

# Home Learning English Activities

## Narrative Poetry

Michael Rosen

Y5 & Y6

# Monday: Narrative Poetry

## 'The Car Trip'

Find and read the poem online and complete the challenges below.

### Mild Challenge

1. Explain why you think lots of children and adults enjoy this poem.
2. Why do you think the author uses capital letters when he writes '*I AM STOPPING THE CAR*'?
3. In what ways in this family trip like your family trips?
4. How did the mum persuade the boys to calm down and get along with each other?

### Hot/Spicy Challenge

1. Explain why you think the author wrote, '*mum tries to be exciting*'?
2. How has the choice of words and phrases created the feeling of a real family trip?
3. Why do you think the boys wanted so many different things to happen in the car?
4. What ideas are we given about the brothers?
5. Why is a family important?
6. Does the author like the mother in the poem?

### Extra challenge:

Write a short verse that carries on from this poem.

Imagine the family arrive at the seaside after their troublesome car journey. They could be amazed at the view. They could scramble to get out of the car. They could thank their mum for bringing them.

It could start with:

*...We turned the corner. You'll never guess what we saw...*

## Tuesday: Narrative Poetry

### 'I'm Tired'

**Hot/Spicy Challenge** - Find and read the poem online and complete the challenges below.

This poem is a conversation between Mum and Dad, competing to see who is most tired. It is witnessed by the child who explains the conversation. This is another of Michael Rosen's narrative poems.

Write your own version of this poem, using its patterns.  
Repeat verse openers such as:

- 'And Mum says...'
- 'And Dad says...'

Turn it into a poem about one of the following:-

- being bored
- being hungry
- being happy
- being friendly

### Mild Challenge

Write to the Mum and Dad and explain what they should do to stop being tired.

## Wednesday: Narrative Poetry

### 'The Chocolate Cake'

Most of Michael Rosen's poems are particularly good when performed.  
It is possible to watch many of his poems on the internet.

Find and read the poem online and complete the challenges below.

#### Mild Challenge

Use a dictionary or thesaurus to look up these words:  
delicious, sweet, disgusting, sour

#### Hot/Spicy Challenge

Imagine 'The Chocolate Cake' is being performed at a theatre near you.  
How can you describe the poem in no more than 50 words?

An example:

'The Car Trip' by Michael Rosen

A family go on a trip but are plagued by boredom. As the mother tries to distract the boys on the backseat, much moaning, groaning, irritation and whining takes place.  
(30 words)

## Thursday: Narrative Poetry

### 'Boogy Woogy Buggy'

Find and read the poem online and complete the challenges below.

This poem is from Michael Rosen's book called 'Centrally Heated Knickers.'

Lots of the poems in there are about ordinary objects in life that could take on amazing new qualities. For example, imagine knickers that are centrally heated!

In 'Boogy Woogy Buggy' the buggy sounds like it's dancing to the Jive and the Boogy woogy. What do you think?

See if you can think of strange or amazing things that these ordinary objects could do...

*e.g. a sofa*

*The duvet sofa could be as soft as a duvet when you sit on it. Then it has an attachable cover so that you can fold the cover over yourself. Then, wrapped up in the duvet sofa, it would be just like being in bed!*

- a vacuum cleaner
- a hairdryer
- a scooter
- a lawn mower

#### Extra Challenge

Design an advert that would sell the exciting new qualities of one of your ideas today.

# Friday: Narrative Poetry

## Hot/Spicy Challenge Comparing ideas

Compare two of Michael Rosen's poems.  
Make a list of the things they have in common.

Think about...

- who is speaking
- the type of language used
- what the poems are about
- what effect his poems have on you
- what his characters are like
- the tense that he writes in (past/present/future)
- how he organises his poems (short/long verse, single lines, questions, repetition)

## Mild Challenge Reading poems aloud.

Choose one verse or section from your favourite Rosen poem.  
Read it several times in your head, noting down any ideas about how certain words/phrases need to be read.