Contents

The poems referenced in this sampler are NOT REQUIRED POEMS, but examples of acceptable material.

Students should work with teachers and/or media resource staff to find comparable pieces that would be of interest to the student and support curricular and academic needs.

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Important Information

THANK YOU for participating in the ACSI Elementary Speech Meet. The ACSI regional office is here to help you in every way possible. Please don’t hesitate to call for assistance. ACSI Student Activities enhance learning beyond the classroom by equipping Christian schools and educators while challenging students toward God-honoring applications of their leadership skills, fine arts talents, and academic abilities.

Changes
None.

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Poetry Selection Resources

Many of the poem samples listed in this handbook are protected by copyright laws, and therefore cannot be published here. For the purpose of student study and recitation, titles may be found by doing an online search of the poem title or author. The following sites have grade appropriate poetry selections:

http://www.rainydaypoems.com/poems-for-kids/poems-for-kids-to-recite

http://www.writersdigest.com/whats-new/poems-for-kids

http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=9780394850108

First Grade Poetry Samples

A Bed in the Leaves by Marian Kennedy
A Little Bird by Aileen Fisher
Animals to Love by Eunice D. Breilid
Animals, Too by Margaret E. Singleton
April Rain Song by Langston Hughes
Be Even Tempered by Alice Joyce Davidson
Bed in Summer by Robert Louis Stevenson
Boats by Rowan Bastin Bennett
Catch a Little Rhyme by Eve Merriam
Chums by Arthur Guiterman
Crocus by Sarah J. Day
Doll’s Song by Lewis Carroll
Don’t Ever Cross a Crocodile by Kaye Starbird
Enjoy Work by Alice Joyce Davidson
Forgive Others by Alice Joyce Davidson
Funny the Way Different Cars Start by Dorothy Baruch
Furry Bear by A. A. Milne
Grandfather Frog by Louise Seaman Bechtal
Grown Up by Dorothy Aldis
I Keep Three Wishes Ready by Annette Wynne
I Think When I Read That Sweet Story of Old by Jemima Luke
If I Can Stop One Heart from Breaking by Emily Dickinson
In Harmony with Nature by Alice Joyce Davidson
In The Garden by Emily Dickinson
Little Snail by Hilda Conkling
Little Talk by Aileen Fisher
Little Things by Ebenezer Cobham Brewer
Little Turtle by Nicholas Vachel Lindsay
Mothers Always Know by Jocinna C. Miller
Mrs. Peck-Pigeon by Eleanor Farjeon
My Favorite Word by Lucia and James L. Hymes, Jr.
Neighborly by Violet A. Storey
October by Rose Fyleman
On Eating Porridge Made of Peas by Louis Phillips
Poetry by Eleanor Farjeon
Recipe by Walter Maughan
Schoolroom Clock by Mother Goose
Set a Good Example by Alice Joyce Davidson
Someone by Walter de la Mare
Something Told the Wild Geese by Rachel Field
Spread God’s Word by Alice Joyce Davidson
Spring Morning by A. A. Milne
Spring Prayer by Ralph Waldo Emerson
Star Faithful by John Milton
Thank God for Little Things by Helen Steiner Rice
Thanks, Dear Jesus by Ed Brandt
The Animal Store by Rachel Field
The Cow by Albert B. Southwick
The Dark by Ethel Jacobson
The Ice-Cream Man by Rachel Field
The Land of Counterpane by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Secrets of Our Garden by Rupert Sargent Holland
The Skylark by Christina Rossetti
The Snowbird by Frank Dempster Sherman
The Steam Shovel by Rowena Bennett
The Swing by Robert Louis Stevenson
Traffic by Jane Lear Talley
Trees by Joyce Kilmer
The Woodpecker by Elizabeth Madox Roberts
The Worm by Ralph Bergengren
Tummyache by Aileen Fisher
Walking by Grace Ellen Glaubitz
What Does the Little Birdie Say by Alfred Tennyson
What Is It? by Mcirie Louise Allen
What Is Pink? by Christina Rossetti
Who Has Seen the Wind? by Christina Rossetti
Wind on the Hill by A. A. Milne
Wind Song by Lilian Moore
Windy Nights by Robert Louis Stevenson
Second Grade Poetry Samples

