

# LEAP's Guide to Reading Poetry

## Elements of Poetry

Poetry is not only a special form of writing, it's an art! While there are many types of poetry, each one will follow a unique structure that uses key elements such as verse, rhyme, and meter. Many of the elements of poetry can also be seen in other texts you may read. You may even hear forms of poetry in your favorite songs, notice poetry in tv commercials, or even use poetic elements when talking to your friends!

## Comprehension Tips

**Look at the poem's format:** Different types of poetry use different structures. Look at the structure to help you think about the author's meaning.

**Consider the content:** First read the poem to yourself, then read it again aloud. Think about the language the author uses. What is the message they are sharing?

## Helpful Information

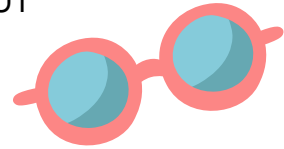
There are many different types of poetry, including free verse, narrative, limericks, ballads, haikus, and more. Take some time to explore the different types of poetry and discover your favorites!



An Acrostic Poem About

*Summer*

*Sleeping in late  
Under the stars  
Making memories  
Movies and popcorn  
Enjoying fun in the sun  
Relaxing by the pool*



**Poetry we recommend:**

- Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
- Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai
- The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
- Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo
- Ink Knows No Borders: Poems of the Immigrant and Refugee Experience edited by Patrice Vecchione and Alyssa Raymond