

River Poetry

Task 1: Read Valerie Bloom's poem, *The River* (below), discussing the different individuals that the river is compared to and why they have been chosen. Identify careful vocabulary choices that have been made by the poet, discussing why they are effective. Work in pairs to highlight verbs used to describe the river's movement and discuss as a class the impression this gives the reader.



Note: Encourage children to listen to the rhythm of the poem - does it tell us anything about the speed of the river? What is the rhyme scheme

used by the poet? What else have you noticed about the poem? What is your view of this poem? Do you like or dislike the poem and why? Learn a verse or verses to perform by heart.

Task 2: Watch film clips of different rivers as they flow, listening carefully to the sounds made and observing how the water moves and travels. Watch a second time, collecting verbs on a whiteboard to describe what they noticed. Discuss the words and phrases collected and work in pairs to create descriptive sentences around them.

Note: Show a variety of clips including a wide, fast flowing river, a bubbling brook and a powerful waterfall crashing onto rocks below.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDEn9P9_S-s

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HXZLLE3shc>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZD4X5JyXg8U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCNEL0pldio>