Resource 16: Lesson plan: My Pet

My Pet

Grade 3

Objectives to be taught:

- to identify common punctuation marks, to respond to them appropriately when reading
- to describe how a poet does or does not use rhyme, eg, rhyming couplets
- to write poems, experimenting with different styles and structures, discuss if and why different forms are more suitable than others

Learning outcome(s):

- the children will have learned what an exclamation mark is and the implication it has for reading aloud
- they will have explored a poem that uses rhyming couplets
- the children will have attempted to write rhyming couplets of their own

Resources needed:

- My Pet poem
- whiteboard

Shared reading/writing activity:

- read the poem with the class
- draw their attention to the use of the exclamation mark and the way it affects the expression in your voice when you read the poem
- discuss the rhyme scheme
- · explain what rhyming couplets are
- ask why they think the poet has used rhyming couplets and how effective the poem is at putting across its moral
- model writing a rhyming couplet about a different pet with the children

Guided group/individual work:

- give each of the guided group a copy of the poem
- discuss their reactions to it
- let them read it again individually
- ask them to write a rhyming couplet that ends with an exclamation mark
- set the rest of the class the task of writing a short poem about their own pet (real or imaginary) using rhyming couplets

Plenary:

- select certain children to read out their poems
- have the guided group read out their couplets emphasising how the exclamation mark affects the way they read
- briefly recap what they have learned about rhyming couplets and exclamation marks