



POETRY FOR OLDER CHILDREN

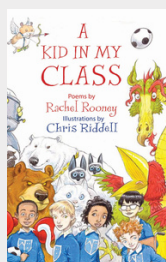
*Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought
and the thought has found words.*
Robert Frost

Poems help us to understand the world around us and to explore our feelings, reflect our emotions, helping us experience joy, grief, excitement, wonder and capturing special moments. In this way, poetry can have a positive impact on our mental wellbeing.

Reading poems by others encourages empathy as the reader views the world from the perspective of others and can help us to see that others share our feelings and that we are not alone.

Building on our first list of early rhymes and poems, this list highlights a range of poetry for older children to enjoy.

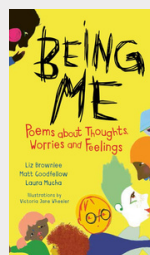
A Kid in my Class



Winner of the North Somerset Teachers' Book Awards 2019 Poetry Category, 'A Kid in my Class' explores the wonderful range of personalities to be found in every classroom, brilliantly illustrated by former Children's Laureate, Chris Riddell.

Rachel Rooney, illustrated by Chris Riddell
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1910959879

Being Me: Poems about Thoughts, Worries and Feelings



A brilliant collection of poems exploring emotions from a trio of exceptional poets. There really is something for everyone here- so much to enjoy and discuss.

Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow and Laura Much, illustrated by Victoria Jane Wheeler
Otter Barry
ISBN: 978-1913074654

Everyone Sang: A Poem for Every Feeling



Chosen by creator of the bestselling The Poetry Pharmacy, 'Everyone Sang' is divided into four sections- Poems to Make You Smile, Poems to Move You, Poems to Give You Hope and Poems to Calm and Connect- containing a mixture of traditional favourites and new treasures.

William Sieghart, illustrated by Emily Sutton
Walker Books
ISBN: 978-1406393613

Reaching the Stars: Poems about Extraordinary Women and Girls



Winner of the 2017 North Somerset Teachers' Book Awards Poetry Category, this collection contains powerful poems celebrating the lives and achievements of women. Rosa Parks, Margaret Hamilton and Ada Lovelace are just a few of the wonderful women whose contributions are recognised.

Liz Brownlee, Jan Dean and Michaela Morgan
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1509814282

This Rock That Rock



Celebrating 50 years since the first moon landing by Apollo 11 in 1969, this is an original collection of poems, offering a wide range of poetic forms and styles. Exploring the importance of both the Moon and poetry, it offers much to learn and more to enjoy!

Dom Conlon, illustrated by Viviane Schwarz
Troika Books
ISBN: 978-1909991927

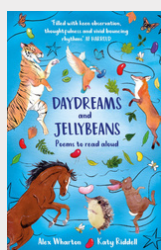
If I Were Other Than Myself



A fabulous collection of poems, enhanced by the poet's own illustrations. Full of imagination, inspiration and wonder. Also to enjoy is Sue's collection 'Where Zebras Go' (Otter-Barry Books ISBN: 978-1910959312).

Sue Hardy-Dawson
Troika
ISBN: 978-1909991859

Daydreams and Jellybeans



Inspiring, thoughtful, poignant and fun, 'Daydreams and Jellybeans' is a stunning collection of poems where words truly weave their magic.

Alex Wharton, illustrated by Katy Riddell
Firefly
ISBN: 978-1913102432

Where Do Wishes Go?



An exciting collection full of magic, humour, adventure and emotions, covering a wide range of subjects in a sensitive and thoughtful manner.

Debra Bertulis, illustrated by Jess Mason
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1913074395

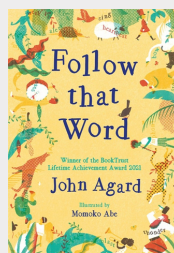
Dear Ugly Sisters and other poems



Winner of the 2021 North Somerset Teachers' Book Awards Poetry Category, this is an exuberant collection, bursting with wit, warmth and wonder.

