POETRY WRITING IN A GRADE ONE CLASSROOM

by:

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In the Grade 1 English under the K to 12 Curriculum, different literacy types can be discussed with the grade 1 students. It can be in the mother tongue, native or second language. Lessons in poetry can be taken from folktales/folklores, legends, poetry, short stories, fable and parable. In addition, the learners’ family, their feelings, their joys, problems, friends, environment, school, people around them are good source of poetry writing. However, one concern is how to teach them how to make or write poems.

One neglected literary type to be personally composed or written by grade 1 is the poem. This is a literary article which is an effective tool for vocabulary development, oral reading and comprehension exercises. Before a poem is read or discussed in the classroom difficult words are unlocked children read lines, identify words that reveal symbols, figurative language, mood and tone of the writer. This way, the poems become a vehicle for developing the 4 macro skills, reading, speaking, writing and listening.

One effective strategy is to encourage the learners to write their own poems as an output as well as for their enjoyment. In this way, grade one pupils were given the chance to describe people, things, animals, places and events with their own poetic styles. Grade 1 learners can be considered as young poets. They can create images and impressions that adults, sometimes forget to do.

Grade 1 can write rhymed or unrhymed poems. It can be any topic of interest. The teacher may offer assistance in giving some word choices for their use. From the finished product; the class can use this for instance, in creating or making their own big books, in Speech Choir or Sabayang Pagbigkas, Reading the Poem Orally and Poster Making.
Grade 1 pupils can use similes as a language tool by using like, as... as or as, or in phonemic awareness or in alliteration or the use of repetition of the same initial sound which creates an interesting effect. Shape poems, full verse poems and Haiku.

Reference: