



National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month, so take the next 30 days to try your hand at some poetry. Complete at least two activities in each category below to earn your Poetry fun patch. For more information on any of the terms below, and for more poems, visit www.poets.org.



Write

Write an <i>ode</i> to April Fool's Day.	Write an <i>acrostic</i> using GIRL SCOUTS.
Write a <i>calligram</i> of the Girl Scout trefoil.	Create an <i>erasure</i> from an old magazine or book page.
Write a <i>limerick</i> about your favorite Girl Scout badge.	Write a <i>free verse</i> poem about a Girl Scout event you attended.

Listen

Listen to Amanda Gorman recite " The Hill We Climb ."	Host a poetry reading party with your troop and share your poems.
Attend a poetry reading at your public library or other community event.	Listen to a song and really examine the lyrics.
Take a walk outside and listen to the sounds of nature.	Go to www.poets.org and listen to the Poem of the Day.

Illustrate

Choose one of the poems you've written and illustrate it.	Swap poems with a friend and illustrate their poem.
Illustrate " Eletelephony " by Laura Elizabeth Richards.	Illustrate " Mother Doesn't Want a Dog " by Judith Viorst.
Create your own poster for National Poetry Month.	Combine your poems and drawings into a <i>chapbook</i> .

Glossary of Terms:

Acrostic: a non-rhyming poem where a name or word is spelled with the first letter of each line.

Calligram: a non-rhyming poem where the lines of text form a shape related to the word themselves.

Chapbook: a small paperback booklet.

Erasure: also called a "blackout poem" where portions of text are blacked out leaving only certain words.

Free Verse: poetry with no set form, meter, or rhyme.

Limerick: an often silly or funny poem of five lines with an A, A, B, B, A rhyme scheme.

Ode: a rhyming poem written in honor of a person, event, or thing.