

## Paper Wads of Poetry Ideas

1. Brainstorm some topics in which they have an interest such as football, candy, junk food, dance, soccer, hockey, volleyball, baseball, shopping, animals, computers, hunting, fishing, etc.
2. Take three pieces of paper and write one of their favorites on each piece of paper.
3. Crumple up the papers into paper wads and throw the paper wads into the basket.
4. Gather three wads of paper. Pick up three random paper wads and go back to your seat.
5. Open up the crumpled paper and read what is inside. Choose one of the paper wads topics for a poem.
6. Write a poem in one of the styles shown.
7. The poem should be in a readable font style size 12, double spaced, bold and centered title, author in italic and centered.
8. Add a page boarder.
9. Insert a clipart.
10. Proof read poem and correct grammar and spelling mistakes.

### Limerick

Typically, the first two lines rhyme with each other, the third and fourth rhyme together, and the fifth line either repeats the first line or rhymes with it.

*There was an Old Man with a beard,  
Who said, "It is just as I feared!  
Two Owls and a Hen,  
Four Larks and a Wren,  
Have all built their nests in my beard!"*

### Epigram

An epigram is a short saying, usually in verse, often with a quick, satirical twist at the end. The subject is usually a single thought or event.

*Sir, I admit your general rule,  
That every poet is a fool,  
But you yourself may serve to show it,  
That every fool is not a poet.*

### Haiku

A traditional Japanese haiku is a three-line poem with seventeen syllables, written in a 5/7/5 syllable count. Often focusing on images from nature, haiku emphasizes simplicity, intensity, and directness of expression.

*An old pond!  
A frog jumps in  
the sound of water.*

### Cinquain

The cinquain, also known as a quintain or quintet, is a poem or stanza composed of five lines.

*Love built a stately house, where fortune came,  
And spinning fancies, she was heard to say  
That her fine cobwebs did support the frame,  
Whereas they were supported by the same;  
But Wisdom quickly swept them all away.*

## Ballad

A typical ballad is a plot-driven song, with one or more characters hurriedly unfurling events leading to a dramatic conclusion. At best, a ballad does not tell the reader what's happening, but rather shows the reader what's happening, describing each crucial moment in the trail of events. To convey that sense of emotional urgency, the ballad is often constructed in quatrain stanzas, each line containing as few as three or four stresses and rhyming either the second and fourth lines, or all alternating lines.

*"The Ballad Of Billy The Kid"*

*From a town known as Wheeling, West Virginia  
Rode a boy with a six-gun in his hand  
And his daring life of crime  
Made him a legend in his time  
East and west of the Rio Grande*

*Well, he started with a bank in Colorado  
In the pocket of his vest, a Colt he hid  
And his age and his size  
Took the teller by surprise  
And the word spread of Billy the Kid*

*Well, he never traveled heavy  
Yes, he always rode alone  
And he soon put many older guns to shame  
And he never had a sweetheart  
And he never had a home  
But the cowboy and the rancher knew his name*

*Well, he robbed his way from Utah to Oklahoma  
And the law just could not seem to track him down  
And it served his legend well  
For the folks, they'd love to tell  
'Bout when Billy the Kid came to town*

*Well, one cold day a posse captured Billy  
And the judge said, "String 'im up for what he did!"  
And the cowboys and their kin  
Like the sea came pourin' in  
To watch the hangin' of Billy the Kid*

*Well, he never traveled heavy  
Yes, he always rode alone  
And he soon put many older guns to shame  
And he never had a sweetheart  
But he finally found a home  
Underneath the boothill grave that bears his name*

*From a town known as Oyster Bay, Long Island  
Rode a boy with a six-pack in his hand  
And his daring life of crime  
Made him a legend in his time  
East and west of the Rio Grande*

