**Talking Text: Analysing Poetry**

* **After reading the poem select a range of suitable questions from different AF’s. It is not necessary to use all the questions for every poem.**
* **Comment on the children’s responses on the accompanying AF tick sheet.**
* **If you wish, the children could note some of their responses in a reading journal before discussion in order to provide evidence of their understanding.**
* **Questions do not link to AF 1 as it is not assessed above level 3.**

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| **AF1** | **AF2** | **AF3** | **AF4** | **AF5** | **AF6** | **AF7** |
| *Use a range of strategies, including accurate decoding of text, to read for meaning* | *Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text* | *Deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts* | *Identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and literary features at text level* | *Explain and comment on the writers’ use of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level* | *Identify and comment on writer’s purposes and viewpoints and the overall effect of the text on the reader* | *Relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary traditions* |

Can you identify what type of poem this is? E.g. narrative, free verse, rhyming, limerick, list, shape, ballad, etc. (AF7)

Did you understand the poem? What is the poem about? (Explain that the children should not worry or be disheartened if they didn’t understand all parts of the poem after the first reading.)(AF2/3)

Can you see any new vocabulary? Can you work out what it means? Do you need to use a dictionary? Can you use it in a sentence of your own? (AF5)

Explore the use of language in the poem (use of adjectives, powerful verbs, similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration or onomatopoeia) Can you see any interesting descriptive phrases? Can you explain what they mean? Why did the poet use these phrases? (AF5)

What images does the poem create? (AF5)

How is the poem structured? How many verses does the poem have? (AF4) Discuss the main idea of each verse. (AF2/3) Compare and contrast themes within verses. (AF4) Are all the verses the same structure and length? Is the last verse different? How? Why? (AF3/4/6)

Can you find examples of repetition? If so, why do you think repetition is used? (AF4)

Does the poem have a rhyming pattern? (AF4) What is the effect of using rhyme? (AF5/6)

How would you describe the tone of the poem? E.g. funny, serious, sad, etc. Why would you describe the poem like this? Refer to the text when answering. (AF3)

What punctuation is used? Why? Can you see examples of higher level punctuation? Analyse why the author has chosen to use it. (AF4/6)

Reread the poem. Do you understand it more clearly now than you did on your first reading? (AF6)

Did you like the poem? Why or why not? Refer to language, tone etc using examples from the text. (AF6)