



## Couplets and Quatrains for Calendar Pages

Writing rhyme to go along with an old calendar picture is a big hit EVERY TIME!

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standard: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.2.A.

Kids LOVE choosing a picture to write about! Make sure you have plenty of calendar pages of anything (or of a specific theme that you're focusing on).

Now for the lesson!

1. Have the children list across the top of a piece of paper things that they see or think of in the calendar page. For the sunflowers picture I wrote:

Sky	clouds	barn	(sun)flowers	trees	blue	still
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2. Next, under each word across the top, students list words that rhyme. I encourage the children to go right down the alphabet, replacing the first letter with A, B, C, D, E and so on all the way to Z. For example:

Sky	clouds	Barn	(sun)flowers	trees	blue	still
By		yarn	Hours	Bees	Clue	Bill
Fly			Powers	Cheese	dew	Chill
guy			Showers	Freeze	flew	Dill
High			towers	Keys	New	Fill
My				Knees	Sue	Hill
Pie				Please	Too	Mill
Sigh				tease	who	Pill
Tie					You	will
why					zoo	

3. Show the children that in a couplet, the two end words will rhyme. On the whiteboard, I draw two lines, one under the other. Each line has a box at the end to show where the rhyming words should be placed.
4. Give 1-2 examples of 2 line couplets that you have written.
5. Give 1-2 examples of 4 line quatrains that you have written.
6. The children write their couplets or quatrains on a scrap piece of paper.
7. Check their rhyme and placement of words. If they have written their couplets or quatrains correctly, they can write a final draft.

Young writers can write their final draft on a regular piece of paper (8.5"x11") and glue it to the back of their picture. Older writers can write it on a small piece of paper, cut it out and glue it onto the picture itself.

Small children may only complete one short couplet. Older children may complete 2, 3 or 4 couplets or quatrains, depending on their skill and enthusiasm, and also the amount of time allowed. Have plenty of calendar pages available!