

The Power of Poems

Writing Activities for the Classroom

- Wordstorm to increase students' vocabulary
- Display books of poetry and share poems everyday, not just in language arts
 - Play with tongue twisters, write alliteration; make a school alphabet book
- Make a picture file with funny and interesting pictures clipped from magazine ads. Pass pictures around for oral storytelling; write poems and stories based on pictures
- Make a newspaper clippings file of interesting headlines and articles. Write stories and poems based on these clippings
- Write 'Inside Me' poems; poems based on classical music; put poems to a tune and sing or rap; write 'found poems' finding the words for your poem inside a piece of prose.
 - Write metaphor poetry and non-rhyming poetry
- Write shaped poetry, perform poems such as The Cremation of Sam McGee
 - Get a rhyming dictionary for your classroom

•

Based on The Power of Poems, Margriet Ruurs, Maupin House, ISBN 092989544-4

Celebrate

students' writing by publishing in the classroom and beyond:

- Create a Poet Tree with brown paper trunk and leaf shaped poems
- Create classroom books of poetry by printing students' poems and laminating a cover. Design book to include a title page, dedication page, page about the author, ISBN number and 'rave reviews' on the back
- Place a copy of your classroom book of poems in the Library for others to read
- Publish students' writing on your school's web page by adding a button called 'Young Authors'
- Encourage your students to submit their writing to KIdsWWrite Magazine:

www.kalwriters.com/kidswwwrite

or to magazines such as:

- * CREATIVE KIDS, PO Box 8813,
Waco, TX 76714-8813
- * STONE SOUP, PO Box 83,
Santa Cruz, CA 95063
- * MERLYN'S PEN, PO Box 1058,
East Greenwich, RI 02818
- * WORD DANCE, PO Box 10804,
Wilmington, DE 19850-0804.