

Express yourself creatively

Workshop Outline
June 2026



Workshop Elements

A scaffolded approach to writing poetry

- guides and supports, templates, form poems, etc.
- learning about rhythm, metre and rhyme

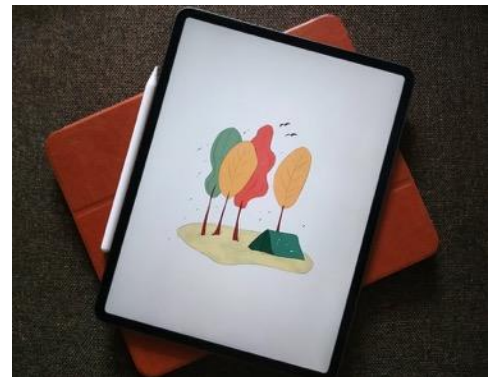
A scaffolded approach to experiencing poetry

- text, audio and video presentations of poems by published authors and learner-poets

OER, digital resources and digital tools

- that support a scaffolded approach to expressing oneself through the medium of creative writing - especially poetry

OER = Open Education Resources



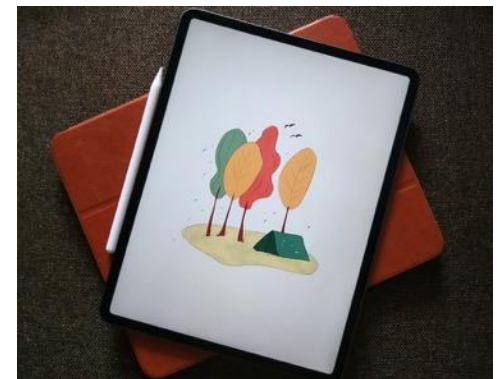
Why poetry?

Poetry and literacy

Poetry has been associated with the teaching of literacy for a long time. Because poetry, in some ways, is the cherry on the top of literacy. In poetry we see something approaching our full humanity expressed in the technology of writing. Writing is a complex, subtle, highly expressive technology. Poetry is typically considered the highest form of writing because that's where we learn how to feel—and sing—with language. Language in poetry can carry feeling, song, emotion, attitude, the tone of the inner voice, as well as thought.

<https://vispo.com/netartery/digital-poetry-in-digital-literacy.html>

<https://www.vispo.com/writings/essays/DigitalPoetryInDigitalLiteracy2.pdf>



Why poetry for literacy learners?

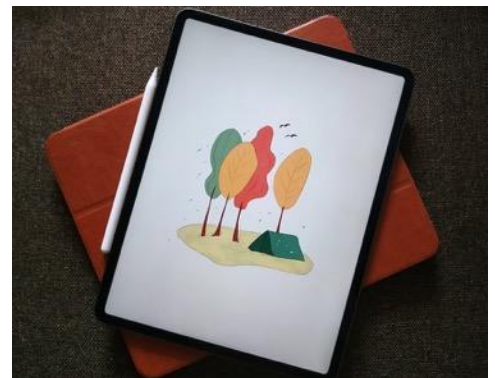
For literacy learners, poetry can be a pathway to creative expression.

In poetry the focus is on feeling, rhythm, creative use of language rather than on grammatical correctness and perfect spelling.

Poetry gives learners a space to develop their writing voice free from some of the constraints of other types of writing.

Great poets know all the rules and can break them to great effect.

To be a learner-poet one can get started with **a quiet observation** and a **feeling** or a **question** about the observation that evokes a feeling.



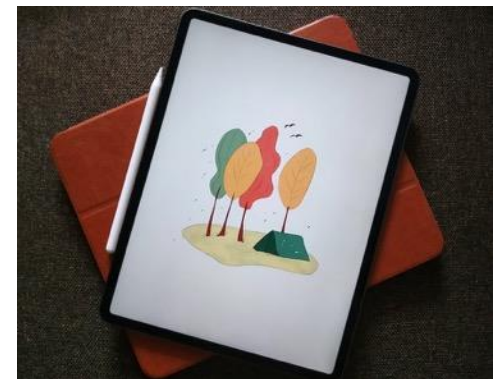
Workshop 1: Learn together

Creating something from something

Today we are going to look at some ways we can create poetry even if we have never read or written a poem before.

We are going to look at

- two resources for learning about what poetry is;
- two forms of *found poetry* that are a place to start;
- how creating something from something fosters a growth mindset.



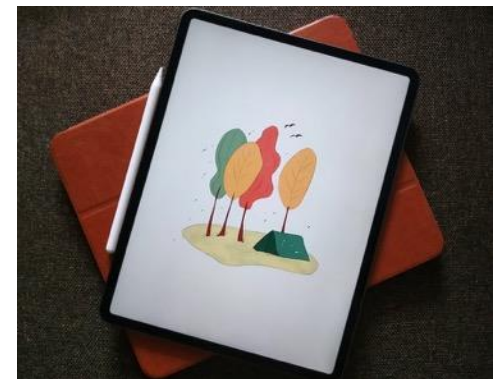
Workshop 2: Learn together

Quiet observations and form poems

Today we are going to look at some ways we can create poetry from our own experiences and our own lives.

We are going to look at

- a poem created from an observation and a question;
- how that poem inspired action;
- how images can inspire creativity;
- how form poetry can help us start creating;
- and a little on how to find images that we can use.



Workshop 3: Learn together

Poetry helps us learn and grows our hearts

Today we are going to look at some ways we can learn about poetry by experiencing it in different formats.

We are going to look at

- how poetry gets in our hearts;
- places to read and hear poems;
- how reading poems, listening to poems and reading poems out loud help us to understand poetry.