A Good Play by Robert Louis Stevenson

A Kitten by Eleanor Farjeon

A Child’s Prayer by M. Bentam Edwards

A Child’s Thought of God by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

After the Party by William Wise

At the Garden Gate by David McCord

Bedtime by Eleanor Farjeon

Bernard Bartholomew Benjamin Brown by Carolyn Cawthorne

Blessing of God’s Love by Patricia Emme

Books Fall Open by David McCord

Cat by Dorothy Baruch

Catalogue by Rosalie Moore

Eletelephony by Laura E. Richards

Galoshes by Rhoda Bacmeister

General Store by Rachel Field

Going to Bed by Marchette Chute

Good Morning by Muriel Sipe

Good Morning by Eleanor Farjeon

Habits of the Hippopotamus by Arthur Guiterman

Halfway Down by A. A. Milne

Have Good Intentions by Alice Joyce Davidson

How to Write a Letter by Elizabeth Turner

I Want to Know by John Drinkwater
I Wish I Were a Little Star by Edna Hamilton
If I Can Stop One Heart from Breaking by Emily Dickinson
In the Morning by Ralph Cushman
Jabbering in School by Eleanor Farjeon
Little Tiger Cat by Annette Wynne
Make Me a Picture of the Sun by Emily Dickinson
Marching Song by Robert Louis Stevenson
Missing by A.A. Milne
Mrs. Brown by Rose Fyleman
My Books and I by Florence Piper Tuttle
My Cat, Mrs. Lick-A-Chin by John Ciardi
My Policeman by Rose Fyleman
My Visitors by Ethel H. Chesterfield
Old Glory by Alonzo Newton Benn
Opossum by William Jay Smith
Ornithology by Eleanor Farjeon
Our Snowman by Lucille Chiddix
Portrait by a Neighbor by Edna St. Vincent Millay
Questions at Night by Louis Untermeyer
Rabbits by Dorothy Baruch
Rain in the Night by Amelia Josephine Burr
Rain in Summer by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Seal by William Jay Smith
Slow But Sure by Lillian Beck
So Long as There Is Weather by Tamara Kitt
The Arrow and the Song by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
The Balloon by Karla Kuskin
The Brook by Florence Piper Tuttle
The Elf and the Dormouse by Oliver Herford
The Favorite by Mildred Whitney Stillman
The Gingerbread Man by Rowena Bennett
The Jolly Woodchuck by Marion Edey and Dorothy Grider
The Kitten and the Falling Leaves by William Wordsworth
The Lost Doll by Charles Kingsley
The Monkeys and the Crocodile by Laura E. Richards
The Mountain and the Squirrel by Ralph Waldo Emerson
The Mouse by Elizabeth Coatsworth
The Rain Song by Robert Loveman
The Rainbow by David McCord
The Reason for the Pelican by John Ciardi
The Shepherd Boy Sings by John Bunyan
The Things I Do by Karla Kuskin
Timothy Boon by Ivy O. Eastwick
Tiptoe by Karla Kuskin
To God, with Love by Alice Joyce Davidson
To Meet Mr. Lincoln by Eve Merriam
Tomorrow by Rowena B. Bennett
Verbs by Eleanor Farjeon
Very Lovely by Rose Fyleman
Weather by Eve Merriam
Weathers by Thomas Hardy
What in the World? by Eve Merriam
What Robin Told by George Cooper
Will There Really Be a Morning by Emily Dickinson
Winter Is Coming by Velda Blumhagen
Third Grade Poetry Samples

