phrase." -Booklist

0-14-054624-3 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

ALA Coretta Scott King Honor

ALA Notable Children's Book

Society of Illustrators Citation of Merit

Did You See What I Saw?

Poems About School

Kay Winters

Illustrated by Martha Weston

"This cheerful collection of 23 poems dramatizes the daily things that make up the small child's routine in kindergarten or school." -Booklist

0-14-056265-6 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

Dinosaurs Forever

William Wise

Illustrated by Lynn Munsinger

"Twenty-one dinosaur poems and dozens of humorous drawings to delight dinosaur lovers of all Ages will make this collection a real favorite." -Kirkus Reviews

0-8037-2114-5 40 pp. \$15.99 hc

Dirty Beasts

Roald Dahl

Illustrated by Quentin Blake

Unsuspecting humans get their final comeuppance in this collection of nine poems about mischievous and mysterious animals. "Will elicit a loud 'Yuck.' In other words, children will love them." -Children's Book

Review Service

0-14-050435-4 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

**The Earth Under Sky Bear's Feet
Native American Poems of the Land**

Joseph Bruchac

Illustrated by Thomas Locker

"The [12] poems provide an imaginative introduction to American Indian folklore and offer teachers a fruitful point of departure for classroom discussion." -The Horn Book

0-698-11647-X 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

Child Study Children's Book Committee Children's Book of the Year

Eric Carle's Animals, Animals

Compiled by Laura Whipple

Illustrated by Eric Carle

Carle's brilliant and colorful collages accompany more than fifty poems from such diverse sources as Shakespeare, Lewis Carroll, and Emily Dickinson. This celebration of the wonder and variety of earth's animals is "joyous...a book to be shared." -Booklist

0-698-11855-3 96 pp. \$7.99 pb

0-399-21744-4 96 pp. \$21.99 hc

Eric Carle's Dragons, Dragons

And Other Creatures That Never Were

Compiled by Laura Whipple

Illustrated by Eric Carle

"This cultural delight makes mythological and fantasy creatures come to life in an accessible poetry collection [of over 30 poems]. A must!" - School Library Journal

0-399-22837-3 72 pp. \$9.99 pb

0-399-22105-0 72 pp. \$21.99 hc

Hiawatha

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Illustrated by Susan Jeffers

"A fine first exposure to the poem for children and a beautiful artistic experience." -School Library Journal

0-14-055882-9 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

Booklist Editors' Choice

School Library Journal Best Book of the Year

A Hippopotamusn't

And Other Animal Poems

J. Patrick Lewis

Illustrated by Victoria Chess

"These [35] poems will excite young readers with their freshness and perhaps ignite their own creativity as well. An entertaining collection of poems, cleverly illustrated."

-School Library Journal

0-14-055273-1 40 pp. \$6.99 pb

Booklist Editors' Choice

Horn Book Fanfare

I Want Another Little Brother

Poems about Families

Illustrated by Anna Currey

This collection of twenty-six sweet, silly, and spunky poems about families is perfect for young children.

0-14-056760-7 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

If You Should Meet a Crocodile

Poems about Wild Animals

Illustrated by Anna Currey

This lively collection of twenty-seven poems has something for all animal lovers, including odes to elephants, poems about penguins, and rhymes for roly-poly polar bears.

0-14-056810-7 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

It's Raining Laughter

Nikki Grimes

Photographs by Myles C. Pinkney

"Twelve joyous poems about growing up are filled with music, laughter, and love. Simple childhood pleasures such as running, playing, reading, and remembering are touched on with insight and humor." -School Library Journal

0-8037-2003-3 32 pp. \$14.99 hc

Jumpety-Bumpety Hop

A Parade of Animal Poems

Illustrated by Kay Choroa

"This warm and friendly collection of poems about animals features the work of forty-eight poets. The poems themselves are diverse in tone and style, from elegant haiku to bouncy rhymes." -The Horn Book
0-14-056671-6 48 pp. \$6.99 pb

Ladybug, Ladybug

Ruth Brown

"Brown's lush, dramatic illustrations add real weight to the poem." - Booklist
"Small children will enjoy exploring the details and finding the diminutive heroine in each picture." -Kirkus Reviews
0-14-054543-3 32 pp. \$5.99 pb

Let's Count the Raindrops

Illustrated by Fumi Kosaka

"Here's a book that introduces 10 short works by (mostly) modern children's poets in a format well designed to spotlight individual poems and to slow down the pace of page turning....A fine poetry collection for young children."

-Booklist

0-670-89689-6 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Locust Pocus!