Laura Mucha, illustrated by Tania Rex
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1913074791

Follow that Word



A fabulous collection of poems, full of word play, reflecting on people and places from both the modern world and the past. You might also like to explore 'The Rainmaker Danced', illustrated by Satoshi Kitamura (Hodder ISBN: 978-1444932607)

John Agard, illustrated by Momoko Abe
Hodder
ISBN: 978-1444964974

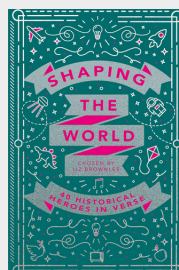
Firecrackers



Packed with a range of poetic styles, 'Firecrackers' fizzles with excitement and wonder. An excellent collection for dipping in and out of! Zaro's collection 'When Poems Fall from the Sky', illustrated by Junli Song (Troika ISBN: 978-1909991156), celebrates the beauty of the Earth whilst 'Cherry Moon', also illustrated by Junli Song (Troika ISBN: 978-1909991941) won CLiPPA 2020.

Matt Goodfellow, illustrated by Krina Patel-Sage
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1913074661

Shaping the World: 40 Historical Heroes in Verse



An anthology of 40 incredible shape poems about those who have helped to shape the world we live in. Each poem is accompanied by a brief biography, a quotation, and a fascinating fact about the poem's subject. Excellent for stimulating interest and discussion!

Chosen by Liz Brownlee
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1529036862

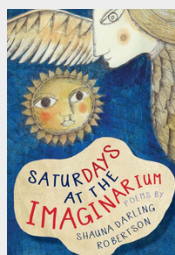
Stars with Flaming Tails



Valerie Bloom, illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max
Otter-Barry
ISBN: 978-1913074678

Winner of CLIPPA 2022, this is an enchanting collection of poems by much-loved poet, Valerie Bloom, which will make you think, laugh and find the colour of your dreams. Look out for the elfje, a poetic form originating in The Netherlands!

Saturdays at the Imaginarium



Shauna Darling Robertson, illustrated by Jude Wisdom
Troika
ISBN: 978-1912745128

A creative and thought-provoking collection of poems, perfect for sharing. Full of word play and imagination, Saturdays at the Imaginarium asks big questions about ourselves and the world we inhabit.

Riding a Lion



Coral Rumble, illustrated by Emily Ford
Troika
ISBN: 978-1912745029

Gathered into six sections, this collection offers something for every mood and emotion. It's a wonderful mixture of imagination and reality, offering much to discuss and enjoy. You might also enjoy Coral's latest collection 'Things that Should be in a Poem' (Troika ISBN: 978-1912745203).

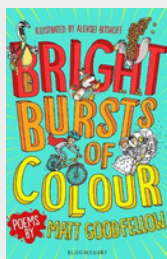
The Book of Not Entirely Useful Advice



A. F. Harrold, illustrated by Mini Grey
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1526618016

A wonderfully whacky collection of poems offering advice on a whole range of topics from food to dreams and everything in between, brilliantly illustrated by Mini Grey. Food lovers might also enjoy 'Midnight Feasts', edited by A. F. Harrold and illustrated by Katy Riddell (Bloomsbury ISBN: 978-1472944078)

Bright Bursts of Colour



Matt Goodfellow, illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1472963543

Winner of the 2020 North Somerset Teachers' Book Awards Poetry Category, this collection is packed with poems on a wide range of themes, sure to amuse and delight! If you like this, then try Matt's other collections, such as 'Let's Chase Stars Together: Poems to lose yourself in' (Bloomsbury ISBN: 978-1472993847) and 'Chicken on the Roof' (Otter-Barry Books ISBN 978-1910959909).

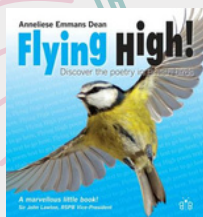
Welcome to My Crazy Life



Joshua Seigal, illustrated by Chris Piascik
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1472972729

Full of a playful love of language, this is a collection destined to make you laugh out loud, with some serious moments mixed in. You might also enjoy 'I Don't Like Poetry' (Bloomsbury ISBN: 978-1472930033).

Flying High!



Anneliese Emmans Dean
Brambleby Books
ISBN: 978-1908241504

Winner of the 2020 York Culture Award for Excellence in Writing, 'Flying High' takes you through the seasons, meeting birds through poetry and information, all accompanied by incredible photographs. You might also enjoy Buzzing! (ISBN: 978-1908241443) which is all about insects!

