GONE FISHING
By Tamera Will Wissinger
Illustrated by Matthew Cordell
A Mentor Text Lesson Plan by Marcie Flinchum Atkins

Writing Skills Focus:
• Poetic forms
• Word Choice
• Drafting
• Deleting unnecessary words

Target Audience:
3rd Grade-5th Grade

Objectives:
Students will utilize poetry mentor texts to practice writing in different poetic forms.

Students will cut unnecessary words from their poems.

Students will share their poems with their partner.

Students will select a poem to revise more fully.

Marcie Flinchum Atkins  E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com  http://www.marcieatkins.com
Please seek permission before posting on another website.
Standards:

**Virginia Standards of Learning:** Standards are listed here for referencing by number in your lesson plans. For link to complete standards, go to: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/english/2010/standards_all_english.pdf

**3rd Grade Standards**
- 3.5 k
- 3.9 b, e, g

**4th Grade Standards**
- 4.5 b, g, k
- 4.7 b, c, e, i, j

**5th Grade Standards**
- 5.5 d, e, l
- 5.7 b, f, h

**Common Core:** Standards are listed here for referencing by number in your lesson plans. For link to complete standards, go to: http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI_ELA%20Standards.pdf

**3rd Grade Standards**
- CCSS.ELA.RL. 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.10
- CCSS.ELA.W. 3.3 b, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.10
- CCSS.ELA.L. 3.3a, 3.5 c, 3.6

**4th Grade Standards**
- CCSS.ELA.RL. 4.2, 4.5, 4.7, 4.10
- CCSS.ELA.W. 4.3 b, d, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.10
- CCSS.ELA.L 4.3 a, b, 4.5 a, 4.6

**5th Grade Standards**
- CCSS.ELA.RL 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.10
- CCSS.ELA.W 5.3 b, d, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.10
- CCSS.ELA.L 5.3 a, b, 5.5 a, 5.6

Marcie Flinchum Atkins E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com http://www.marcieatkins.com
Please seek permission before posting on another website.
Text(s):

GONE FISHING by Tamera Will Wissinger, illustrated by Matthew Cordell, Houghton Mifflin, 2013.

ISBN: 978-0-547-82011-8

Other suggested texts that can be used are listed on “Teachers Resource List for Each Poetry Station” (attached)

Other Materials Needed:

Writer’s Notebooks or other paper for students to draft poems

Poetry Station cards (attached)—these can be printed front and back and laminated

See materials list on “Teachers Resource List for Each Poetry Station” (attached)

Zip-top gallon size bags or baskets (to put materials for each station)

Poetry Station student sheet (attached)

Polish Your Poetry student sheet (attached)

Colored pens for revising

Lesson:

Setting the purpose:

This lesson plan will extend for many days to several weeks, depending on how you want to use it.

Students will engage in poetry writing stations. At each station they can study poetry mentor texts, then try to write on their own. Keep in mind that each poem written may not become polished. This gives students freedom to play with different forms.
Utilizing the Mentor Text

1. Read the mentor text GONE FISHING with your class or as a read aloud.
2. Poetry Stations
   - Students will be using the text to complete the poetry stations. If you have one book per student (or per pair of students), then they can use the book from station to station. If not, you can copy and laminate the poems needed for each station. Laminating the poems means students can use Vis A Vis markers to write on the text.
   - Each student will get a Poetry Center sheet with icons on it. They can use this to see which stations they will go to. As a teacher you can have them go to all of them or just some of them, depending on how many days you want to take to do this lesson.
   - It’s a good idea to do a demo with one of the stations. These are the suggested steps:
     - Read the card that has the description of the poem. Students should read this first so they will know the characteristics of what makes that poem different.
     - Read the mentor text poems from GONE FISHING. If your copies are laminated, students can mark things they notice in the writing that they like or want to try.
     - Read the directions for writing the poem and the tips. These are just suggestions. Some kids will be able to try it out without much direction. Others will need step by step directions. Throughout, please reiterate to students that they are going for a draft of many poems. Not all of them will be polished.
     - Write a draft of the poem. Students will need to keep these drafts.

Transferring the Skill to Student Writing

Students will have numerous drafts of different types of poems. Have them pick one or two of their favorites. But tell them they must be willing to really work on it. It might mean rewriting altogether or reworking it.

Students can use the “Polish Your Poetry” student sheet to go through some steps for revising their poems. Encourage them to bleed on the paper with their colored pens. Tweaking, fixing, repairing is all part of the process.

