

# Summer of Stories

## Stories Through Poetry

### An activity by Desree

Desree's Story Activity encourages you to explore language to share your stories and favourite places in interesting ways.



Activity one (Key Stage 1 or younger children):

## A FAVOURITE PLACE POEM

Think about your favourite place in, or near, your house.

On a piece of paper write down four or more words that you would use to describe your favourite place.

Using the describing words that you just wrote down; we will write a poem about our favourite place and why we like it.

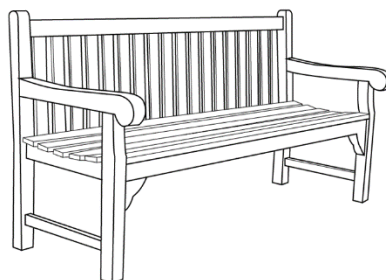
The sentence can begin with '**MY FAVOURITE PLACE IS**' and end with some of the adjectives you wrote down earlier!

Also, think about *what is your favourite place as big as? Maybe even, what is other word for beautiful?*

**Example:**

***My favourite place is huge and filled with lots of bugs***  
***My favourite place is green everywhere and home to lots of slugs***  
***My favourite place is sometimes warm and sometimes really cold***  
***My favourite place is full of people, from the young to the old.***

Finished already?! Why not try replacing the words '**MY FAVOURITE PLACE IS**' with '**INSIDE MY FAVOURITE PLACE I CAN**'



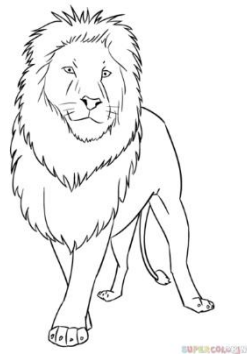
Activity two (Key Stage 2 or older children):

## A STORY OF METAPHORS

A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable (e.g., that woman is a witch). A simile is a figure of speech involving the comparison of one thing with another thing of a different kind, used to make a description more emphatic or vivid (e.g., as brave as a lion).

Here are 8 objects, places, feelings or things and I would like you to describe them as abstractly, metaphorically/ flowery as possible. For example: Blood could be '*red confetti*' or stars can be '*luminous diamonds*'.

Fireplace  
Heartbreak  
Hot Tea  
Pen  
Jumper  
House  
Pillow  
Window



Now I want you to think of a story that you enjoy telling. How did you feel in that moment; 'as anxious as a cat' or as 'like a lion'? How else can you describe that moment; 'my stomach felt like I had swallowed a thousand butterflies'?

Write down 10 metaphors and/or similes that you could use to define that point in time. For example, if I was going to talk about a fall, I had in Bedgrove Park I might describe myself as feeling 'flying through the air and landing on my face' and 'blushing like a tomato'.

Using the phrases and words that you just wrote down, allow yourself to begin structuring your poem! Start with one of your wonderful metaphors and tell the story, weaving all your other phrases along the way.

Thank you for taking part! We hope you had fun.

You can share your poems on social media using **#SummerOfStories**

Or via our Story Form on our website:  
[www.buckinghamshireculture.org/Summer-Of-Stories](http://www.buckinghamshireculture.org/Summer-Of-Stories)

You can also learn more about our project and how our artists are taking inspiration from stories shared by people across Buckinghamshire on our website.



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