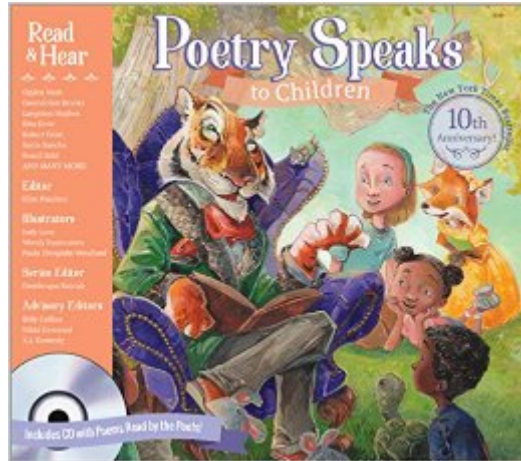


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# Poetry Speaks To Children (Book & CD) (A Poetry Speaks Experience)



## Synopsis

New York Times Bestseller! In the tradition of *Poetry Speaks*, the anthology named a Best Book of 2002 by *School Library Journal*, and praised by the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* as "a volume to delight longtime lovers of poetry and to spark new love for poetry, especially among the young," Sourcebooks MediaFusion is proud to introduce the joy of the written and spoken word in *Poetry Speaks to Children*. Parents, educators, librarians, and poetry enthusiasts have wondered for years how to get children really interested in poetry. Until now, there hasn't been a collection of poems and poets that spoke directly to that elusive audience. *Poetry Speaks to Children* cracks through that barrier by packaging the best poems by the best authors along with a CD-making the engrossing and often mischievous verses come alive in the voices of many of the creators. *Poetry Speaks to Children* reaches into the world of poetry and pulls out the elements children love: rhyme, rhythm, fun and, every once in a while, a little mischief. More than 90 poems, for children ages six and up, celebrate the written word and feature a star-studded lineup of beloved poets, including: Roald Dahl; J. R. R. Tolkien; Robert Frost; Gwendolyn Brooks; Ogden Nash; John Ciardi; Langston Hughes; Sonia Sanchez; Seamus Heaney; Canada's best-loved children's poet, Dennis Lee; Rita Dove; Billy Collins; Nikki Giovanni and X. J. Kennedy. On the accompanying CD, 50 of the poems are brought to life--most read by the poets themselves--allow the reader to hear the words as the poets intended. Hear Gwendolyn Brooks growl her rhyming verse poem "The Tiger Who Wore White Gloves, or, What You Are You Are" with verve and inflection--relaying the story of the striped cat who "rushed to the jungle fair for something fine to wear," much to the hoots of his jungle peers. Amid jeers, sneers and sighs, the tiger eventually learns to be comfortable in his own striped skin (or fur as it were!). Follow Ogden Nash as he tells of the brave little Isabel, who "didn't worry, didn't scream or scurry" when confronted with a ravenous bear, a one-eyed giant or a troublesome doctor. Her clever solutions to problems ("She turned the witch into milk and drank her") will keep even the most reluctant readers interested. Listen to James Berry, who quells a little girl's anxieties about her color by celebrating the marriage of "night and light," emphasizing how all colors are necessary in nature, in "Okay, Brown Girl, Okay." Turn the page and tune in . . . kids won't be the only ones hooked!

## Book Information

Series: A Poetry Speaks Experience

Hardcover: 112 pages

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Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (88 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #200,091 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #85 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Humorous](#) #2253 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#) #51716 in [Books > Reference](#)

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## Customer Reviews

I am an English teacher and had used Poetry Speaks when teaching poetry to my high school students. Poetry is meant to be heard, not just read, and who better to read it than the actual poets? When I found Poetry Speaks to Children at Bank Street Bookstore in Manhattan, I bought it for my sons (5 and 8) in the hope that I could spark their interest in poetry. Playing the CD seemed like a good way to introduce it to them without taking away from their beloved bedtime stories. I never thought they'd like it as much as they do. Every night after I turn out the lights, I let the CD play. They fall asleep to the sound of the poems, and in the morning, I am amazed by what they remember. My younger son cited two lines from the first poem, "Dig In" after only hearing it twice and talks constantly about the Jabberwock. They each have their favorites, and I'm sure they will develop new ones in time. I can't recommend this enough!

My 4 and 6 year old really enjoy when I read to them from the book, but what they listen to all day is the CD! Since the book arrived, the CD has been playing non-stop. Who would have thought that poetry would replace disney songs? I am thrilled.

A great mix of poems that our children loved to listen to, following the spoken word on the CD along with the illustrations. I came home from work one day to see my 3 year old quietly listening and following along -- not a common site to see him this concentrated. The color illustrations are great and the voices varied. Recommended for long car rides!

I left this book on the family room table planning to give it to my 4 year old. However, he found it

before I could give it to him and was completely captivated. He LOVED it! In fact, we had to leave a few hours later for an errand and he wanted to bring it in the car with him. That was even before we played the CD for him. This book is an incredible gift for children and hopefully will reignite an interest in poetry for all ages. You can't go wrong with buying this book; the illustrations are enchanting and the CD is wonderful.

My kids, ages 5 and 19months LOVE this CD. They laugh together at the sillier poems and the inflection of the readers' voices and my daughter is always asking me to put this on. For myself, the gift is listening to the poets read their work, or have others read for them. Case in point: Basil Rathbone reading Poe. To hear the likes of Robert Frost read their work is magic in itself. This is perfect for children \*and\* adults, and is brilliant for those quiet evenings at home when you'd rather not have the television on.

I always loved poetry as a young child and I am trying to introduce my children to poetry as well (ages 11, 6 and 3). When I received this book and first looked through it I was very excited. It contains many of the poems that I loved as a child including "The Tyger" by William Blake, "The Land of Counterpane" by Robert Louis Stevenson, and "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening" by Robert Frost. This book does not just contain poems by "dead" poets but more contemporary ones as well. There are over 100 poems with great illustrations. An extra plus is the included CD with 52 poems read by 36 poets and artists. On the book page with the poem it will tell you what track the reading is on and who is reading the poem. Most are read by the poets themselves! I highly recommend this book to anyone wanting to introduce young children to poetry!

If you expose young children to rhythm and verse from a young age they carry it with them forever. This book makes an introduction to poetry easy. Poetry should be read out loud and every reader carries a different cadence. This cd/book gives anyone reading a chance to interpret the verse. Playing the cd gives kids an example of how to create the aura of the image with the words. There are far too few books like this that give kids some insight into the creativity of constructive drama and aesthetic conduits of expression.

This is the best collection of poetry for children that I have come across, and I've been very picky. The selections are superb, ranging from contemporary western poetry by Billy Collins and the like to classics like the "Jabberwocky" and "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod". The CD is worth the price of the

entire book, containing 60+ tracks, many of which are the poets reading their own work. What a joy it is to have J.R.R Tolkien, Langston Hughes, and Robert Frost read to my daughter! The illustrations are lovely, and each poem is fitted to the page (making for easy bedtime reading). Another pro for parents is that this book is light, so no heavy propping or daunting heft. It contains the absolute essentials and then some! I recommend this book for the entire family. I am so happy to have this available for my daughter, and I often drive around listening to the CD in my car. It's a terrific collection.

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