Other Resources:

Tamera Will Wissinger’s Website: http://www.tamerawillwissinger.com
Matthew Cordell’s Website: http://www.matthewcordell.com

Marcie Flinchum Atkins E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com http://www.marcieatkins.com
Please seek permission before posting on another website.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quatrain</th>
<th>Poem of Address</th>
<th>Concrete Poetry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>😄</td>
<td>🐟</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couplets</td>
<td>Dramatic Poem</td>
<td>List Poem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>👷</td>
<td>📝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How-To/</td>
<td>Limerick</td>
<td>Acrostic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipe Poem</td>
<td>📖</td>
<td>🍎</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint Poem</td>
<td>👨‍ UserDefaultsFUNC-MayBe</td>
<td>🎶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiku</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teachers Resource List for Each Poetry Station

General Poetry Resources

If you need resources that address many poetic forms, these are some places to start. You do not need these general poetry resources in order to complete this unit.

A CHILD’S INTRODUCTION TO POETRY by Michael Driscoll, illustrated by Meredith Hamilton
FLY WITH POETRY: AN ABC OF POETRY written and illustrated by Avis Harley
HOW TO WRITE HAIKU: AND OTHER SHORT POEMS by Paul B. Janeczko (available through Scholastic Book Clubs)
HOW TO WRITE POETRY (Scholastic Guides) by Paul B. Janeczko
A KICK IN THE HEAD: AN EVERYDAY GUIDE TO POETIC FORMS by Paul B. Janeczko, illustrated by Chris Raschka
LEAP INTO POETRY: MORE ABCs OF POETRY written and illustrated by Avis Harley
PICTURE YOURSELF WRITING POETRY: USING PHOTOS TO INSPIRE WRITING by Laura Purdie Salas
PIZZA, PIGS, AND POETRY: HOW TO WRITE A POEM by Jack Prelutsky
POETRY FROM A TO Z: A GUIDE FOR YOUNG WRITERS compiled by Paul B. Janeczko
POETRY MATTERS: WRITING A POEM FROM THE INSIDE OUT by Ralph Fletcher
R IS FOR RHYME: A POETRY ALPHABET by Judy Young, illustrated by Victor Juhasz
SEEING THE BLUE BETWEEN: ADVICE AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUNG POETS compiled by Paul B. Janeczko

Poetry Resources for Each Poetic Form

As part of this unit, I have selected a few poetic forms to use. Wissinger uses many more poetic forms than the twelve I have selected for this activity. Of the resources listed below, you will definitely need the text GONE FISHING to use as a mentor text for all of the activities. It is optional whether you want to use any of the other poetry texts as additional samples.

Quatrain
Materials You’ll Need:
• “Fishing for Pretend” p. 11
• “When We’re Fishing” p. 45
• “My Big Fish” p. 65

Poem of Address
Materials You’ll Need:
• “A Fishy Spell” p. 13
• “Lucy’s Song” p. 52-53

Book Resources:
HEY YOU! POEMS TO SKYSCRAPERS, MOSQUITOES, AND OTHER FUN THINGS selected by Paul B. Janeczko, illustrated by Robert Rayevsky

Marcie Flinchum Atkins E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com http://www.marcieatkins.com
Please seek permission before posting on another website.
Concrete Poetry
Materials You’ll Need:
• “The Night Before Fishing” p. 14-15

Book Resources:
FLICKER FLASH by Joan Bransfield Graham, illustrated by Nancy Davis
A POKE IN THE I selected by Paul B. Janeczko, illustrated by Chris Raschka

Couplets
Materials You’ll Need:
• “Gone Fishing” p. 17
• “A Big Surprise” p. 85

Dramatic Poem for Multiple Voices
Materials You’ll Need:
• “Up and At ‘Em” p. 18-21
• “I See Something” p. 31-32
• “We Love Fishing” p. 92-95
• Planning sheet for Dramatic Poem for Multiple Voices

Book Resources:
BIG TALK: POEMS FOR FOUR VOICE by Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Beppe Giacobbe
JOYFUL NOISE by Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Eric Beddows

List Poem
Materials You’ll Need:
• “What to Pack?” p. 27
• “All Aboard” p. 36-37
• “Hooked” p. 83

Book Resources:
FALLING DOWN THE PAGE edited by Georgia Heard

How-To/Recipe Poem
Materials You’ll Need:
• “Recipe for Fishing” p. 43

Limerick
Materials You’ll Need:
• “Next Time” p. 90
**Acrostic**  
Materials You’ll Need:  
- “Catfish Sam” p. 75

