

Teacher Guide: a Color Poem

Introduce poetry as a literary form.

What is poetry? Poetry is a type of writing. It stirs our imagination and senses by carefully choosing and organizing words to create meaning and rhythm.

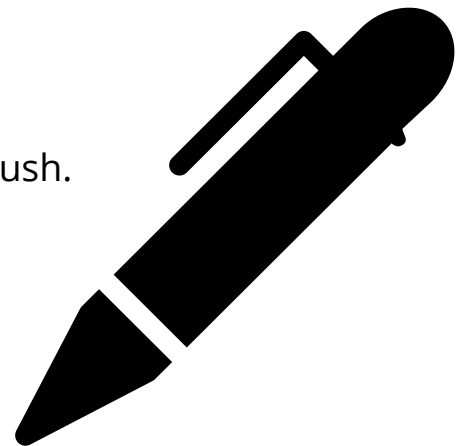
Read and discuss the sample poem.

A color poem describes a color using the five senses.

Blue

by Tracie Padal

Blue looks like ripe promises jewelling a fruit-tangled bush.
It's the gentle drum of raindrops on a lonely roof.
Blue smells like salt, sweat, sand, and sun.
It's an ice-cold drink on a day that sizzles.
Blue feels like a soft blanket, netting the earth.



What is this poem about?

How does the poem make you feel?

How does this poem create sensory details?

- Similes: compare two unlike things using "like" or "as."
- Metaphors: words/phrases that describe one thing as if it were another.

Brainstorm together.

Choose a color (or another topic) and complete the graphic organizer together. How does your topic look, sound, smell, taste and feel?

Write.

Consider writing a sample poem together as a class.

Invite students to use the classroom graphic organizer to write their own poems.

Challenge students to brainstorm and create poems on their own.

Share.

Read your poems out-loud.

- Listen for similes and metaphors.
- Talk about how the poems make you feel.



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