

- Poetry -

Words in Motion

Used creatively, poetry is a classroom strategy with many benefits. Creating an enjoyable, risk-free environment, poetry affords the opportunity for students to be exposed to, practice, use, and learn content vocabulary that is above their independent reading level. It is a catalyst for improving student performance by tapping many different learning styles. Allowed to, children can move in imaginative ways, act out the language and experience rhyme and rhythm of content vocabulary, enabling an opportunity for better understanding of concepts.

The geometry poems that are included with this lesson follow two different patterns. Bill Rich, Principal of McFall Elementary School in Middleville, Michigan, created the patterns. They were shared at a Bill Martin workshop, and an interpretation of them is provided. By applying the geometry content to these patterns, sample poems were created. These are only samples. Feel free to use them or apply the patterns and write your own.

Pattern One

Created by Bill Rich
McFall Elementary, Middleville, Michigan

- Line 1- Name
- Line 2- Four traits that describe it
- Line 3- Buddy of . . .
- Line 4- What is like . . .
- Line 5- Who has . . .
- Line 6- Who would like . . .
- Line 7- What it can become

Pattern Two

Created by Bill Rich
McFall Elementary, Middleville, Michigan

Name of the object, Name of the object, Name of the object
Adjective, name
Adjective, name
Adjective, adjective, adjective, name
Those are just a few.

Adjective name, adjective name,
Adjective, Adjective, Adjective, name
Adjective, Adjective, Adjective, name
Adjective name, too.

Adjective name,
Adjective name,
Don't forget adjective name.
Last of all, best of all
(I like) adjective, (adjective) name!

Pattern One Poems

TRIANGLE

By Katie Koehnemann

Triangle

Flat, one surface, two-dimensional, three-sided,
Buddy of the pyramid
Like a boomerang, an instrument, and billiard ball rack.
It has three sides, three angles, three vertices
It would like one more side, angle, and vertex
To be square

PYRAMID

By Katie Koehnemann

Pyramid

Three-dimensional, faces every side, points up, sits on a face,
Buddy of the triangle
Like in Egypt, triangles touching noses, and a paperweight.
At the top four vertices meet, five faces greet, eight edges neat
It would like the edges to grow long
To be a crystal.

CUBE

By Katie Koehnemann

Cube

Stands up, many faces, three-dimensional, edgy
Buddy of the square
Like a block, a notepad, dice, and machine ice,
It has edges not sides, faces in six places, vertices galore,
It would like to sit on its bottom square
To rest upon the floor

Pattern Two Poem

CUBES

By Katie Koehnemann

Cubes, cubes, cubes
Square cubes
Solid cubes
Plastic, colored, Unifix cubes
Those are just a few.

Soft cubes, hard cubes,
Wet, floating, ice cubes
Small, black and white cubes,
Rubik cubes, too.

Alphabet cubes
Wooden cubes
Don't forget note cubes.
Last of all, best of all
Spotted, dotted dice cubes.