

Children's Poetry Memorization Project: Choose Your Poem

You will choose **one children's poem to memorize and perform** with clear pronunciation, appropriate rhythm, expression, and an understanding of the poem's meaning.

#	Poem	Poet	Main theme(s)	Difficulty
1	The Swing	Robert Louis Stevenson	Freedom; childhood; imagination	★★
2	The Wind	Robert Louis Stevenson	Nature; mystery; childhood	★★
3	Rain	Robert Louis Stevenson	Nature; observation	★★
4	Bed in Summer	Robert Louis Stevenson	Childhood; bedtime; imagination	★★
5	Where Go the Boats?	Robert Louis Stevenson	Nature; childhood; imagination	★★☆
6	Foreign Lands	Robert Louis Stevenson	Imagination; travel; perspective	★★☆
7	The Land of Nod	Robert Louis Stevenson	Dreams; imagination; sleep	★★★
8	The Moon	Robert Louis Stevenson	Night; nature; imagination	★★
9	Wind on the Hill	A. A. Milne	Nature; curiosity; imagination	★★☆
10	Halfway Down	A. A. Milne	Childhood; imagination; independence	★★☆
11	The King's Breakfast <i>(selected section)</i>	A. A. Milne	Humor; persistence; absurdity	★★★
12	Who Has Seen the Wind?	Christina Rossetti	Nature; mystery; imagination	★★
13	The Caterpillar	Christina Rossetti	Nature; transformation; beauty	★★☆
14	The Star	Jane Taylor	Nature; wonder; childhood	★★
15	The Tyger	William Blake	Nature; power; mystery; creation	★★★★
16	The Lamb	William Blake	Nature; innocence; creation	★★★
17	The School Boy	William Blake	Childhood; freedom; education; nature	★★★★
18	Mr. Nobody	Anonymous	Mischief; responsibility; humor	★★★
19	The Crocodile	Lewis Carroll	Animals; humor; nonsense	★★
20	The Owl and the Pussy-Cat	Edward Lear	Adventure; love; nonsense	★★★
21	The Purple Cow	Gelett Burgess	Humor; individuality; nonsense	★★
22	The Pasture	Robert Frost		★★

My Choices

Student: _____ **Course:** _____

Date: _____

First choice (Poem, Poet): _____

Second choice: _____

Third choice: _____

Why did you choose your first poem?

What will make this poem interesting to perform?

Remember: You Are Performing, Not Just Reciting

A successful performance should include:

MEMORY – Know the poem without reading it.

PRONUNCIATION – Speak clearly and accurately.

RHYTHM – Follow the natural rhythm of the poem.

EXPRESSION – Use your voice to communicate meaning and emotion.

PERFORMANCE – Use appropriate volume, pauses, eye contact, and body language.

INTERPRETATION – Show the audience that you understand the poem.

Your goal is not simply to remember every word. Your goal is to bring the poem to life.