

## Week 6 English - Choral and performance poetry.

L.O. To understand what the performance element contributes to poetry.

- What is performance poetry?

Performance poetry is a form of poetry intended to be performed as a dramatic monologue or exchange and frequently involving improvisation.

*Keys to success:*

1: Change the pitch

2: Vary the tone

3: Use expression

4: Vary the speed

5: Body language

6: Rhythm/pace

If you have access to the internet then click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucMONhUUHEM&safe=active>

- What did you think?
- Was that performance poetry and why?

This is a poem a lot of you could probably relate to.

### **Where My Clothes Are**

Dirty clothes should be put in the hamper.

Clean clothing belongs in the drawer.

But it takes too much time and it takes too much work-  
so I throw them all over the floor.

## Task 1

- What animal is this?
- Jot down some ideas to answer the questions. Think carefully about your vocabulary choices.

*What does it look like?*

*How does it move?*

*What might it feel like when you touch it?*

*How do you think it behaves?*



I am an iguana.

Listen to the performance of 'Walking with my iguana'

<https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/poem/walking-with-my-iguana/>

- Now have a read of it yourself.

### **Walking with my Iguana**

a)

I'm walking  
with my iguana

I'm walking  
With my iguana

When the temperature rises  
to above eighty-five,  
my iguana is looking  
like he's coming alive.

So we make it to the beach,  
my iguana and me,  
then he sits on my shoulder  
as we stroll by the sea.....

b)

and I'm walking  
with my iguana

I'm walking  
With my iguana

Well if anyone sees us  
we're a big surprise,  
my iguana and me  
on our daily exercise,

till somebody phones  
the local police  
says I've got an alligator  
tied to a leash.

c)

when I'm walking  
with my iguana

I'm walking  
With my iguana

It's the spines on his back  
that make him look grim,  
but he just loves to be tickled  
under his chin.

And I know that my iguana  
is ready for bed  
when he puts on his pyjamas  
and lays down his sleepy head.

d)

And I'm walking  
with my iguana

still walking  
With my iguana

With my iguana...  
with my iguana...  
and my piranha  
and my chihuahua  
and my chinchilla,  
with my gorilla,  
my caterpillar...  
and I'm walking...  
with my iguana...  
with my iguana...  
with my iguana...

Now read it aloud to an adult or sibling at home. You could even ask if you can call or face time a grandparent/aunt/uncle who you are unable to visit and read it to them.

If you are feeling adventurous, you may want to ask an adult to record your performance. If you do this you must get permission from your adult at home and remember to keep yourself safe. Always stay safe online.

Try reading it aloud in different ways

**mean/strict**  
**cheerful**  
**bored**  
**with an accent**

- Does it improve the poem?
- Why?

*Keys to success:*

- 1: *Change the pitch*
- 2: *Vary the tone*
- 3: *Use expression*
- 4: *Vary the speed*
- 5: *Body language*
- 6: *Rhythm/pace*
- 7: *Body percussion*

## Task 2

- What makes a good poetry performance? Think about what you did well or maybe something you didn't include when reading aloud.
- Have a listen to some poems read by their authors. You can follow the link and choose your own selection or go straight to the ones we have picked below. Try and listen to at least 2.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4mmn39/resources/1>

*Chocolate Cake* by Michael Rosen

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zp9b4wx>

*The Sound Collector* by Roger Mc Gough

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z9h2tfr>

- Which performance stood out for you and why?
- Do you have a favourite and why?

## Task 3 - Reading

- Have a read of the other poems included.

The Bone Yard Rap, The Crocodile, The Sound Collector, The Dragon Who Ate Our School, Walking with my Iguana and The Crocodile by Roald Dahl.

- When reading, think about: What poetic devices make a good poem?

### Knowledge:

powerful verbs  
adjectives  
alliteration  
rhyme  
repetition  
onomatopoeia  
pattern  
stanza  
metaphors  
similes



### The Bone Yard Rap

By Wes Mcgee

This is the rhythm of the boneyard rap  
knuckle bones click and hand bones clap,  
finger bones flick and thigh bones slap,  
when you're doin the rhythm of the boneyard rap  
Wooooooooooooooooooooo....

It's the boneyard rap and it's a scare,  
give your bones a shake up if you dare,  
rattle your teeth and waggle your jaw  
and let's do the boneyard rap once more  
Wooooooooooooooooooooo....

This is the rhythm of the boneyard rap,  
ankle bones sock and arm bones flap,  
elbows knock and knee bones zap,  
when you're doin the rhythm of the boneyard rap.  
Wooooooooooooooooooooo... Yeah.

### Task 4 - LO: to write a variation of a famous poem.

You are now going to have a go at writing your own version of one of the following poems.

A variation of "The Sound Collector" - explore school grounds.

Your own version of "Walking with my Iguana" - you may choose a different animal.

If you are up for a challenge, you may write your own poem from scratch using a subject matter of choice.



