

Poetry for Memorization



Kindergarten

Mother Goose	Selected Nursery Rhymes
Stevenson	“Happy Thought”
Stevenson	“The Swing”
Anonymous	“I’m Glad”
Stevenson	“Whole Duty of Children”
Anonymous	“Roses are Red”
Fisher	“Caterpillars”
Fyleman	“Mice”

1st Grade

Lindsay	“The Little Turtle”
Stevenson	“The Cow”
Rosetti	“Clouds”
Milne	“Wind on the Hill”
Rosetti	“The Caterpillar”
Stevenson	“My Shadow”
Wordsworth	“Written in March”
Hughes	“Hope”

2nd Grade

Frost	“The Pasture”
Rosetti	“Hurt No Living Thing”
Stevenson	“Windy Nights”
Longfellow	“Kind Words”
Field	“Wynken, Blynken, and Nod”
Dickinson	“Bee! I’m Expecting You!”
Founding Fathers	<i>Preamble to the U. S. Constitution</i>
Lear	“There was an Old Man with a Beard”

3rd Grade

Dickinson	“We Never Know How High We Are”
Rosetti	“Who Has Seen the Wind?”
Stevenson	“The Moon”
Carroll	“The Crocodile”
Longfellow	“The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls”
Hughes	“Dream Variations”
Longfellow	“Christmas Bells”
Stevenson	“Foreign Lands”

4th Grade

Hughes	“Dreams”
Tennyson	“The Eagle”
Bourdillon	“The Night has a Thousand Eyes”
Millay	“Travel”
Stevenson	“The Land of Story-Books”
Yeats	“The Lake Isle of Innisfree”
Longfellow	“Paul Revere’s Ride”
De La Mare	“Some One”

5th Grade

Blake	“The Tyger”
Frost	“Nothing Gold Can Stay”
Tennyson	“Break, Break, Break”
Carroll	“Jabberwocky”
Kipling	“If”
Hughes	“Dream Variations”
Longfellow	“The Arrow and the Song”
Tennyson	“The Charge of the Light Brigade”

6th Grade

Wordsworth	“My Heart Leaps Up”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 18”
Dickinson	“There is No Frigate Like a Book”
Tennyson	“The Splendor Falls”
Burns	“A Red, Red Rose”
Longfellow	“The Builders”
Teasdale	“Barter”
Wordsworth	“I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”

7th Grade

Frost	“Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 29”
Byron	“She Walks in Beauty”
Dickinson	“I’m Nobody! Who are You?”
Dickinson	“I Died for Beauty”
Blake	“A Poison Tree”
Frost	“Fire and Ice”
Dickinson	“I like to see it lap the Miles”

Poetry for Memorization



8th Grade

Whitman	“O Captain! My Captain!”
Dickinson	“Hope is the thing with feathers”
Frost	“The Road Not Taken”
Longfellow	“A Psalm of Life”
Herbert	“Virtue”
Dickinson	“Because I could not stop for Death”
Longfellow	“Snow-Flakes”
Rosetti	“Remember”

9th Grade

Emerson	“Concord Hymn”
Lazarus	“The New Colossus”
Berry	“The Peace of Wild Things”
Holmes	“The Chambered Nautilus”
Hughes	“Theme for English B”
Longfellow	“The Village Blacksmith”
Dickinson	“Success is counted sweetest”
Whitman	“When I Heard the Learn’d Astronomer”

10th Grade

Keats	“On First Looking Into Chapman’s Homer”
Wordsworth	“The World is Too Much With Us”
Hopkins	“As Kingfishers Catch Fire”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 116”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 30”
Wordsworth	“The Tables Turned”
Shelley	“Ozymandias”
Spenser	“One Day I Wrote Her Name”

11th Grade

Shakespeare	“Sonnet 65”
Hopkins	“Spring and Fall”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 94”
Blake	“Mock on, Mock on”
Frost	“Mending Wall”
Donne	“No Man is an Island”
Keats	“Bright Star”
Thomas	“Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night”

12th Grade

Keats	“When I Have Fears”
Hopkins	“God’s Grandeur”
Donne	“Death Be Not Proud”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 73”
Shakespeare	“Sonnet 55”
Dickinson	“Because I Could Not Stop for Death”
Sidney	“Sonnet 1”
Byron	“So We’ll Go No More A Roving”

*“Follow, poet, follow right
To the bottom of the night,
With your unconstraining voice
Still persuade us to rejoice.”*

– W.H. Auden