



# Author Focus and Poetry Lists

*St James Church of England Primary*

## AUTHOR FOCUS AND SET POEM PACKS

During the year, each class will focus on 3 popular children's authors and 6 set poems. In addition to our varied menu of class/home readers, the children's learning will be enhanced by the study of famous classic and contemporary authors and poems. Our ultimate aim is to foster and promote a life-long love for literature for our children. The texts and poems contained within the packs are at various levels of difficulty which ensures children of all ability levels can access the packs.

## IDEAS FOR USING YOUR CLASS AUTHOR FOCUS PACK

- Create an attractive small display in your class promoting the author e.g. wall display containing extracts, picture of author/ their books, table top display covered with material and books displayed on top
- Use a couple of the books to use as a whole class shared novel and... enjoy!
- Use the books within your Writing Units (if possible).
- Focus on your author during Book Weeks or World Book Day.
- Base your family assembly on the life and works of your author.
- Find out about the author and their works using the internet.
- Children could use the books as their free reader (make sure the book is returned).
- Put a picture of the author and some information about their books on your Class page or on Twitter.
- Set children Home Study on your set authors/poems
- Children to complete a book review when they complete one of the books
- Children to write alternative endings to the story as a fun challenge.



- Children to choose a descriptive passage and make a list of examples of vivid imagery eg. similes, metaphors, alliteration, personification, noun phrase etc
- Children to write a description of the main character - their looks, the way they dress, the way they talk and their personality.
- Children to list the words and phrases used to create an atmosphere- eg a scary or spooky one.
- Children to write about what character might be thinking or feeling at any stage of the story- could write it in the first person.
- When children are about halfway through a book, ask them to predict what might happen and explain why.
- Ask the children to write down some words you had difficulty reading and had not met before. Find their meanings in a dictionary and write down. Add them to your vocabulary wall.
- Ask the children to write about their favourite part of the book and why they liked it.
- Children could write some questions they would like to ask the author - maybe Tweet/write to the author and see if they can answer any!
- Children could pick descriptive words from the text, write them down and using a thesaurus, write down five synonyms and antonyms for that word.
- Children could write some advice to a character in trouble.
- Children could write a diary entry that a character might write after an incident in the story.
- Challenge the children by asking them to write a fifty word summary of a whole plot.
- Ask children to write a new blurb for the back cover.
- Ask children to write whether they would recommend the book or not, and say why. Complete an 'Amazon' style book review.



## AUTHORS

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
RECEPTION	Nick Sharratt	John Burningham	Giles Andreas
YEAR 1	Sue Hendra	Mini Grey	Julia Donaldson
YEAR 2	Emily Gravett	Roald Dahl	Anthony Browne
YEAR 3	Dick King Smith	Guy Bass	William Joyce
YEAR 4	C.S.Lewis	Hans Christian Andersen	Jacqueline Wilson
YEAR 5	JK Rowling	Michael Morpurgo	Malorie Blackman
YEAR 6	Chris Priestley	Shaun Tan	William Shakespeare



	POEMS
RECEPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traditional/Nursery Rhymes (set 30 - see separate list)</li><li>• 'These are the Hands' (Paul Cookson)</li><li>• 'Happy Poem' (James Carter)</li></ul>
YEAR 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traditional/Nursery Rhymes (set 30 - see separate list)</li><li>• 'The Owl and the Pussy Cat' (Edward Lear)</li><li>• Traditional Tongue Twisters (Peter Piper/Betty Botter/Bizzy Buzzy Bee)</li></ul>
YEAR 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'The Really Rocking Rocket Trip' (David Harmer)</li><li>• 'What is Pink?' and 'Hurt No Living Thing' (Christina Rossetti)</li><li>• Roald Dahl Revolting Rhymes</li></ul>
YEAR 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'The Sound Collector' (Roger McGough)</li><li>• 'I Ask You' (David Whitehead)</li><li>• 'December Moon' (Brian Moses)</li></ul>
YEAR 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Jabberwock' (Lewis Carroll)</li><li>• Animal Poems - 'Tyger Tyger' (William Blake), 'Gorilla.' (Ann Bonner), 'The Magnificent Bull' (Dinka Tribe)</li><li>• 'Wings'; 'A Poem to be Spoken Silently' (Pie Corbett)</li></ul>
YEAR 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Macavity: The Mystery Cat' and 'Skimbleshanks' (T.S.Eliot)</li><li>• 'Granny'; 'Megastar Rap'; 'I'm Not a Kid' (Valerie Bloom)</li><li>• 'The Magic Box' (Kit Wright)</li></ul>
YEAR 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Witches' Chant' (William Shakespeare -from Macbeth)</li><li>• 'If' (Rudyard Kipling)</li><li>• 'The Oldest Girl in the World' (Carol Ann Duffy)</li></ul>