A Boy Wonders by Dorothy J. Shearer
A Boy’s Mother by James Whitcomb Riley
A Circus Garland by Rachel Field
A Mortifying Mistake by Anna Maria Pratt
A Sea-Song from the Shore by James Whitcomb Riley
A Wrecker or a Builder by Edgar A. Guest
Abraham Lincoln by Mildred Meigs
Afternoon with Grandmother by Barbara A. Huff
America Was Schoolmasters by Robert P. Tristram Coffin
An Introduction to Dogs by Ogden Nash
Animal Crackers by Christopher Morley
Arithmetic by Carl Sandburg
Ask Daddy, He Won’t Know by Ogden Nash
At the Zoo by A. A. Milne
Be Kind by Alice Joyce Davidson
Busy by A. A. Milne
The Chameleon by A. P. Herbert
Circus by Eleanor Farjeon
Columbus by Laraine Eloise Jacobson
Come Out with Me by A. A. Milne
Daniel Boone by Arthur Guiterman
Every Time I Climb a Tree by David McCord
F. Scott Fitzgerald to His Daughter from The Book of Virtues
Foreign Lands by Robert Louis Stevenson
Grace at Evening by Edgar A. Guest
Hide and Seek by Mimi Brodsky
Hiding by Dorothy Aldis
I Am an American by Daniel Webster
I Looked in the Mirror by Beatrice Schenk DeRegniers
I Meant to Do My Work Today by Richard Le Gallienne
If You Were from The Book of Virtues
It Is Raining by Lucy Sprague Mitchell
Jonathan Bing by Beatrice Curtis Brown
Kindness to Animals from The Book of Virtues
Lincoln by Nancy Byrd Turner
Mummy Slept Late and Daddy Fixed Breakfast by John Ciardi
My Dog by Marchette Chute
My Shadow by Robert Louis Stevenson
My Speech by Mrs. E. H. Goodfellow
Puppy and I by A. A. Milne
Sermons We See by Edgar A. Guest
Spring by Karla Kuskin
Tell Him So by F. A. Egerton
The Bluebird by Emily Huntington Miller
The Boy We Want from The Book of Virtues
The Boy Who Never Told a Lie from The Book of Virtues
The Creation by Cecil Frances Alexander
The Crocodile by Oliver Herford
The Duck by E. L. M. King
The Egg by Laura E. Richards
The Friendly Beasts, an old carol from France
The Gift of Friendship by Helen Steiner Rice
The Good Little Girl by A. A. Milne
The Lamb by William Blake
The Lamplighter by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Land of Storybooks by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Library by Barbara A. Huff
The Lost Shoe by Walter de la Mare
The Owl and the Pussycat by Edward Lear
The Pancake Collector by Jack Prelutsky
The Secret Cavern by Margaret Viddemer
The Story of the Baby Squirrel by Dorothy A. Idis
The Story of Flying Robert by Heinrich Hoffman
The Unwinged Ones by Ogden Nash
The Wayfaring Song by Henry Van Dyke
The Wind by Robert Louis Stevenson
The World’s Bible by Annie Johnson Flint
This and That by Florence Boyce Davis
Three Little Kittens by Eliza Cook
Tiger-Cat Tim by Edith H. Newlin
Trees by Harry Behn
Trees by Grace Oakes Burton

Two Little Maids by James W. Foley

Us Two by A. A. Milne

Very Early by Karla Kuskin

Vespers by A. A. Milne

What Have We Done Today? by Nixon Waterman

What Is a Teacher? by Garnett Ann Schultz

Which Loved Best by Joy Allison

Work by Henry Van Dyke

Written in March by William Wordsworth

Yesterday in Oxford Street by Rose Fyleman
Fourth Grade Poetry Samples

A Boy and His Stomach by Edgar A. Guest
A Windy Day by Winifred Howard
Binker by A. A. Milne
Brighten the Corner Where You Are by Helen Steiner Rice
Daddy’s Reward by George Harris
Harriet Tubman by Eloise Greenfield
If I Were a Pilgrim Child by Rowena Bennett
Little Boy Blue by Eugene Field
Mary by Mary O’Neill
My Heart’s in the Highlands by Robert Burns
My Shadow by Robert Louis Stevenson
My Wise Old Grandpapa by Wilbur G. Howcroft
One, Two, Three by Harry C. Bunner
One Winter Night in August by X. J. Kennedy
Relatives by Edgar A. Guest
Sneezles by A. A. Milne
Somebody’s Mother by Mary Dow Brine
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost
The Circus Parade by Katharine Pyle
The Daffodils by William Wordsworth
The Flag Goes By by Henry H. Bennett
The King’s Breakfast by A. A. Milne
The Prayer of Cyrus Brown by Sam Walter Foss
The Secret of Happiness by Helen Steiner Rice