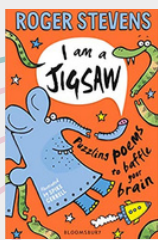
A Year of Nature Poems



Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Kelly Louise Judd
Wide Eyed
ISBN: 9781786035820

A beautiful year of poems celebrating the natural world and the importance of cherishing it from the 2022-24 Children's Laureate.

I am a Jigsaw: Puzzling Poems to Baffle Your Brain



Acrostics, riddles, kennings and paradiddles, metaphoricals, teasers and conundrums—every kind of puzzle poem to bemuse and befuddle, perplex and please can be found in this wonderful collection from one of our best loved poets along with plenty of excellent advice on how to write your own!

Collected by Roger Stevens, illustrated by Spike Gerrell
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1472958198

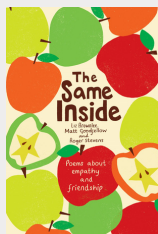
Tiger Tiger, Burning Bright! An Animal Poem for Every Day of the Year



Winner of the Books Are My Bag Readers Award for Poetry 2020, this is a lavishly illustrated treasury of poems, full of wonder and joy. It makes the perfect companion to the previous volume, 'I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree', illustrated by Frann Preston-Gannon. (ISBN: 978-0857637703)

Fiona Waters, illustrated by Britta Teckentrup
Nosy Crow
ISBN: 978-1788005678

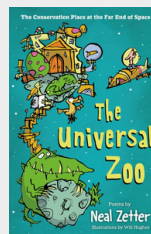
The Same Inside: Poems about Empathy and Friendship



A wonderful selection of fifty poems which sensitively explore feelings, friendship, respect and empathy. This exceptional trio of poets have also collaborated to produce 'Be The Change: Poems to help you save the world' (ISBN: 978-1529018943), poems which explore sustainability and the positive efforts being made to protect the planet.

Liz Brownlee, Roger Stevens & Matt Goodfellow
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1509854509

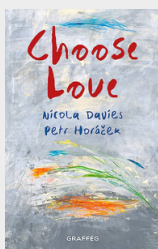
The Universal Zoo: The Conservation Place at the Far End of Space



Richly imaginative and full of humour, this collection sends an important message about conservation and saving endangered species.

Neal Zetter, illustrated by Will Hughes
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1913074401

Choose Love



This is a collection of poems, written by Nicola Davies, to describe and respond to the experience of being a refugee, arranged under the headings: Departure, Arrival and Healing. Powerful and moving, with Petr's evocative illustrations, this offers much to contemplate.

Nicola Davies, illustrated by Petr Horacek
Graffeg
ISBN: 978-1802583779

A Passing on of Shells



In his debut collection, Simon Lamb presents fifty poems, each written in exactly 50 words and beautifully illustrated by Chris Riddell.

Simon Lamb, illustrated by Chris Riddell
Sallywag Press
ISBN: 978-1915252128

And Everything Will Be Glad to See You



An uplifting collection of poems by women and girls that is sure to inspire and delight readers in this wide-ranging selection.

Selected by Ella Risbridger, illustrated by Anna Shepeta
Nosy Crow
ISBN: 978-1788009218

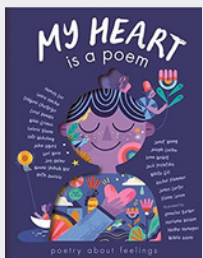
The Big Amazing Poetry Book



Offering 52 weeks of poems from 52 poets, this is the perfect gift for poetry lovers of all ages!

Edited by Gaby Morgan, illustrated by Chris Riddell
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1529099096

My Heart is a Poem



A wonderful collection of poems from a wonderful range of poets, illustrated by a wonderful range of artists which celebrates and explores all manner of feelings! You might also enjoy 'Courage in a Poem' (Caterpillar Books ISBN: 978-1838914394).

Various authors and illustrators
Caterpillar Books
ISBN: 978-1838914400

On the Move



This emotive poetry anthology is divided into four sections, each exploring a different aspect of migration. A deeply poignant collection, enhanced by illustrations from Quentin Blake.