**Book Resources:**  
AFRICAN ACROSTICS by Avis Harley, photographs by Deborah Noyes  
AUTUMN: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC by Steven Schnur, illustrated by Leslie Evans  
SPRING: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC by Steven Schnur, illustrated by Leslie Evans  
SUMMER: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC by Steven Schnur, illustrated by Leslie Evans  
WINTER: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC by Steven Schnur, illustrated by Leslie Evans

**Complaint Poem**  
Materials You’ll Need:  
- “Lucy’s Quiet Time” p. 49

**Ode**  
Materials You’ll Need:  
- “For the Love of Harold, Best of the Worms” p. 57-58

**Haiku**  
Materials You’ll Need:  
- “Our Take” p. 97

**Book Resources:**  
Haiku Annotated Book List  

**Other Resources for Haiku Lessons:**  

---

Marcie Flinchum Atkins  
E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com  
http://www.marcieatkins.com

Please seek permission before posting on another website.
Polish Your Poetry

Complete each poetry polishing tip. When you finish, make a check in the box.

**Shout it Out**
Read your poem out loud to yourself. Where do you stumble? Fix those spots.

**Listen**
Have your partner read your poem out loud to you. As your partner reads your poem, listen. What words or phrases don’t sound quite right? Fix those spots.

**Follow the Rules**
Reread the characteristics of your poetic form on the poetry station cards. Does your poem follow the rules?

**Rev Up Your Verbs**
Do you have lots of action words? Are they the most specific and strongest verbs you can come up with?

**Cut the Flab**
Poetry only uses the best words. There’s no room for superfluous words (that means extra, unnecessary). Cut what isn’t needed. This can be fun. You are pruning the poem.

**Let it Shine**
Share your poem with the world (or a friend or two). Poetry is meant to be read aloud and shared. Ta Da!

Marcie Flinchum Atkins
E-mail: marcie@marcieatkins.com
http://www.marcieatkins.com
Please seek permission before posting on another website.
PLANNING SHEET FOR A DRAMATIC POEM WITH MULTIPLE VOICES

Look at the partial sample from GONE FISHING’s poem “Up and At ‘Em: Dramatic Poem for Three”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sam</th>
<th>Dad</th>
<th>Lucy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dad, wake up! It’s six-o-eight.</td>
<td>It’s dark outside; the fish will wait.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’ll make toast, I’ll pack the truck. Load our worms—they’ll bring us luck.</td>
<td>Okay, I’m up. I’ll help you load. So we can get you on the road.</td>
<td>A fishing trip?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notice in the sample poem that each character is talking. No one is talking at the same time. It’s like dialogue back and forth. If you want to include dramatic effect, you can have two or more of the characters talk at the same time. In that case, the dialogue would need to be written on the same lines right across from each other.

Try writing your own dramatic poem for multiple voices below. It’s a “talking poem,” so think about what each character would say.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voice 1</th>
<th>Voice 2</th>
<th>Voice 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONCRETE POEM

- Shape poem
- The shape of the words adds meaning to the poem

Sample Concrete Poems:
GONE FISHING

Other Books:
FLICKER FLASH by Joan Bransfield Graham
Illustrated by Nancy Davis

A POKE IN THE I
Selected by Paul B. Janeczko
Illustrated by Chris Raschka

ACROSTIC POEM

- Write the letters of the word of the poem vertically down the page.
- Can be letters at the beginning or end of the poem.
- Most do not rhyme.

Sample Acrostic Poems:
GONE FISHING
“Catfish Sam” p. 75

Other Books:
AFRICAN ACROSTICS
By Avis Harley
Photographs by Deborah Noyes
AUTUMN: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC
SPRING: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC
SUMMER: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC
WINTER: AN ALPHABET ACROSTIC
All of these books by Steve Schnur,
Illustrated by Leslie Evans
WRITING AN ACROSTIC POEM

1. Draw a chart on your paper like the one on the right.
2. Write the letters of your topic along the top.
3. Brainstorm words and phrases with those letters of the alphabet.
4. Then write the letters of your topic vertically down the page.
5. Select your best brainstorming words and phrases to write a draft of your poem.

R
Ramble
Rumble
Round
Rippled
puddles

A
Assault
drops

I
Inside
dry
I
tromp
in
puddles

N
Never-ending
Necessary
Nixing my fear of thunderstorms

TIP:
Sample brainstorming idea

Rumbling, rambling storm brings
An assault of drops.
I tromp in puddles
Nixing my fear of thunderstorms.

