

# Ridiculous rhymes

One of the tools poets use to give poems a special sound and feel is rhymes – words that end in the same, or nearly the same, sound. Your poems don't have to rhyme, but it can be a lot of fun thinking up amusing rhymes.

Try adding some more rhymes to these examples. Do any of them give you ideas for a new poem?

# Ludicrous limericks

One kind of rhyming poem with a rollicking rhythm is called a limerick. Limericks usually give a silly, bizarre description of an imaginary person. Often, that person's home town or country is mentioned in the first line.

## The poet from Crewe

There was a young poet from Crewe  
 who slowly composed a haiku:  
 he wrote his first line  
 at a quarter to nine  
 and he finished aged seventy-two.

## The balloonist

There once was an old man from Spain  
 too frightened to travel by plane;  
 he tied some balloons  
 to his blue pantaloons  
 and floated from Cadiz to Maine.

Note: A haiku is a very short poem.

Limericks are usually five lines long.

Write your own limerick here:

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**More to read**  
 "A young lady of Lynn"  
 by Anonymous  
 "How awkward when  
 playing with glue"  
 by Constance Levy