Michael Rosen, illustrated by Quentin Blake
Walker Books
ISBN: 978-1529504361

MOVING ON

As we grow and face new challenges, poetry can help as a way of releasing or expressing pent up feelings and help us to channel the complex emotions we might be experiencing. It also offers the joy and richness of language as others share their experiences or thoughts, perhaps introducing the reader to new places or ideas. .

Rising Stars: New Young Voices in Poetry



This collection of work from five voices in poetry offers a fantastic range of very individual, distinctive styles, with pictures from a range of illustrators.

Ruth Awolola, Victoria Adukwebulley, Abigail Cook, Jay Hulme and Amina Jama
illustrated by Riya Chowdhury, Elanor Chuah and Joe Manners
Otter-Barry Books
ISBN: 978-1910959374

Wonder: The Natural History Museum Poetry Book



A stunning collection of poems, grouped into sections reflecting the different treasures the museum houses as carefully curated as the museum itself! New and classic poems share the pages with botanical drawings and engravings from the museum's collections.

Ana Sampson
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1529058994

Everything All at Once



Steven Camden
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1509880034

Winner of the 2019 CLIPPA award, this is a fantastic collection about the highs and lows of one week in a secondary school from a brilliant spoken-word poet.

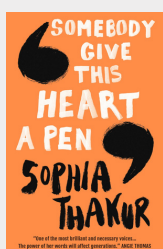
Tomorrow is Beautiful



Chosen by Sarah Crossan
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1526641892

Perfect for boosting your spirits, this collection offers a mixture of contemporary and classic poetry to uplift and offer hope.

Somebody Give This Pen a Heart



Sophia Thakur
Walker
ISBN: 978-1406388534

Split into five sections, The Process, Grow, Wait, Break and Grow Again, this is a powerful and moving selection of poems by an acclaimed performance poet.

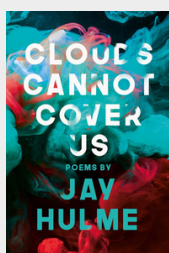
She is Fierce: Brave, Bold and Beautiful Poems by Women



Collected by Ana Sampson
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1509899425

A wonderful collection of poems from a wide range of women, with a short biography of each poet, this is an anthology to visit again and again and be enjoyed by everyone.

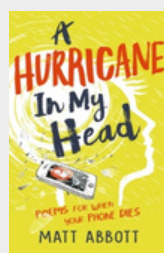
Clouds Cannot Cover Us



Jay Hulme
Troika
ISBN: 978-1912745104

This collection of poems has been carefully chosen to track Jay's journey from growing up in a working-class family in Leicestershire to his feelings and thoughts about school life and his experience as a transgender teenager.

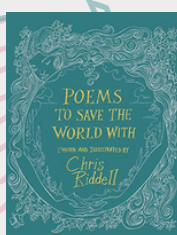
A Hurricane in my Head: Poems for When Your Phone Dies



Matt Abbott
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1472963505

A collection offering everything a teen might need a poem about, including bullying, friendship, technology and the life of a modern teenager.

Poems to Save the World With



Chosen and illustrated by Chris Riddell
Macmillan
ISBN: 978-1529040111

A wonderful mixture of classic and modern poems, all illustrated by former Children's Laureate, Chris Riddell, this is a beautifully presented volume of work. You might also enjoy Chris's two previous collections, 'Poems to Live Your Life By' (ISBN: 978-1509814374) and 'Poems to Fall in Love With' (ISBN: 978-1529023237)

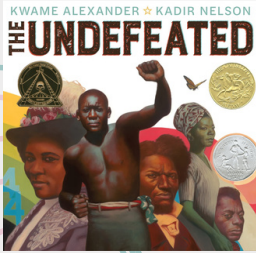
Poems from a Green and Blue Planet



edited by Sabrina Mahfouz, illustrated by Aaron Cushley
Hodder
ISBN: 978-1444951240

A Guardian Children's Book of the Year 2019, this collection of new and classic poems from around the world celebrates the diversity of life on our green and blue planet with poems in a range of styles.

The Undefeated



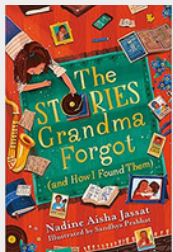
Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
Andersen
ISBN: 978-1783449293

A powerful poem which pays homage to the strength and courage of ordinary people, their perseverance, passion and creativity in the face of cruelty and oppression. A section at the end offers further information about the people referenced in the poem.

