

Year 2: Reading

Today I Read a Bus Stop

This week we would like you to read the following poem and complete the following activities:

- Discuss what you like about the poem
- What makes this poem a poem and not a story or non-fiction piece of writing?
- Re-read the poem and discuss what features you can find in this poem. (Rhyme, it is set out with lines not sentences, poetic language - also feel free to use the 'Possible Features of a Poem' below as a guide)
- Revisit rhyming and discuss that the poem uses rhyme but it does not have a regular rhyming pattern. Look at some of the near rhymes (e.g. grass/past) Can you underline the rhymes you can find?

Possible Features of a Poem

- **Rhyme** – regular or irregular. Also near rhymes.
- **Rhythm** – structured and regular or irregular, fast or slow.
- **Free verse** – doesn't follow any rules.
- **Onomatopoeia** – when a word sounds like what it means.
- **Nonsense words** – words that are not real but add a funny effect.
- **Alliteration** - repeated sounds.
- **Repeated words/phrases** – creates a more powerful effect.
- **Comparisons** – saying something is like something else.
E.g. My dog is like a clamp. He never lets go!

Today I Read a Bus Stop

Today I read a bus stop
and then I read a van,
a poster and three carrier bags,
some shop signs and a man
who had a crazy T-shirt on.

I'd already read the cereal box,
a mug, and the jam label
and the headlines of the paper
that was lying on the table.

I read some writing in the sky,
I even read the road,

a tree, a sign stuck in the grass,
some number plates that whistled past,

a bag of crisps, a birthday card
(it had my name on it so that was easy).

I was reading a text message
when I should have read the door
so then I pushed instead of pulled
and dropped my mobile on the floor.

Then I started on this poem
and went out for another look

because

reading is amazing
and all the world's a book.

By Kathy Henderson

