**Toad Themed Poetry**

Here’s a creative writing challenge: use these prompts to write a poem about toads using different forms of poetry. Each form has different rules and we have included an example of each type. Don’t forget to share your writing with Froglife!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Haiku</strong></th>
<th><strong>Example</strong> (about a blackbird):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chase</strong>  <strong>flick</strong>  <strong>dip</strong>  <strong>tuck</strong>  <strong>run</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Body plain music vibrant</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Calamity! Gone</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>By Rebecca Neal</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 syllables in the first line, 7 in the next, and 5 in the final line</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is no need to rhyme or give them a title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Limerick</strong></th>
<th><strong>Example:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>There once was a girl in the fens</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Who took teenagers out to build dens</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>She wrote poetry for fun</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Read short stories she’s done</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>As they always contain handsome men</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A limerick is a short, funny poem which is often a bit cheeky and sometimes nonsence</td>
<td><strong>By Rebecca Neal</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They have five lines, where the 2nd+5th rhyme, and the 3rd+4th rhyme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The first line usually introduces a character and place</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Froglife is a UK wildlife charity committed to the conservation of amphibians and reptiles - working with people, enhancing lives together for a healthier planet. Find out more about our education projects and activities at www.froglife.org
**DYLAN THOMAS COUPLETS**

Rules:
- These are poems in two lines, which start with a question that involves the senses, and then a series of four nouns and adjectives

Example:
- Have you ever built a den?
  Woody sticks, big achievement, comfortable shelter, happy team
  
  *By Rebecca Neal*

---

**BLANK VERSE**

Rules:
- Blank verse is simply a type of poetry which doesn’t rhyme and has a ‘de-dum de-dum, de-dum, de-dum, de-dum’ rhythm
- The official name for this type of rhythm is iambic pentameter which means it has 10 syllables
- The stress is on syllables 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10
- You can write as many lines as you like

Example:
- It leapt an urgent death-croak from my hand
  Right at the young boy’s open mouth it seemed
  The whole group jumped unconscious-ly in mime
  And someone screamed out loud hyst-eric’ly
  It landed upside down them hopped away
  The scared and fascinated followed suit

  *By Rebecca Neal*
TRIOLET

Rules:
- A triollet is a poem with 8 lines
- The rhyme scheme is AbaAabAB
- The 1st+4th+7th lines are the same, and they rhyme with the 3rd+5th line
- The second and last line are the same, and they rhyme with the sixth

Example:
When you touch nature, nature touches you
At a primal level, we need it
To help us see a better view
When you touch nature, nature touches you
Green replaces blue
When we absorb its spirit
When you touch nature, nature touches you
At a primal level we need it.

By Rebecca Neal

ACROSTIC

Rules:
- A poem where usually the first letter of every line spells out a word
- The word it spells out is the subject of the poem
- It doesn’t need to rhyme

Example:
Night-time movers
Enjoying eating invertebrates
With wet skin and
Tiny golden toe-rings

By Rebecca Neal