

## How to generate ideas for writing poetry:

### Create a Wordpool

- Collect words
- Write words in a journal
- Make up words
- Swap or trade old words for new ones (use a thesaurus)
- Make lists or stacks of words
- Make/jot down words while traveling or in meetings
- Steal words
- Write the first thing that comes into your mind
- Write down sounds
- Write down words that sound interesting
- Put words that sound good together in a line (put cool sounding words together)
- Borrow words from other pieces of writing or speech
- Play with words; don't worry about meaning or spelling
- Use foreign language words

### Be unexpected

- Play with language
- Break the rules
- Write the unexpected
- Read other poetry
- Look for the unexpected around you; examine your surroundings
- Play with punctuation and spacing and capitalization
- Put opposites together
- Use white space
- Explore every detail
- Give words action
- Don't be overly controlled

### Use imagery to express feelings

- Tap into your feelings
- Make a wordpool of feeling words, try opposites
- Look at a postcard, painting, photograph or image
- Use words to "paint" your feelings when you look at the image

### Use comparisons

- Look at things metaphorically
- Use comparisons
- Use metaphor INSTEAD of simile
- Describe exactly what you see
- Let yourself go for the extreme when making comparisons (Don't limit yourself)
- List what you see around you and what it looks like