The Sugar-Plum Tree by Eugene Field

The Umbrella Brigade by Laura Richards

The Violet by Jane Taylor

The Wind by E. Rendall

Trees by Grace Oakes Burton

Us Two by A. A. Milne

When Grandpa Was a Boy by Dorothy Walters  (Recitation for a Boy)

Winter Fun by Edna Jaques

Your Neighbor by E. Howard Biggar
Fifth Grade Poetry Samples

All Things Beautiful by Cecil Frances Alexander

Arithmetic by Carl Sandburg

Brighten the Corner Where You Are by Helen Steiner Rice

Christ and the Little Ones by Julia Gill

Drop a Pebble in the Water by James W. Foley

Fear by Martha Snell Nicholson

Fred by Eleanor Farjeon

Grandpapa’s Spectacles by Author Unknown

It Couldn’t Be Done by Edgar A. Guest

Johnny Appleseed by Rosemary and Stephen V. Benét

My Kingdom by Louisa May Alcott

October by Edgar A. Guest

Only a Little Thing by M. P. Handy

Partridge Time by Edgar A. Guest

Pilgrim Song—Then and Now by George Lunt

The American Flag by Louise Adney

The Concord Hymn by Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Doctor by Edgar A. Guest

The First Snow by Robert Freeman Bound

The Gingercake Man by James Foley

The Joy of a Dog by Edgar A. Guest

The Pearl by Ernestine Cobern Beyer

The Potter by Norman P. Woodruff
The Pup by Edgar A. Guest
The Red Sea by Martha Snell Nicholson
The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost
The Rough Little Rascal by Edgar A. Guest
The Touch of the Master’s Hand by Myra Welch
The World We Make by Alfred Grant Walton
The World’s Bible by Annie Johnson Flint
Thy Will Be Done by Helen Steiner Rice
Too Many Daves by Dr. Seuss
Up to the Ceiling by Edgar A. Guest
What Christ Said by George MacDonald
Who Knows a Mountain? by Ethel Romig Fuller
Sixth Grade Poetry Samples

A Psalm of Life by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Barbara Frietchie by John Greenleaf Whittier

Castor Oil by Edgar A. Guest

Columbus by Joaquin Miller

Daniel Boone by Arthur Guiterman

How Do You Tackle Your Work? by Edgar A. Guest

If by Rudyard Kipling

In Times Like These by Helen Steiner Rice

Live Christmas Every Day by Helen Steiner Rice

Ma and the Auto by Edgar A. Guest

Marco Comes Late by Dr. Seuss

Mother’s Glasses by Edgar A. Guest

Mother’s Ugly Hands by Mary Mason

Nathan Hale by Francis Miles Finch

One, Two, Three by Harry C. Bunner

Peace Hymn of the Republic by Henry van Dyke

Problem Child by J. E. Faulker

Thanksgiving by Edgar A. Guest

The Ant and the Cricket adapted from Aesop’s Fables

The Blind Men and the Elephant by John Godfey Sax

The Children’s Hour by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The Country Mouse and the City Mouse by Richard Scranton Sharpe

The Dreams by Eugene Field
The Dying Father by Les Cox
The House with Nobody in It by Joyce Kilmer
The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers by Felicia Hemans
The Lost Purse by Edgar A. Guest
The Real Successes by Edgar A. Guest
The Sandpiper by Celia Thaxter
The Scoffer by Edgar A. Guest
The Singer’s Revenge by Edgar A. Guest
The Spider and the Fly by Mary Howitt
The Story of Albrecht Dürer by Helen Steiner Rice
The Village Blacksmith by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
To the Flag adapted from Leland Scott and Grace Bush
To the Humble by Edgar A. Guest
Vacation Time by Edgar A. Guest
When Pa Comes Home by Edgar A. Guest