

Edit and perform your poem



Simon Mole: poems, raps and writing games for kids

National
Literacy
Trust

Changing life stories

What's editing all about?

You've already written a poem. So why do you need to edit it?!



Simon Says:
"what makes your poem brilliant?"

Editing is about finding out what makes your poem brilliant. Feeling **BRILLIANT?**

Amazing, now watch the video where Simon helps you to edit your poem.

[How to re-draft and edit a poem](#)

Your poem, your words



Simon Says:
"slang is absolutely allowed! Just because a word isn't in the dictionary, doesn't mean it's not going to work well in a poem"

Poems use so many different types of words, depending on who is writing the poem and what they want to say.

Choose a part of your poem that you think says something particularly interesting or important. Now watch the next video from Simon Mole.

[Sound and meaning](#)

Need a Vocab Refresher?

Verbs: doing words, describing actions. These words often end with "-ing" For example, running, washing, typing, smiling, hugging

Synonyms: words that mean the same or nearly the same as another word. For example, start/begin, present/gift, quick/fast, huge/enormous

Performing your Poem

By now you should have a poem that is ready to perform and share with your teacher. Don't worry if you don't think it is perfect. Lots of poets use performance as a way to keep discovering what is brilliant about their poem.

First, do this vocal warm-up from Simon Mole.

Tongue twisters

Now that your voice is warm and ready to go, plan a performance at home, or via video link to family or friends. Ask for feedback on your performance:

- Which words did you say loudly?
- Which words did you say quietly?
- Is there any point where you need to pause and leave a silence?
- Do you need to slow down or speak more quickly?

Go through your poem and highlight these important moments. Then, when you are ready, find someone at home who can record you performing your poem to send to your teacher.

TOP TIPS FOR PERFORMING

1. Stand up
2. Use your hands/arms to help show the audience what you are saying
3. Try to remember how the poem makes you feel – why do you love this thing so much?
4. Don't rush

TOP TIPS FOR FILMING

(Ask a family member to help)

1. Film holding the phone/tablet in landscape mode
2. Film in a quiet room if possible – avoid large, echoey rooms with background noise
3. Hold the device as steady as possible – prop it up if you can
4. Remove anything that includes personal information from the background.