WRITING A CONCRETE POEM

1. Brainstorm objects you could write about.
2. Make a list of words or phrases about that item.
3. Draw the shape on a page.
4. Put your best words and phrases either around the drawing or inside of it.

TIP:
Use space. Use sounds. Choose only your best and most unique words and phrases to put in your poem.

1. Brainstorm objects you could write about.
2. Make a list of words or phrases about that item.
3. Draw the shape on a page.
4. Put your best words and phrases either around the drawing or inside of it.
Dramatic Poem
for multiple voices

- A dramatic poem for multiple voices is meant to be performed.
- Some lines are read by individuals, some are read by all of the voices.

Sample Dramatic Poems for Multiple Voices:
GONE FISHING
“Up and At ‘Em” p. 18-21
“I See Something” p. 31-32
“We Love Fishing” p. 92-95

Other Books:
BIG TALK: POEMS FOR FOUR VOICES
By Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Beppe Giacobbe
JOYFUL NOISE
By Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Eric Beddows

Complaint Poem

Sample Complaint Poems:
GONE FISHING
“Lucy’s Quiet Time” p. 49

- This is a great way to air out your complaints. What bugs you?
- This can be a humorous poem—not cruel.
HOW TO WRITE A COMPLAINT POEM

1. Brainstorm all of the things that really irritate you.
2. Choose one of those irritating things on your list.
3. Make another brainstorming list about all of the reasons you are annoyed by this irritating person/thing.
4. Use your list to write your poem. Remember cut all unnecessary words.

TIP:
Think of something unusual to complain about. Sure, you are probably irritated by your sister, but are you also irritated by the sound of the alarm clock in the morning? The sound of a yappy dog? The snow plows that make the roads passable for school buses?

HOW TO WRITE A DRAMATIC POEM FOR MULTIPLE VOICES

1. Perform some of the sample poems with your partner. Practice reading the poem with dramatic flair. Notice how the poem is set up.
2. Brainstorm ideas for your poem. You and your partner can work on this together.
3. Use the Multiple Voices Poem chart to help you plan out what you will say.
4. Try it out. Cut unnecessary words.

TIP:
Are you totally stuck for an idea? Find some old magazines and cut out pictures. Sometimes looking at a picture will give you an idea for a poem.
HOW-TO OR RECIPE POEMS

- This type of poem tells how to do something
- Can be in the form of just directions from beginning to end
- Can be in the form of a recipe, complete with ingredients and directions
- You can be silly with this type of poem, if you want

Sample Recipe Poem:
GONE FISHING
“Recipe for Fishing” p. 43

LIMERICKS

- They are 5 lines long
- Rhyme pattern is: AABBA
- It is thought to have come from Limerick, Ireland around 1700, but many similar types of poems were around long before that.
- Edward Lear made limericks popular. He was known for nonsense poetry.
- Limericks are often jokes.

Sample Limerick:
GONE FISHING
“Next Time” p. 90
HOW TO WRITE A HOW-TO OR A RECIPE POEM

1. Decide what topic to write directions about.
2. If you are writing a recipe, make a list of ingredients.
3. If you are writing a how-to poem or a recipe poem, write down the directions from beginning to end. You can write in a lot of detail for the draft.
4. Remember, a poem only uses the very necessary words. Cut the poem down to only the best and most necessary words.

HOW TO WRITE A LIMERICK

1. Read aloud several limericks. Listen to how they sound. The rhythm is very important in a limerick.
2. Think about a silly person you want to write a limerick about (it can be a made up person).
3. Write it in five lines with the AABBA rhyming pattern. You may have try several times to get just the right words.
4. Read it aloud. Have a friend read it aloud. Does it have the sound of a limerick?

TIP:
When you write your directions, start with the best action words.

TIP:
Look at this line from a limerick. Look at the beats or the syllables that are emphasized.

There once was an odd hen from Peru.
(ditty-dum, ditty-dum, ditty-dum)
HAIKU

- Japanese poem
- Short form—3 lines
- Often follows these syllable patterns, but doesn’t have to:
  - First line—5 syllables
  - Second line—7 syllables
  - Third line—5 syllables
- Includes a seasonal word
- Captures a single moment

Sample Haiku:
GONE FISHING
“Our Take” p. 97

---

LIST POEM

- List of items
- Often entertaining
- Has some sort of order, not just random

Sample List Poems:
GONE FISHING
“What to Pack?” p. 27
“All Aboard” p. 36-37
“Hooked” p. 83

Other Books of List Poems:
FALLING DOWN THE PAGE
Edited by Georgia Heard
HOW TO WRITE A LIST POEM

1. Think of a person or an item you might want to write a list about.
2. When you brainstorm, write down everything that comes to your mind. Don’t cross anything out.
3. As you form the poem, think of a way you could order the poem. Are there words or phrases on your list that go together?
4. Write out your list.

