Celebrate National Poetry Month with Shel Silverstein

Event Activity Suggestions
Start at the number one and connect the dots to find out:

Who is rangin' hound in this picture?

Runny Mets Guddy

Reproducible activity

Who is rangin' hound in this picture?
Word Finder

How many new words can you make out of the name 

SHEL SILVERSTEIN?

Here are a few examples to get you started: her, hill, see, sit, rest, live . . .

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Word Play

For an even greater challenge, try to create a complete sentence using as many of the words you found above in the Word Finder activity. For example, "I sit in the river": all these words can be found by combining some of the letters in Shel Silverstein’s name.

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www.shelsilverstein.com

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Runny Babbit Talk

Runny Babbit is filled with the magical language of spoonerisms, words or phrases with letters or syllables swapped. Can you change the everyday words listed below into “Runny Babbit” talk? Here’s an example to get you started: “silly hat” in everyday speech would translate into “hilly sat” in Runny Babbit talk.

- pink lemonade ________________
- roller coaster ________________
- soda pop ________________
- chicken soup ________________
- tea party ________________
- colored pencil ________________
- tennis shoe ________________
- lunch box ________________
- library book ________________
- music teacher ________________
You Can!

Read this poem from Where the Sidewalk Ends (page 92) and try to write another verse as the poem suggests at the end. First think of a question about the toucan and then choose a word that rhymes with Lou, two, glue, or you!

THE TOUCAN

Tell me who can
Catch a toucan?
Lou can.

Just how few can
Ride the toucan?
Two can.

What kind of goo can
Stick you to the toucan?
Glue can.

Who can write some
More about the toucan?
You can!

Example: How many can
Eat the toucan?
Few can.
What’s in a Name?

An **acrostic poem** uses letters from a name or a word to begin each line in a poem. All the lines in the poem must relate to or describe the topic word. Your poem can be about your name, the name of a friend, a famous person, or even a favorite animal, hobby, or sport. Think of words that best describe your name or topic and practice writing your poem below. For an ever greater challenge, try to make the lines of your acrostic poem rhyme.

For example:

**JILL**

- Jill is very funny
- I like when she tells jokes
- Loveable and smart
- Laughter fills her house

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MISSING PIECE MAZE  Can you help the Missing Piece meet the Big O?
Rhyme Time

Fill in the blanks with words that rhyme with the underlined words directly above each line. Only the first few couplets of the poem are written below. Read Falling Up (pages 26–27) to see if the noise ever ends!

NOISE DAY

Let’s have one day for girls and boyes
When you can make the grandest __ __ __ __ __. (6 letters)

Screech, scream, holler, and yell—
Buzz a buzzer, clang a __ __ __ __, (4 letters)

Sneeze—hiccup—whistle—shout,
Laugh until your lungs wear __ __ __, (3 letters)

Toot a whistle, kick a can,
Bang a spoon against a __ __ __, (3 letters)

Sing, yodel, bellow, hum,
Blow a horn, beat a __ __ __ __ . . . . (4 letters)
Create a Stamp

Using your imagination, design your own postage stamp in honor of Shel Silverstein and National Poetry Month. You can draw a picture, include your favorite poem, or even write a paragraph about this famous poet. Have fun!