



When visiting schools, I was being told by children it was time to have another poetry competition. I asked them what they thought would be a good prize, and they told me, my books, money and chocolate. That was that..... and now I have some great poems written by children, to share with you.

These are the finalists' poems for you to enjoy. I have loved reading your students' work, and had an extremely difficult time deciding the eventual winners. As a performance poet and drama teacher, I was also looking for poetry that other children could perform in public, and I found some great options. You'll see there is a big difference in the length of poetry, and I think it's important for those struggling writers to see you don't have to write a long poem to be a winner. You can take someone's idea, modernise it, give it a twist and it's a winner.

I will be working on a PDF poetry resource of other finalists' work. I've been working with some of the children to improve or adapt their work, and will be excited to share the results with you. This file will be offered free, as it will be brilliant to share their talent with you, and hopefully inspire other young writers in the process.

All the poems you're about to read in this file, will be published in my next poetry book, 'Granny Does Karate,' the 4th in the Granny series. I love that these young writers will get the thrill of seeing their work in print. Anyone wanting to pre-order a copy, email me at rainbowpoetry@gmail.com Payment on delivery, \$15 plus p& p.

Judi Billcliff

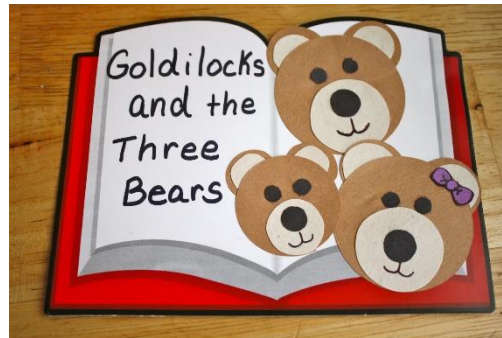
Winter



Icy!
Frosty mornings,
Drinking hot chocolate,
Pulling on woolly gloves,
Blowing out dragon breath!
Building a snowman,
Red cheeks -
Winter!



1st in the 'jackiwa' poem written by a class. I was impressed with this fun poem written by Ms Plant's children at Sacred Heart, Timaru. They created a great picture of winter for the reader to imagine in their mind. A 'jackiwa' is a new poetry format I've created. It tells a complete story in only eight lines. Details of how to write your own 'jackiwa' are on my website at www.rainbowpoetry.co.nz.



**Once upon a time
In a small, lost town,
There lived a little girl
Who was naughty all around.**

**She skedaddled into the forest
And what did she do?
She ran into a cottage
That belonged to you know who.**



**She gobbled up some porridge,
She broke the little chair,
She fell asleep in someone's bed,
But didn't seem to care.**



**Mother bear rang the police
Who turned up really slow.
They ran upstairs, and what'd they find?
Miss G was on the go!**

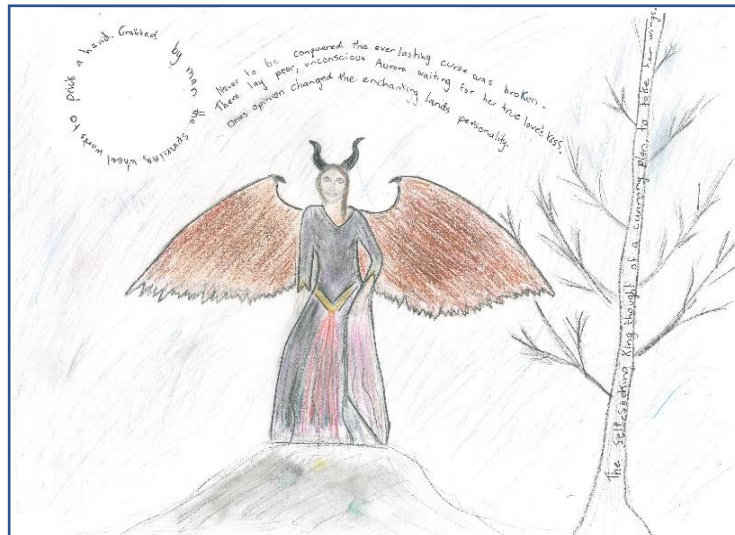
**Out the window, through the trees
Goldilocks cast a spell.
The police weren't very happy,
So they locked her in a cell**

Ajah's winning entry showed an outstanding sense of natural rhythm required for a rhyming poem. She tells a great story with a twist at the end that readers enjoy. It required minimal change.

