

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read the poem: I am a writer

- Read the poem, '*I am a writer*'. Read it in your head first and then try reading it out loud. What rhythms and patterns can you hear when you read it aloud?
- Choose your favourite three images from the poem. Why do you like these images in particular?

2. Reflect on the poem

- Read the *Reflection Prompts* and think about your answers for each.
- Write a reflection on the poem, by writing some of your answers as sentences.

3. Prepare a performance

- Watch the poet Joseph Coelho talk about how to perform a poem.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-understanding-poetry/zdwxbdm> This is really brilliant – you may want to watch it more than once!
- Make notes about Joseph Coelho's tips.
- Practise a performance of '*I am a writer*'

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Share your performance with someone else. Could they film it and send it somebody?
- Watch Joseph Coelho perform the poem. What do you notice in particular about the way that he performs it?
<https://vimeo.com/129644553>

I am a writer

Joseph Coelho

I am the clash and collide of the stars
because I create worlds.

I am the awareness of the trees
because I hear the wind.

I am the sweat of a rainbow
because I refract all the colours.

I am the blood in a pen
because I ink arteries.

I am the blade in a sharpener
because I make nibs vanish.

I am the edge of a rubber,
rounded, worn and softened by mistakes.

I am the conversation of notes,
discussing melodies.

I am the holes in a flute,
knower of unknown tunes.

I am the skin of a drum.
Every hit, beat and bang
bouncing off me,
forming music from nothing.

Reflection Prompts

Read the questions and think about your answers to them.

What is the poem **about**?

What is the **tone** of the poems?

Is it serious, or funny or thoughtful?

Does it **remind** you of anything or anyone?

How are they similar?

How are they different?

Who do you think this poem is written for?

Can you explain why you think this?

Can you guess anything about **the poet** from reading this poem?

What can you guess?

Do you **like** this poem?

What do you like about this poem?

Is there anything that you dislike about it?

Reflection on 'I am a Writer'

Write some of your thoughts about the poem as sentences.

A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black border. The border features a repeating zigzag pattern with small black dots. Inside the border, there are 18 horizontal lines for writing, creating 17 rows of space.

Poetry Performance Notes

Watch Joseph Coelho's tips about performing poetry. Make notes about some of them.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-understanding-poetry/zdwxbdm>