

# Poetry Please!

Most of us tend to stick pretty close to our comfort zones when it comes to our book choices. And while it's easy to continue to reach for a mystery, or a biography or some historical fiction when choosing a new book, sometimes we need to shake things up a bit, to read something that might not normally have a spot on our bookshelves. Something like poetry, perhaps.

Here are some suggestions to help you celebrate poetry with your family:

- Read a poem together
- Put some magnetic words on the fridge and have your child write a refrigerator poem
- Choose a word from the dictionary and have everyone write down as many rhyming words as they can in two minutes
- Write a rap song and then perform it
- Find a poem from another country
- Have a Poetry Night where everyone recites a poem from memory
- Have everyone in the family write their own poem and then take turns reading them. Haikus and limericks count too!
- Slip a poem into your child's lunch box or under their pillow
- Celebrate Poetry Month every April by reading lots of rhyming books and writing lots of fun poetry

Poems can be a fun way to step outside the usual boundaries to celebrate words.

Find more parent, family and teacher resources, tips and early literacy products at [www.calgaryreads.com](http://www.calgaryreads.com)

