

Tips for Teaching Poetry Planning Guide

Strategies:

Strategy	How might I use?	When might I use?
Imitate great		
poets		
"Question the		
Author"		

Action Plan:

Action Step		How might I use?	When might I use?
1)	Read great poetry – choose a		
	poet and try to understand		
	what speaks to you and why		
2)	Ask questions of the poet – put		
	yourself in the shoes of the		
	poet you're reading and try to		
	break apart his or her thought		
	process		
3)	Write a poem – try to adopt		
	the style of the poet you've		
	chosen, and see what the		
	process of imitation feels like;		
	ask yourself if it would work as		
	a prompt for your students		
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4) Read your poem to a friend (or to your students) — this puts you in the shoes of your students 5) Borrow a poetry lesson — use a fellow teachers' or one from the internet to get started 6) Integrate what you know — adapt techniques from other parts of your teaching, such as reading comprehension, into your poetry lessons 7) Create your own poetry lessons — Consider using a poem you've written as a model 8) Share your students' poems — Create deliberate space for celebrating and sharing student work 9) Share your poetry lessons — Share them with colleagues along with student work samples 10) Publish! — Consider publishing your lessons and their results in a journal or magazine			
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