

Primary Poetry Reading for Pleasure Pack

Year of Reading 2026 • Quick routines to make reading poetry fun in primary school

Designed for: Year 3–6 (adaptable for younger pupils)

Time needed: 2–10 minutes per day

Best for: Reading for pleasure, whole-school reading culture, reluctant readers, fluency and performance

How to use this pack: Choose one routine (Poem of the Day / Poetry Bingo / Favourite Line). Keep it light. The goal is enjoyment, confidence and rereading.

1) Poem of the Day (2–4 minutes)

A simple routine that builds a love of poetry through short, joyful daily reading.

Step 1 — Read it aloud (once): Teacher reads with expression. No stopping.

Step 2 — Read it aloud again (with pupils): Echo read line-by-line or choral read together.

Step 3 — One question only: Pick ONE question below. Keep it quick.

Step 4 — Optional share: 2–3 children share a favourite word or line.

Choose ONE question:

- What was your favourite line?
- Which word sounded the best?
- What picture did the poem put in your head?
- How did the poem make you feel? (One word.)
- Which line would you like to perform?

Teacher tip: Avoid over-analysing. Keep it light and joyful.

2) Poetry Reading Bingo (Reading for Pleasure)

A playful way to encourage variety and rereading. Pupils can complete a line or the whole grid.

Try this...	Try this...	Try this...	Try this...
Read a poem with a funny voice	Read a poem to a partner	Read a poem twice	Choose a poem for a friend
Whisper-read a poem	Read a poem like a sports commentator	Read a poem with sound effects	Read a poem out loud at home
Find your favourite word	Find your favourite line	Perform one stanza	Read a poem with actions
Read a poem about nature	Read a poem about a character	Read a poem that surprises you	Read a poem and draw an image

How to run it: Set a weekly target (e.g., 4 squares). Celebrate effort, not perfection.

3) My Favourite Line (Quick Response Sheet)

A low-pressure way to respond to poetry without turning it into a comprehension test.

Poem title:	
Author:	
My favourite line is:	
I chose it because:	
My favourite word is:	
It makes me think of:	
If I performed this poem, I would read this line:	

Teacher tip: Let pupils share favourite lines aloud to build confidence and a reading culture.