HOW TO WRITE A HAiku

TIPS:

• Don’t use words like AWESOME, COOL, NICE.
• Don’t use filler words like AND, BUT, BECAUSE, SO unless they are absolutely necessary.

1. Observe outside in nature.
2. Make a list of the things that you see, hear, smell, feel, taste.
3. Use your words to paint a picture of the moment in time you observed.
4. Keep your poem to three lines. You’ll have to cut out many words.
5. You can keep the 5-7-5 syllable rule, if you want to try it. If you don’t, remember the lines must be short. The middle line is longer than the 1st and 3rd lines.

TIPS

Here are some ideas for things to write lists about:

1. Ways to bug my sister
2. Trip essentials
3. Sports—pick one to write about
4. Your pet
5. What’s on my mind when I daydream
ODE

• The word “ode” comes from the Greek word “to sing.”
• It is a poem that often addresses (talks to) something that isn’t present.
• It celebrates a person, animal, or object.
• It doesn’t have to rhyme or use a formal structure.

Sample Odes:
GONE FISHING
“For the Love of Harold, Best of the Worms” p. 57-58

COUPLETT

• Shortest form of traditional poetry
• Has just TWO lines
• The lines rhyme

Sample Couplets:
GONE FISHING
“Gone Fishing” p. 17
“A Big Surprise” p. 85
WRITING A COUPLET

1. Think about something funny or embarrassing that happened to you. What made it funny or embarrassing?
2. Write a two line poem. The last word in each line should rhyme.
3. Read your couplet out loud. Can you hear the rhythm? Do the last words rhyme?
4. Don’t stop. If you have more to write, write more couplets. Some couplets are strung together to make longer poems.

Tip:
Having trouble finding a word to rhyme? You can use a rhyming dictionary. If you don’t have a print rhyming dictionary, go to http://www.rhymer.com

WRITING AN ODE

1. Make a list of everything you LOVE (examples: foods, hobbies, people, etc.)
2. Pick ONE of the things you love. Then make a list of everything you LOVE about that thing.
3. Draft a poem declaring your love for this thing and why you love it. See the sample poem “For the Love of Harold, Best of the Worms” p. 57-58 from GONE FISHING.

Tip:
You can be a little flamboyant with your language. What does flamboyant mean? It means flowery and over-the-top. Really declare your love for this thing.
Sample Quatrains:

GONE FISHING
“Fishing for Pretend” p. 11
“When We’re Fishing” p. 45
“My Big Fish” p. 65

POEM OF ADDRESS

Sample Poems of Address:

GONE FISHING
“A Fishy Spell” p. 13
“Lucy’s Song” p. 52-53

Other Books:
HEY YOU! POEMS TO SKYSCRAPERS, MOSQUITOES, AND OTHER FUN THINGS
Selected by Paul B. Janeczko
Illustrated by Robert Rayevsky

QUATRAIN

• A four line poem or stanza
• It can rhyme
• Rhyme schemes can be:
  o ABAB
  o ABBA
  o ABCB
  o ABAC
  o AABB

POEM OF ADDRESS

• A poem of address talks directly to something or someone.
• You can write the poem to something that isn’t alive or someone you know very well.
• You can even get mad at whatever you are addressing.
WRITING A QUATRAIN

1. Reread “Fishing for Pretend.”
2. Brainstorm things you like to pretend or used to like to pretend.
3. Write a poem about pretending. For example: Wissinger’s “Fishing for Pretend” is about pretending to fish. You could write a poem about pretending to build a castle (or something else).
4. Check to see if your end words follow one of the rhyming schemes for quatrains.

Tip:
You can write a poem that is only four lines, or you can write several quatrains together. Many songs are written in quatrains.

WRITING A POEM OF ADDRESS

1. Make a list of things that make you mad.
2. Pick one thing to write a poem about.
3. Make a list of all the things you don’t like about the thing that makes you mad.
4. Write it in a poem form. Remember you are talking directly TO that thing or person.

Tip:
Take a look at “A Fishy Spell” again. You can write your poem in the form of a casting a spell if you want. You can also write it in the form of couplets if you want.