



Teacher, Librarian and Home-Schooling Guide

Rhymes which encompass so many topics that children love, are incorporated into funny and thought provoking messages and combined with brilliant illustrations, so use of the **Scribble & Grin™ Collection** lends itself to children of elementary school, ages three through thirteen!

Use this book with students of all ages who are in elementary school:

- **Primary division students** - grades junior kindergarten through grade three
- **Junior division students** - grades four through six
- **Intermediate divisions students** - grades seven and eight

Below are some suggested activities for using this **Collection** with students - for educators, parents, librarians and others who may be working with children.

Use the **Scribble & Grin™** books on their own or along with other poetry books.

Children aged three to six:

- Read the poems with the children.
- Read, reread and say their favorites many times, in order for them to become familiar with the rhymes and soon they will have memorized rhymes, various lines and eventually the entire poem or verse!
- Talk about the illustrations and how they match each poem. Help them to create a rich language base through conversation.
- Draw or paint pictures to match their favorite poems or verses.
- As their literacy level grows, discuss the pictures, point out words and encourage them to talk about their experiences with similar events in their own life.

Children aged six through eight:

- Now, many children can read the poems to adults and to each other. Provide this book and other poetry books for them to read independently.
- Identify the style of many of the poems as limericks or rhymes.
- Isolate rhyming words and create word families with these words by making a list of other words that rhyme. i.e.: fall, ball, call, hall
- Change words within the poem to adjust the meaning, first orally, then in writing.
- Use each child's name in a limerick. Then challenge them to adjust a couple of lines to make it about them or their own experience.
- Use poems to initiate discussions about their feelings.
- Have children read or memorize poems to present to others.

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- Divide children into groups and have them dramatize poem to present to others.
- Have children find poems with similar topics in other books.
- Have children make a poster to match their favorite poem.
- Encourage them to find out more about the topic of one of the poems i.e.: musical instruments.

Children aged eight through eleven:

- Provide the students with more poetry books and discuss some different styles of poetry.
- Sort a selection of poems into groups and choose a style to model.
- One step at a time, have them change a few words in a poem to eventually create their own poem. They will need each step modeled by the instructor many times and eventually, many children will be able write their own poems either alone or with assistance. Writing could be done in pairs or individually.
- Build on all of the previous suggestions by talking about and teaching about a few styles of poetry and encourage the writing of limericks using these ones as a model.
- Have a poetry recitation festival, where each person recites a memorized poem to a group. Invite guests. Record the recitations. Videotape each person as they recite their poem. Watch the videos together!

Children aged eleven through thirteen and beyond:

- Most children will have been exposed to many styles of poetry by this time in their life. Again, provide students with plenty of poetry to read and compare.
- Use these limericks and other poems to generate discussion about many of the topics included in this book.
- Allow students to work individually or in pairs:
- Have them write poems about each other.
- Have them write poems about family members, pets, occupations, historical events, musical instruments, feelings; the list is endless.....
- Have them illustrate their poems using various media, or art forms.
- Make a book out of a group of poems - write, edit, type, proofread and "publish".
- Have a book fair to share their published books with younger children.

There are so many other creative ways to use the *Scribble & Grin*™ *Collection*.

Enjoy!!!!

Anna-Marie Heitzner, BA B Ed
Educator 30+ years, Mom, Grandmother