VERSE NOVELS

Although novels told in verse might be quicker to read, they are no less sophisticated and allow the reader to explore a story through lyrical language, beautifully expressed and offering plenty to ponder and reflect upon.

The Stories Grandma Forgot (and How I found Them)



A wonderful story about identity, memory loss, family and love. Nyla seeks to find out more about her past to uncover the mystery at the heart of her family.

Nadine Aisha Jassat, illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat
Orion
ISBN: 978-1510111578

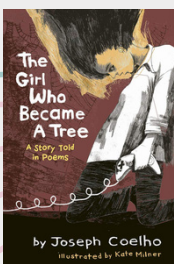
Wider Than the Sea



A beautiful tale of friendship and hope, the power of nature and the importance of being who you are.

Serena Molloy, illustrated by George Ermos
Hodder
ISBN: 978-1444968415

The Girl Who Became a Tree: A Story Told in Poems



Hauntingly beautiful, 'The Girl Who Became a Tree' interweaves the ancient myth of Daphne with the story of 14-year-old Daphne who is lost in grief following the death of her father. In 'The Boy Lost in the Maze' (Otter-Barry Books ISBN: 978-1913074333) blend the Greek myth of Theseus with a modern day boy's quest to find his father.

Elizabeth Acevedo
Harper Collins
ISBN: 978-0062662804

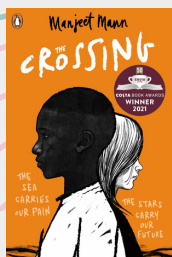
Little Light



Moving, poignant and beautiful, 'Little Light' tells the story of Ava, who is struggling with life at home and at school.

Coral Rumble
Troika Books
ISBN: 978-1912745166

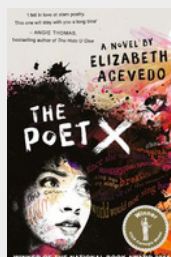
The Crossing



Manjeet Mann
Penguin
ISBN: 978-0241411445

Winner of the Costa Children's Book Award 2021, 'The Crossing' is a novel about two teenagers from opposite worlds, a profound story of hope, grief, and the very real tragedies of the refugee crisis.

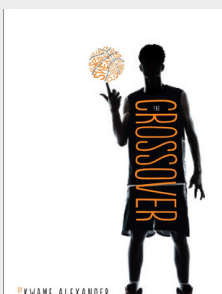
The Poet X



Elizabeth Acevedo
Harper Collins
ISBN: 978-0062662804

Fifteen-year-old Xiomara, also known as 'X' or 'Xio', discovers slam poetry and uses this as a way to work through the tension and conflict in her family.

The Crossover



Kwame Alexander
Andersen
ISBN: 978-1783443673

12-year-old Josh and his twin, Jordan, are kings of the basketball court, desperate to follow in their basketball champion father's footsteps. But conflict and hardship will test the brothers' bond both off and on court. 'Booked' (Andersen ISBN: 978-1783444656) follows the story of football-mad Nick whilst 'Rebound' (Andersen ISBN: 978-1783447206) is the prequel to 'Crossover', winner of the Newbery Medal.

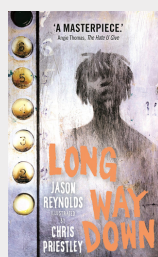
Toffee



Sarah Crossan
Bloomsbury
ISBN: 978-1408868133

When Alison runs away from home, she is taken in by Marla, an elderly lady with dementia, who mistakes her for an old friend called Toffee. But as their bond grows, Alison begins to question what home and family really are. You might also like to try 'One', winner of the Carnegie Medal 2016 (Bloomsbury ISBN: 978-1526614858).

Long Way Down



Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Chris Priestley
Atheneum
ISBN: 978-1481438254

Award winning, 'Long Way Down' tells the story of fifteen-year-old Will who seeks to avenge his murdered brother, Shawn.

The Federation strives to bring children and books together for enjoyment and fun.

For more information: info@fcbg.org.uk
www.fcbg.org.uk