Douglas Kaine McKelvey

Illustrated by Richard Egielski

"This sequence of insect verse is...bite-sized, with each insect receiving a quick couplet....This conglomeration offers lively opportunities for readalouds, readalones, and occasional solicitations of squeamish squeals." -The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

0-399-23452-7 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Night on Neighborhood Street

Eloise Greenfield

Illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist

"Through a series of poems accompanied by sensitive, handsome paintings...readers are brought into a community which is at once unique and universal." -The Horn Book

0-14-055683-4 32 pp. \$6.99 hc

ALA Coretta Scott King Honor

ALA Notable Children's Book

Horn Book Fanfare

NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies

Reading Rainbow Feature Selection

The Owl and the Pussycat

Edward Lear

Illustrated by Jan Brett

"Brett sets Lear's beloved poem of courtly nonsense in a lush, brilliantly lit Caribbean landscape...her gorgeously colored double-page spreads combine deadpan realism with the wildest flights of fancy." -

Booklist

0-698-11367-5 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

0-399-21925-0 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

ALA Notable Children's Book

Booklist Editors' Choice

School Library Journal Best Book of the Year

Snuffles and Snouts

Compiled by Laura Robb

Illustrated by Steven Kellogg

"This entertaining addition to the many poetry collections about pigs pays tribute to state fair winners, mud lovers, artist's models, and other unusual swine. Lewis Carroll, Jane Yolen, John Ciardi, Ogden Nash, Eleanor Farjeon, and J. Patrick Lewis are among the authors included in this 24 poem collection." -The Horn Book

0-14-056502-7 40 pp. \$5.99 pb

Tomie dePaola's Book of Poems

Illustrated by Tomie dePaola

This thoughtful selection of 86 poems -in a spacious, oversized format -includes well-known works from William Blake, Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, and Frederico Garcia Lorca, with a sprinkling of haiku for good measure.

"A poetry adventure...that children everywhere can enjoy." -Booklist
0-399-21540-9 96 pp. \$25.99 hc

Welcome to the Green House

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Laura Regan

"Yolen explores a tropical rain forest in an entrancing poem full of evocative images....Ideal for introducing rain forest ecology in the primary grades, this book may also be used by preschool teachers." -
School Library Journal

0-698-11445-0 32 pp. \$6.99 pb
0-399-22335-5 32 pp. \$16.99 hc

Child Study Children's Book Committee Children's Book of the Year

Welcome to the Ice House

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Laura Regan

"Yolen's confident hand with verbal rhythms has never been more evident...[moving] from rhyming couplets to internal rhymes....an excellent introduction to an ecology unit for elementary grades." -
School Library Journal

0-399-23011-4 32 pp. \$16.99 hc

NSTA-CBC Outstanding Science Trade Book for Children

Welcome to the River of Grass

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Laura Regan

Kids can explore the mystery and allure of the vast Everglades through this perfect armchair tour. From creatures that fly to those that crawl, here is the cycle of life presented in lilting, poetic words and lush, dramatic images.

0-399-23221-4 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Welcome to the Sea of Sand

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Laura Regan

"A poetic narrative that invites readers into Arizona's Sonora Desert through a collaboration of art and words, and gives a comfortable armchair tour of a beautiful, rugged, surprisingly varied place." -

School Library Journal

0-399-22765-2 32 pp. \$16.99 hc

School Library Journal Best Book of the Year

Ages 6-9

Bing Bang Boing

Written and illustrated by Douglas Florian

"Many kids who would ordinarily find a whole book of poetry intimidating will relish reading or browsing [the more than 150 poems] here....Tart, clever, inventive poems...for kids to explore the wonderful flavors of language."

-The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

0-14-037824-3 144 pp. \$6.99 pb

Lunch Money

and Other Poems About School

Carol Diggory Shields

Illustrated by Paul Meisel

Here are twenty-four hilarious poems about school, where all kinds of unexpected things happen. " A frisky collection....Kids will greet [the poems] with enthusiasm."

-School Library Journal

0-14-055890-X 40 pp. \$5.99 pb

0-525-45345-8 48 pp. \$15.99 hc

IRA-CBC Children's Choice

My Man Blue

Nikki Grimes

Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue

"In a simple, lyrical series of poems, Grimes speaks in the voice of Damon, a child in Harlem, whose 'missing dad's left a hole' and who finds a mentor in Blue, who lost a son to the streets.... A great picture book for older readers." -Booklist

0-8037-2326-1 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Book Links Lasting Connections List

Booklist Editors' Choice

Paul Revere's Ride

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Illustrated by Ted Rand

"Rand's illustrations capture the poem's essential drama...he skillfully interprets the moods and dynamics of the verse." -Booklist

0-14-055612-5 40 pp. \$6.99 pb

0-525-44610-9 40 pp. \$17.99 hc

Booklist Editors' Choice

IRA-CBC Children's Choice

IRA-CBC Teachers' Choice

NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies

Silver Seeds

Paul Paolilli and Dan Brewer

Illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher

"The [fifteen] short [acrostic] poems use simple language and are filled with imagery...Using eye-catching colors and shifting perspectives, the artwork celebrates nature as seen through the eyes of youngsters." -School Library Journal

