



Bramford Reading Newsletter

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"Greatness from small beginnings"

Here at Bramford, we are trying to encourage the children to read and enjoy more poetry. Poetry is good to help children enhance their vocabulary and practise their reading skills. Between nursery rhymes, storybooks (especially Dr. Seuss), and singalongs, children are surrounded by poetry every single day without even realising. As well as bringing enjoyment to children, poetry can aid child's cognitive development by helping them understand patterns, by enriching and extending their vocabulary, and by helping them remember information. Poetry also helps unlock the imagination and helps with creativity.

This old but very famous poem really helps children (and adults) remember how many days are in each month of the year.

The Days of the Months

Author Unknown

Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November;
February has twenty-eight alone.
All the rest have thirty-one,
Excepting leap-year—that's the time
When February's days are twenty-nine.

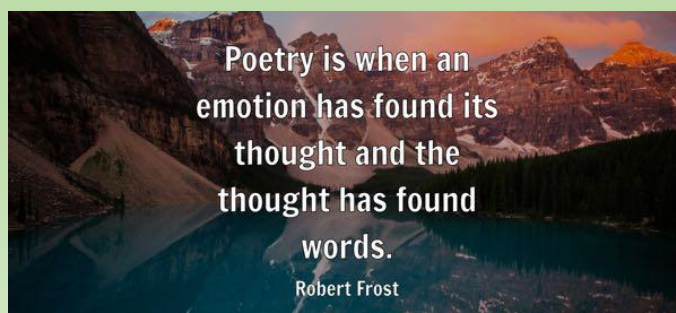
You may know the author and poet Lewis Carroll as the author of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, but you may not have known that he is truly a master of quirky poems.



The Crocodile

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!
How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spreads his claws,
And welcomes little fishes in,
With gently smiling jaws!

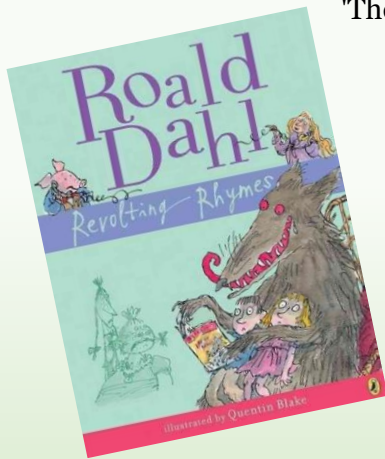
By Lewis Carroll



The poems of Roald Dahl are truly clever and very amusing. This is just an extract from Dahl's poem The Three Little Pigs.

The Three Little Pigs

The animal I really dig,
Above all others is the pig.
Pigs are noble. Pigs are clever,
Pigs are courteous. However,
Now and then, to break this rule,
One meets a pig who is a fool.
What, for example, would you say,
If strolling through the woods one day,
Right there in front of you you saw
A pig who'd built his house of STRAW?
The Wolf who saw it licked his lips,
And said, 'That pig has had his chips.'
'Little pig, little pig, let me come in!'
'No, no, by the hairs on my chinny-chin-chin!'
'Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in!'



The little pig began to pray,
But Wolfie blew his house away.
He shouted, 'Bacon, pork and ham!
Oh, what a lucky Wolf I am!'
And though he ate the pig quite fast,
He carefully kept the tail till last.
Wolf wandered on, a trifle bloated.
Surprise, surprise, for soon he noted
Another little house for pigs,
And this one had been built of TWIGS!

'Little pig, little pig, let me come in!'
'No, no, by the hairs on my chinny-chin-chin!'
'Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in!'

The Wolf said, 'Okay, here we go!'
He then began to blow and blow.
The little pig began to squeal.
He cried, 'Oh Wolf, you've had one meal!
Why can't we talk and make a deal?
The Wolf replied, 'Not on your nelly!'
And soon the pig was in his belly.

The rest of this wonderful story poem by Roald Dahl (plus some other equally amusing poems) can be found online.

Please help us to foster a love of reading through starting a love of poetry. Let us know if you find some wonderful poems that your children enjoy.

Happy Reading everyone!