Maleficent



Crafted by man the spinning wheel
wants to prick a hand.
Never to be conquered, the everlasting
curse was broken.
There lay poor, unconscious Aurora
waiting for her true love's kiss.
One's opinion changed the enchanted
lands personality.
The self-seeking king thought of a
cunning plan to take her wings



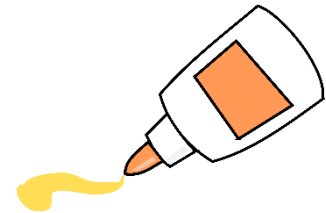
This is a superb piece of writing by Heidi. Her choice of language weaves a strong and evocative story. Yes, I love rhyme, but this was impressive work, that only needed punctuation added.

Humpty Dumpty's Kiss



Humpty Dumpty was feeling sad,
They'd better come fast 'cause he's getting mad.
He'd been eating his lunch, sat on the wall,
He'd picked up his sandwich and had a great fall.

King's men galloped in and asked, "How are you?"
They looked at each other and pulled out some glue.
Glue's sticky and squishy and they did their best,
but it could not cure the hole in his chest.



The next plan they had was to fix him with tape,
But all that it did was to make the hole gape.
This hurt poor Humpty who bellowed out "OW!"
"Don't hurt me like that, try something else now!"

The horses stepped forward and held out a plaster,
"What about this? It might help fix him faster."
But the bandages fell to the floor in a coil,
"We give up!" they cried, "enough of this toil".



They marched to the palace as Humpty limped home.
"I fell off a wall Mum," he said with a groan.
"Poor Humpty," said Mum, as she gave him a kiss -
Voila! She had healed him, he'd just needed this.

Pippa has created a fun and well thought out poem about Humpty's accident. It needed minimal punctuation changes showing her natural sense of rhythm. The last verse is the real winner, as anyone who heard it automatically said, 'Ohhhhh.'

Humpty's Adventure



Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
He didn't get bruised,
He didn't get bumped,
Humpty Dumpty had bungee jumped!



What fun this short, zippy little rhyme is. It shows that you don't have to write a long poem for it to be a success. What I loved about Teone's rhyme, is that everyone who read it burst out laughing at the surprise end.

OTHER FINALISTS BEING PUBLISHED

Secrets

Whispers,
Secret, mysterious,
Telling, talking, muttering,
Murmuring to your friends.
Surprised faces giggling, laughing,
Chuckling like mad.
Sneaky smiles –
Gossip.



Blaise did a great job of her 'jackiwa' poem. I could imagine people whispering and sharing secrets. This poem could create a great discussion about the negative side of gossip. Have a look at my poem 'Gossip,' in my book, 'Granny Goes To Hip Hop.'

DOUGHNUTTING

Beach,
Enthusiastic, tense,
Sitting, Zooming, Screaming,
Wind whipping my face.
Yell to slow down,
Going too fast,
Unsafe, uh-oh,
SPLASH!



I enjoyed the way Brooke developed a story in poetic form in just 8 lines. The mood and experience of doughnutting is well established, and shines through in this 'jackiwa' poem. You'll find the rules for writing a fun 'jackiwa' on my website at www.rainbowopetry.co.nz

©Brooke Vanin 2017 Hautapu School, Cambridge.

LITTLE MISS MUFFET

**Little Miss Muffet
Rode on her Segway,
Wishing her worries away.
Along came a spider
Who sat down beside her
And out came Miss Muffet's bug spray!**



Another fun and short rhyming poem that gives people a smile. It shows how you can take an old idea, and make it yours. What a fun twist at the end.

MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB

Mary had a little lamb,
Who was fat and rather lazy.
Before it knew it
A fork went through it,
As it was roasted and covered in gravy!



This little poem is what you would refer to as 'black comedy' if it was a play. It shows the reality of life in a fun way. All we had to do was change one word, and hey presto, it was a winner.

POISONOUS APPLE

**“I am a victim,” she said.
I look horribly poisoned.
I am a death potion.
I need to be eaten
Or my magic won’t work.
As an apple, I am worthy of anyone.
To be eaten is the key to the lock,
Only the person who cares
Can life you out of that deep, deep, sleep.**



I kept going back to this poem by Nevinka, as there was something about it that drew me in. It must be the magic of the apple that had me wanting me more, but I won't be eating it! A great piece of creative writing.

FAMILY

Family,
Sporty, supportive.
Strength surrounds me
Making the circle stronger.
As we bond
Love comes -
Family.



This free 'jackiwa' poem was written by Kafo'atu Filo, a senior from St Mary McKillop Primary School in Mangere, Auckland. I first saw this poem last year, when Kafo presented it to me during a classroom visit. This was a student who would never have listed writing as one of her favourite things to do. This poem has incredible emotion within its lines. I have used it all over the country to inspire other children to write, and without exception, these children always react with a, 'WOW,' when they hear it. I knew this was a poem that needed to be in my next book, giving its author the recognition she rightly deserves.

© Kafo'atu Filo 2017 St Mary McKillop, Auckland