# **Rhyming Poetry**

Have a look at this poem about a bear and see if you can spot the rhyme scheme.



# A Big Bare Bear

A big bare bear

bought a bear balloon,

For a big bear trip

to the bare, bare moon.

A hairy bear

saw the bare bear fly,

On the big bear trip

in the bare, bare sky.

The hairy bear

took a jet up high,

To catch the bear

in the big bare sky.

The hairy bear

flew his jet right by,

The bear balloon

in the big bare sky.

He popped the balloon

with his hairy

thumb,

And the bare bear fell

on his big bum

bum.



### By Robert Heidbreder

My cat is **nice** 

Poetry can rhyme in lots of different ways and patterns. A **rhyme scheme** is a way to describe the pattern of rhymes at the end of each line in a poem.

Each new sound at the end is given a letter 'A' then 'B' etc. If an end sound repeats the sound of an earlier line it gets the same letter as the earlier line.

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Look at the different versions of this cat poem to help.

My cat is <b>fice</b> My cat likes <b>mice</b> My cat is <b>fat</b> I like my <b>cat</b>	A A B B
My cat is <b>nice</b> My cat is <b>fat</b> My cat likes <b>mice</b> I like my <b>cat</b>	A B A B
My cat is ginger My cat is <b>fat</b> My cat is <b>sweet</b> I like my <b>cat</b>	A B C B
Can you spot the rhyme scheme in the bare bear poem?	
<ul><li>2. What three words does that</li><li>a)</li><li>b)</li></ul>	ne poet use to rhyme with 'sky'? c)
3. There is lots of alliteration in this poem, words next to or near each other that begin with the same letter or sound. How many words in the first line begin with the same letter?	
4 14/1   1   1   1	

4. Why do you think the poet describes the bear as 'bare'?

5. What two other things does the poet describe as bare in the poem?

a) b)

- 6. How many syllables are there in the line (The hairy bear popped the balloon) 'with his hairy thumb'?
- 7. Why do you think the poet said the bare bear fell 'on his big bum' and not 'on his big bum'?
- 8. Look at these next two poems and see if you can see their rhyme scheme.

#### Caspar the Cat

Caspar the cat,
Lives in a flat,
And he hates to get his fur soggy.
When he's caught in a shower,
He turns very sour,
And then he's a bad-tempered moggy!

By Valerie McCarthy

#### Gogo Cat

Gogo cat has an orange coat He also wears black wellies, He lost his thermal underwear So now he borrows Nelly's.

Gogo cat has a bath each night He dives into the basin, We keep a saucer full of milk For him to wash his face in.

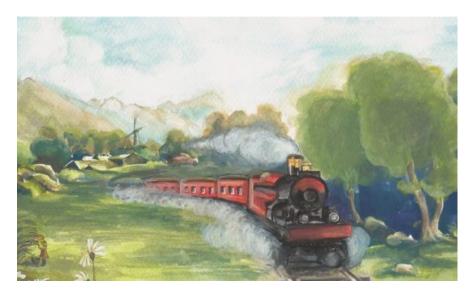
By John Rice

Our final poem is by Robert Louis Stevenson and is a perfect example of both rhyme and rhythm being used together to illustrate the exhilaration and speed of a railway train journey. Whilst the rhythm of the poem's lines, are regular and steady, the view from the train window is constantly changing. Look at the rhyme scheme for this poem and see how many changes there are.

### From A Railway Carriage

Faster than fairies, faster than witches, Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches; And charging along like troops in a battle All through the meadows the horses and cattle: All of the sights of the hill and the plain Fly as thick as driving rain; And ever again, in the wink of an eye, Painted stations whistle by. Here is a child who clambers and scrambles. All by himself and gathering brambles; Here is a tramp who stands and gazes; And here is the green for stringing the daisies! Here is a cart runaway in the road Lumping along with man and load; And here is a mill, and there is a river: Each a glimpse and gone forever!

# By Robert Louis Stevenson



### **Answers**

- 1. A A, B B, B B, B B, C C.
- 2. a) fly
- b) high
- c) by

- 3.6
- 4. He has no clothes on.
- 5. a) bare moon
- b) bare sky

- 6.5
- 7. 'on his big bum bum' has 5 syllables like the line above that it is rhyming with. If he only used the word bum once it wouldn't have the correct rhythm.
- 8. A A, B C, C B and ABCB, ABCB