

Teacher Guide: an "ing" 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.

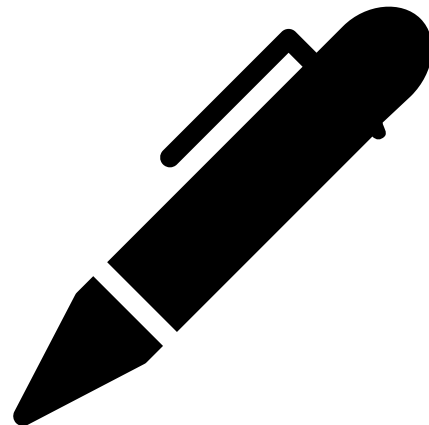
Read and discuss the sample poem.

An "ing" poem uses vivid **verbs** to describe a topic. A verb names an action or something that you can do.

Pancakes

by Tracie Padal

Mixing,
Sizzling,
Flipping,
Drizzling--
DISAPPEARING!



What is this poem about? What happens to the pancakes at the end?

How does the poem make you feel?

What patterns do you notice in this poem?

- Parallel structure: each line contains one word ending in "ing."
- Organization: verbs arranged in a way that tells a story.
- Punctuation creates drama.

Brainstorm together.

Choose a topic and create a word bank together.

- Ask: how could we make this idea a verb?
- Are there "stronger" or more precise words that we could use?

Write.

Consider writing a sample poem together as a class using your word bank.

Invite students to use the classroom word banks to write their own poems.

Students ready for a challenge can create their own word banks and poems.

Share.

Read your poems out-loud.

- Don't share the title/topic before reading your poem. Let listeners guess the topic based on the verbs used in the poem.
- Listen for the patterns.
- Talk about how the poems make you feel.



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