

LIMERICK POEM

Limerick Poems are five lines long, can be written about anything, and are usually funny. Lines 1, 2, and 5 rhyme and have 8 to 9 syllables. Lines 3 and 4 rhyme and have 5 to 6 syllables. **Limerick Poems** have a specific rhythm or meter. The pattern they use has two unstressed syllables followed by a stressed syllable.

Use the suggestions below to write a **Limerick Poem** of your own.

1. Choose a person, place, or thing as the topic for your **Limerick Poem**. Most **Limericks** begin with *There once was a...* or *There was a...* Danny's poem starts with *One day...* Brainstorm ideas for the first line of your poem.
2. Make lists of rhyming words for your **Limerick Poem**. Remember that the last words in lines 1, 2, and 5 rhyme and the last words in lines 3 and 4 rhyme.
3. Think about the flow of your poem. Lines 1, 2, and 5 should sound like: *da DUM de de DUM de de DUM*. Lines 3 and 4 should sound like: *da DUM de de DUM*.
4. Write your finished **Limerick** on the other side of this paper. Cut out your poem and glue it into your *Poetry Notebook*.
5. What else can you do with your **Limerick Poem**?
 - Illustrate your poem.
 - As a classroom or on your own, create a book or calendar of **Limerick Poems**.
 - Have a *Poetry Slam* where each student reads a poem out loud to the rest of the class.
 - Share your poems with us! Share your poem on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages at *@MaryRuthBooks* or by email to *admin@maryruthbooks.com*.