0-670-88941-5 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back

A Native American Year of Moons

Retold by Joseph Bruchac and Jonathan London

Illustrated by Thomas Locker

"Locker again proves himself a gifted artist. Folklorist Bruchac and poet London work together on brief, dignified retellings of Native American legends..." -Kirkus Reviews

0-698-11584-8 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

0-399-22141-7 32 pp. \$16.99 hc

IRA-CBC Teachers' Choice

Child Study Children's Book Committee Children's Books of the Year

Ages 8-11

The Block

Langston Hughes

Illustrated by Romare Bearden

"Thirteen poems by Hughes have been matched with pieces of the collage [which is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art]... Together words and pictures, and even topography, express the vitality and excitement of an urban neighborhood." -Booklist

0-670-86501-X 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

Horn Book Fanfare

New York Times Best Illustrated Book

The Goof Who Invented Homework

And Other School Poems

Kalli Dakos

Illustrated by Denise Brunkus

"Dakos has a lighthearted style and... Brunkus's black-and-white ink drawings reinforce the mood of the verses. Students will choose these [36] poems for recitations and have fun reading them." -School Library Journal

Library Journal

0-8037-1927-2 80 pp. \$15.99 hc

IRA-CBC Children's Choice

Laugh-eteria

Written and illustrated by Douglas Florian

"Sure to draw fans of Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky....[These 150 poems] provoke laughter while playfully manipulating language to capture the comical essence of things and events in a child's world." -

School Library Journal

0-14-130990-3 160 pp. \$6.99 pb

My Black Me

A Beginning Book of Black Poetry

Edited by Arnold Adoff

These fifty poems, first published in 1974, are a timeless expression of the black experience in America. The voices of twenty-six African-American poets, from Langston Hughes to Sonia Sanchez, shine through in this classic collection.

0-14-037443-4 83 pp. \$5.99 pb

0-525-45216-8 83 pp. \$14.99 hc

ALA Notable Children's Book

Child Study Children's Book Committee Children's Book of the Year

IRA-CBC Children's Choice

NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies

Rimshots

Basketball Pix, Rolls, and Rhythms

Written and photographed by Charles R. Smith Jr.

"Mixing poetry, memoir, short fiction, and photography, Smith pays a fast-break tribute to the pleasures and pains of b-ball....Smith closes with another tribute, to the African-American athletes, musicians, and artists who have meant the most to him."

-Kirkus Reviews

0-14-056678-3 32 pp. \$6.99 pb

0-525-46099-3 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

A Rumpus of Rhymes

A Book of Noisy Poems

Bobbi Katz

Illustrated by Susan Estelle Kwas

"Playful manipulation of typeface and font guides the reader in giving voice to these sounds. This collection of [28] poems tickles the eye and the ear. Onomatopoeia has never been this much fun." -Kirkus Reviews

0-525-46718-1 32 pp. \$15.99 hc

Soul Looks Back in Wonder

Illustrated by Tom Feelings

"Thirteen distinguished poets, including Maya Angelou, Lucille Clifton, and Margaret Walker, provide words to compliment Feelings' stunning art in this picture book anthology celebrating African-American culture and history." -Booklist

0-14-056501-9 40 pp. \$6.99 pb

0-8037-1001-1 40 pp. \$16.99 hc

ALA Coretta Scott King Award

Jane Addams Book Award Honor

Ages 12 & up

Jump Ball

A Basketball Season in Poems

Mel Glenn

"In [this] 'story' in poems, Glenn introduces a chorus of distinct voices from an inner-city high school, each with a personal take on the sport and dreams for the future. It is a richly emotional book that brings readers face-to-face with issues in their own lives, such as heartbreak and violence." -Booklist

0-525-67554-X 160 pp. \$15.99 hc

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers

The Taking of Room 114

A Hostage Drama in Poems

Mel Glenn

"YAs will find their interest piqued and reluctant readers particularly will be drawn to the excitement of design and content." -School Library Journal

0-525-67548-5 192 pp. \$16.99 hc

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers

Who Killed Mr. Chippendale?

A Mystery in Poems

Mel Glenn

Told in a series of interlocking poems, this suspenseful story will keep readers guessing who the killer is right up until the last page. "More than a whodunit, this unique offering explores a multitude of issues in its pAges." -School Library Journal

0-14-038513-4 112 pp. \$5.99 pb

0-525-67530-2 112 pp. \$14.99 hc

ALA Best Book for Young Adults

ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers

IRA-CBC Children's Choice

IRA-CBC Teachers' Choice

Find more teaching guides and tips at: <http://us.penguinroup.com/youngreaders>.