



NATIONAL POETRY DAY

4TH OCTOBER 2018

Key stage 1/2

Changing places

*A National Poetry Day
resource created by the
National Literacy Trust*



The Poetry Society was founded in 1909 to promote “a more general recognition and appreciation of poetry”. Since then, it has grown into one of Britain’s most dynamic arts organisations, representing British poetry both nationally and internationally. Today it has more than 4000 members worldwide and publishes *The Poetry Review*.

Blackpool Tower

Blackpool Tower

Sturdy, glittery

Climbing, observing, dancing

There is life inside

Monolith



Activities:

Primary - write a poem about a memorable place

Starter: Ask the children to draw a picture of a place they remember clearly. To ensure you have a variety of responses, you could specify 'rules' such as 'it can't be at home or at school' or 'you have only been there once'.

Discussion activity: In pairs, the pupils share their pictures and discuss their memorable places. Ensure they have shared:

- When they went to the place
- Why they went to the place
- What happened there (it might be good or bad)
- Whether anybody else was there with them
- How they feel about the place

Writing activity: The pupils will now write a cinquain about their place using the structure provided:

Line 1: Write the name of the place (this is also your title).

Line 2: Write two words that describe the place, providing as much detail as you can.

Line 3: Write three things that happen/ed in that place as though they are still happening now (ending -ing)

Line 4: Write a four word sentence that gives the reader a clearer picture

Line 5: Write one word to describe how it made you feel

Performance activity:

Give the children time to warm up their voices and practise reading their poem aloud. You could do this by asking them to

- chew an imaginary toffee that is very sticky
- pretend to be a siren, making their voice move up and down as far as they can from high to low
- laugh as loudly as they can, with their hands on their tummies so they can feel their diaphragms
- read their poem aloud all at the same time: first as quietly as they can, then as loudly as they can, then moving from loud to quiet throughout the poem

Give them the chance to read their poem to the class and ask members of the class to tell the performer one thing they liked about their poem.

Glossary: Cinquain - A cinquain is a five line poem that is rich in imagery.

Further resources from that National Literacy Trust:

Our Places: a toolkit for inspiring reading and writing through exploration of local places - <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/our-places-toolkit-inspiring-reading-and-writing-through-exploration-local-places/>

Poetry slam toolkit - <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/write-poetry-slam/>

