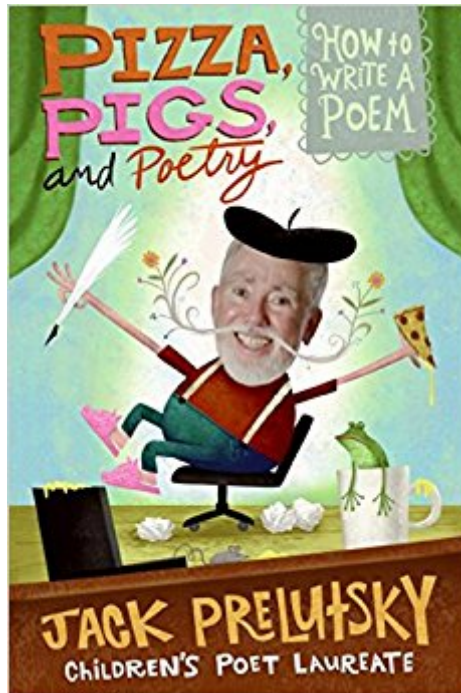




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Pizza, Pigs, And Poetry: How To Write A Poem



Synopsis

Have you ever tried to write a poem about a pizza? How about a pig? How about a pigeon, penguin, potato, Ping-Pong, parrot, puppy, pelican, porcupine, pie, pachyderm, or your parents? Jack Prelutsky has written more than a thousand poems about all of these things—and many others. In this book he gives you the inside scoop on writing poetry and shows you how you can turn your own experiences and stories about your family, your pets, and your friends into poems. He offers tips, advice, and secrets about writing and provides some fun exercises to help you get started (or unstuck). You'll also get a behind-the-scenes look at the ingredients of some of his most popular poems. If you are a poet, want to be a poet, or if you have to write a poem for homework and you just need some help, this is the book for you!

Book Information

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Education & Reference > Reading & Writing > Composition & Creative Writing #330 in Books

> Children's Books > Education & Reference > Jobs & Careers

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Grade 3–6 In this engaging book, the popular and prolific Prelutsky relates personal anecdotes and then shows how he created poems from them, in most cases by using comic exaggeration to suit his artistic purposes. Some are from his childhood, like "My Mother Says I'm Sickening," which grew out of playing with his food at the dinner table. ("My mother says I'm sickening/My mother says I'm crude/She says this when she sees me/Playing Ping-Pong with my

food.") Others are more recent. Something as simple as buying a banana from a street vendor led to "I'm Building a Bridge of Bananas." Also included are plenty of writing tips, with practical, lively suggestions ideal for the target age group. Prelutsky repeatedly advises readers to keep a notebook and write down every idea, to give ideas time to percolate, to rewrite, and to have fun. Even when defining poetic terms, he is humorous and conversational: "Poetic license is my favorite license," he claims, before going on to offer a simple and understandable definition. The book concludes with a list of "Poemstarts to Get You Started." A good addition for public, school, and classroom libraries. —Lauralyn Persson, Wilmette Public Library, IL Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Along with easy-to-follow tips for creating verse, haiku, and concrete poetry, the reigning Children's Poet Laureate offers insights into his own thought processes ("Different foods behave in different ways when you squeeze them."), glimpses of his childhood, and personal anecdotes. Appropriately, his brief closing glossary of poet's tools includes entries for poetic license, pun, and irony. To get the creative juices flowing in budding versifiers, Prelutsky tucks in more than a dozen examples from his own work, plus 10 two-and-part-of-a-third-line "poemstarts." Although Ralph J. Fletcher's Poetry Matters: Writing a Poem from the Inside Out (2002) is a more wide-ranging guide to poetic techniques and forms, Prelutsky's amiable primer will be more appealing to less-motivated audiences; it will not only entice them into making poetry but also leave them better able to appreciate rhyme and wordplay in general. Grades 4-6. --John Peters

Definitely get this for the kids in your life. You'll enjoy it too.

The best trait of this book is how the author explains how he gets ideas for his poetry. It is a "thinking aloud" process that is entertaining and helpful to young writers. The best, and recurring, advice in this book is "write what you know."

funny poems for young kids

Love this!

Prelutsky hits the funny bone right on again. This collection is as full of fun and musings to tickle the fancy as any of the others this award-winning poet has written. Few other poets today will take the time to show children how to write for fun and give them examples that will make sense to them. The bonus is that it is equally helpful to aspiring adult-poets as well. Delightful to see someone having a good time with what is too often taught in a strait-laced manner.

Great for helping have fun while teaching poetry

"This might have been my summer reading book, but I was very happy that I read it, because it was a great book. I loved all the poems in it, and I loved how funny the book was. I think this book would be good to read out loud to younger kids, and they will laugh at every word! I'm in 4th grade and I think this is a good reading book for 8 - 11 year olds, boys and girls."

Til now I was poet-illiterate; no more than a sad, monstrous hack. I've discovered my Peter Principle; Appreciative meter-reader! Three cheers for the Poet-Laureate! I have you to thank for this, Jack! (You make it look easy, and it surely is fun! Don't judge; I dug deep to make this one!)

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